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The Canadian Jewish news
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This Week

Coast to Coast

Toronto newspaper admits it breeched its own rules on advertising in accepting an ad from Jews for Jesus. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Ontario government's decision to get out of the subsidized housing business is threatening the future of non-profit Jewish housing. *Page 5*

Sports *news*

NHL prospect David Nemirovsky returns to juniors after stint with Florida Panthers. *Page 23*

Health *news*

A new process has been developed to lessen complications during bone marrow transplants. *Page 24*

TAB *news*

Nina Wright is one of Canada's most successful matchmakers in the corporate world. *Page 31*

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Israel, Syria resume talks

Jewish Telegraph Agency and Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israeli and Syrian negotiators have resumed their peace negotiations, with American officials mediating the process.

The two sides are meeting at the secluded Wye Plantation in eastern Maryland, which is operated by the Aspen Institute and was chosen to provide a tranquil setting far from the reach of reporters. The parties have taken a New Year's break from their discussions.

Diplomatic sources in Washington were quoted as saying that the Syrians preferred to have an American mediator in the room at all times during the talks.

The sources said the Syrians rejected the idea of drawing up a declaration of principles, as Israel and the Palestinians did in 1993, which served as the framework for their historic agreement.

At the same time, the Syrian delegation was said to be coming to the talks with a full mandate from Syrian President Hafez al-Assad to negotiate and to be flexible about Israeli proposals.

Among the ideas Israel brought with it to the talks were economic development projects, addressing such issues as water resources.

Regarding the highly contentious issue of the scope of a potential Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, Israel's deputy foreign minister said last week that Israel would not agree to a key Syrian demand that it withdraw to the June 4, 1967, border that was in effect before Israel took control of the Golan in the Six Day War.

"That is not an internationally recognized border," Deputy Foreign Minister Eli Dayan told Israel Radio. "In the peace between Israel and Egypt, we based negotiations on the internationally recognized border. I' m not saying that Sinai is the same as the Golan, but there has to be some basis for talks."

Israel and Syria last held talks in June, when Syria broke off the negotiations because of an Israeli demand for early-warning ground stations on the Golan if its troops withdrew from the region under the terms of a peace deal.

Under the new approach being implemented during the latest round

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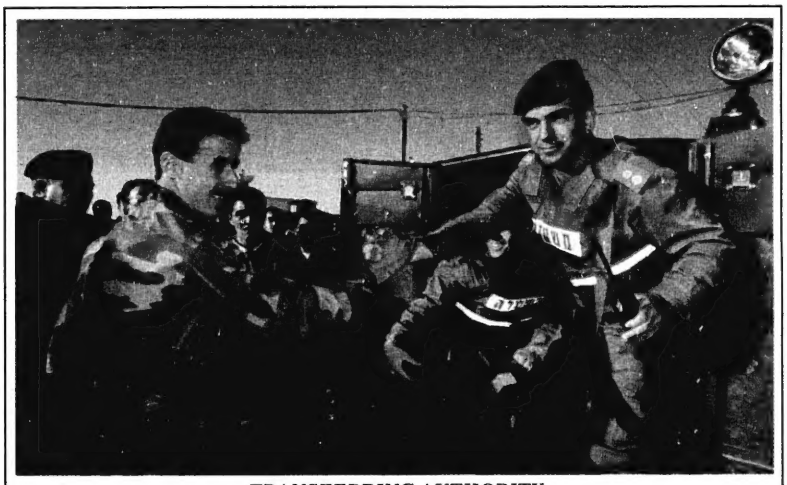

TRANSFERRING AUTHORITY

An Israeli Border Police officer (right) and a Palestinian policeman shake hands as one of the last Israeli vehicles pulls its last forces out of the Ramallah military headquarters. The IDF completed its withdrawal from Ramallah on Dec. 27. ***[RNS photo]***

Mourning a double loss

Phil Granovsky 1921-1995

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Businessman and community leader Phil Granovsky died on Dec. 24, from multiple causes, including leukemia. He was 74.

Granovsky was well-known in the Jewish community. He was former chair of the United Jewish Appeal, and was instrumental in bringing Operation Exodus to fruition. In 1977, he was world chair of Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal.

He had also been chair of the United Jewish Welfare Fund, a Jewish National Fund Negev dinner honoree, president of Wilson Heights lodge of B'nai Brith and president of Adath Israel Congregation.

Granovsky was recently in the public eye as one of the original members of the group that brought the NBA Raptors team to Toronto.

Please see editorial on page 8.

Born in Romania, to Russian Jewish parents waiting for entry visas to Canada, he came to Canada at the age of five, and grew up in the old Jewish area of College and Bathurst.

He was always interested in sports, expecially football and basketball, and was an accomplished sprinter, competing for

Continued on page 17

Jack Cummings 1922-1995

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Jack Cummings, one of the most recognized and prominent figures in the Canadian real estate and Jewish community scenes for almost five decades, was remembered as a much-beloved figure following his sudden death Dec. 23, 1995, from a heart attack in Boca Raton, Fla.

He was 73.

Like all Cummings men, Jack was tall and a bit larger than life, cutting an imposing and instantly recognizable figure. He was remembered in equal measure for his charm, philanthropy, force of personality, keen business savvy, as well as for his commitment to the city's cultural institutions, the Jewish community, and his particular labor of love, Tel Aviv University (TAU), Israel's largest institution of higher learning.

In 1979, Cummings was the first Canadian to become chair of TAU's international board of governors for a six-year term.

At his death, Cummings was honorary chair of TAU's international board of governors.

He also continued to serve on the board of directors of *The Canadian Jewish News* and had served as founding chair of the

Continued on page 17

Purim Contest

Look for the rules of our second annual Purim picture contest in next week's issue of *The CJN*.

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Israel's judicial system flexes its muscles — please see page 27

The News In Brief

International

CANADA

E-mail For Consulate

TORONTO — The Consulate General of Israel has announced its new e-mail address

It can be reached at hasbara@lucid.idirect.com.

Free Trade Talks Begin

OTTAWA — Canada and Israel are planning a new round of talks aimed at reaching a free-trade agreement.

David Berger, Canada's ambassador to Israel, announced last week that the two sides plan to hold three days of negotiations starting Jan. 6 in Tel Aviv.

Berger said it is uncertain if a free-trade agreement would include agricultural as well as industrial products.

Israeli Agricultural Minister Ya'akov Tsur opposes a resumption of the talks, arguing that a free-trade accord with Canada would harm Israeli farmers without bringing them substantial benefits.

But Berger said an accord could be reached despite Tsur's opposition.

Jewish Divorce Help Lines

TORONTO — Five telephone help lines have been set up across Canada for Jewish women and men who want a religious divorce, known as a *get*.

The service, the first of its kind in Canada, is up and running in five cities. Trained volunteers working Jewish divorce help lines will provide information about the process and support.

The numbers are: Toronto — 416-782-7999; Montreal —514 - 731-2365; Winnipeg — 204 -444 - 2366; Calgary — 403-252-0011; Edmonton — 403-488-5308.

Letter To Blanchard

MONTREAL — CJC president Goldie Hershon has written to U.S. Ambassador to Canada James Blanchard asking him to convey to American President Bill Clinton her organization's strong hope and desire that the harsh sentence meted out to Jonathan Pollard will soon be commuted.

ISRAEL

Arafat Challenger

JERUSALEM — The sole person challenging Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat for the leadership of the Palestinian Council has announced that if elected, she would cancel all the agreements reached with Israel.

Samiha Khalil, a 72-year-old Palestinian activist who will be going head-to-head with Arafat in the January elections, said the accords with Israel did not come close to achieving Palestinian national aspirations.

She further criticized the agreements, saying that they enabled Israel to have continued overall control of Palestinian residents in the territories.

Medal Honors Rabin

JERUSALEM — In the aftermath of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli government has issued an official state medal as a tribute to a man who changed the landscape of the Middle East.

The medal, now in the design stage, will be based on a portrait of Rabin by Amir Weinberg, which was selected by Rabin's widow, Leah.

MK Faces Corruption Trial

JERUSALEM — A Likud Knesset member is to be tried for allegedly misusing Jewish Agency credit cards when he was the organization's treasurer.

Meir Shetreet's parliamentary immunity was recently lifted by the Knesset House Committee.

Shetreet allegedly used Jewish Agency credit cards for personal expenses when he was treasurer of the body.

Labor Advances Primaries

JERUSALEM — Israel's ruling Labor Party has set April 17 as the date for its internal primaries, two months before originally scheduled.

All Labor Party members are entitled to participate in the primaries, which determine the placement of candidates on the party list submitted to voters in the national elections.

Those elections are scheduled for the fall of 1996.

Accords Signed

JERUSALEM — The president of the former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan was in Israel last week for a three-day visit.

President Nursultan Nazarbaev was accompanied by a 110-member delegation, which included 15 ministers. During his stay, several cooperation agreements between Israel and Kazakhstan were signed.

In meetings with Israeli officials, Nazarbaev asked Israel for aid in developing his country's natural resources.

WORLD

War Crimes Charges

PARIS — A French court is set to hear arguments in March whether former cabinet minister Maurice Papon will stand trial for crimes against humanity.

Papon, 84, is accused of sending nearly 1,700 Jews to Nazi concentration camps.

The court, in the southwestern city of Bordeaux, where Papon was a senior official for the Vichy collaborationist regime duringWorld War II, will hear a French state prosecutor's report requesting that Papon face trial.

The debate, which will include defense motions, is scheduled for March 6 to 8.

MDA Gets Welcome

GENEVA — The president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has indicated that he wants to welcome Israel's Magen David Adom into the worldwide organization.

Magen David Adom, or Red Star of David, the Israeli version of the international organization, has fought for years to be recognized by the worldwide movement.

ICRC president Cornelio Sommaruga said in an interview here that he is personally committed to Israel and that he would like to "bring the disputed issue to a satisfactory solution."

Registering For Claims

NEW YORK — Jewish victims of the Nazi period both in and from Austria are being urged to register for claims with a newly created Austrian National Fund which will provide one-time payments of approximately $7,000.

Anyone seeking more information can contact the CJC national office or Saul Kagan at the Material Claims Conference in New York at 212-696-4944.

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Romanian fascist network found in Hamilton

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A "fascist network" with an ideology that blends mystic nationalism, high religiosity, anti-Semitism and anti-Communism has taken root in Hamilton and is intimidating the local Romanian community, *The Spectator* newspaper reported in a five part series recently.

The Iron Guard is alive and well in the Hamilton area and is using a variety of front groups and organizations to push its views and recruit new Romanian immigrants to Canada, *The Spectator* alleged.

One former Iron Guardist who attended a camp near Hamilton told *The Spectator* that older Iron Guardists "bragged about the killing of Jews and political opponents in the movements's glory days leading up to Romania's entry into the Second World War as an ally of Nazi Germany. They blamed the Jews for all of Romania's troubles and urged the young recruits to return to 'finish the mission'."

The Iron Guard, also known as the Legion of the Archangel Michael, has been linked to two murders in North America including the 1986 slaying in Etobicoke of Cornelius Draga-Dima, publisher of a Romanian-language newspaper. No arrests were ever made in that case.

The organization is also tied to the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate in America that was once dominated by Archbishop Viorel Trifa, who had inspired an anti-Jewish pogrom in Romania during World War II.

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, said the newspaper series showed that "the Iron Guard lives. This worst of terrorist organizations still functions in the world."

Littman, who was cited as a source by *The Spectator*, said he began investigating Canadian links to the Iron Guard about 15 years ago after Simon Wiesenthal included in his annual bulletin a list of prominent Iron Guardists living in North America.

"Eight to 10 were in Canada and we began looking into those eight to 10 and developing files on them. We found they were leaders in their community.

"They took over by a process of aggressiveness. They don't give up and they co-opted the community for their respect," Littman said.

Several defectors eventually approached the Wiesenthal Centre "and said, 'for God's sake, do something about this'."

After several trips to Romania in the early 1980s, Littman compiled a list of names which were handed to the Deschenes Commission, which investigated war criminals in Canada.

Young, recent immigrants from Romania are especially susceptible to Iron Guard recruitment after they've been given a job and brought into community organizations, he said.

Among the allegations contained in *The Spectator* series:

- Two Hamilton-area organizations with links to the Iron Guard have received more than $140,000 in government money, including a $135,000 Ontario grant to expand a community centre.
- The Iron Guard is trying to rehabilitate its image, passing off its anti-Semitism as anti-Communism.
- Romanian security believed "Guardists in North America and Europe are constantly sending envoys to Romania and giving material and financial support to extreme right-wing groups in that country."
- A songbook used at a Hamilton-area camp contains anti-Semitic lyrics.

Toronto Star acknowledges ad breached its guidelines

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A full-page Chanukah-themed advertisement from Jews for Jesus in the Dec. 19 *Toronto Star* should not have run the way it did, concedes the newspaper's publisher.

And the ad contravened the *Star*'s own guidelines on religious advertising, John Honderich wrote in a letter to Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC).

As well, the paper's ombudsman admits that for the third time in three years, the *Star's* own rules on advertising of this sort were "breached."

The ad "should not have run in this form," Honderich told *The CJN*.

Asked how it slipped by, the publisher said legal advice was sought beforehand, "a decision was made [to approve it], and we're looking into that."

A dreidel in the ad, "and other aspects ... were questionable," Honderich added.

Both CJC and B'nai Brith Canada wrote letters of protest to the paper.

The ad, which also appeared in a full page of the Dec. 15 *Toronto Sun*, was headlined "A Great Miracle Happened There" and featured a dreidel, Hebrew letters and a coupon asking respondents to identify themselves as Jewish or gentile.

Congress reminded the *Star* that its own guidelines on advocacy advertising were implemented to prevent this kind of ad.

The guidelines state that "no advertising will be accepted which identifies one religious faith and urges its adherents to adopt different views or a different faith."

The rules were toughened in 1988 after the paper lost a case at the Ontario Press Council for refusing to run an ad for Jews for Jesus.

Congress and others have long held that Jews for Jesus and other so-called Hebrew-Christian groups target Jews for conversion to Christianity, as seen in their advertising, which almost always combines Jewish symbols with calls to accept Jesus as the messiah.

The ad was "particularly offensive," wrote Congress, "because of its underlying hypothesis that one religious group — the Jews — is so utterly lacking in prospects for salvation that they need special attention by way of a concentrated appeal that is clearly directed to them exclusively."

In his letter to Congress, Honderich said he found the portion of the ad inquiring about religion "offensive and in bad taste."

He said "broader consultation" should have taken place prior to its approval.

Honderich said the paper intends "to be more vigilant in honoring [its] advocacy advertising guidelines," and offers "our apologies for this regrettable lapse."

In his Dec. 23 column, the *Star's* ombudsman, Don Sellar, took the paper to task for its repeated failures to live up to its guidelines.

Two years ago, Sellar admitted that the paper violated its rules by accepting a similar ad from Jews for Jesus.

This time, the guidelines were "breached," he told *The CJN*, adding the paper received some three dozen calls of protest.

"Most offensive," he said, was the box asking people to identify their religion.

Sellar stressed, however, that he was not speaking on behalf of the *Star*.

Congress also sent a letter of protest to the *Sun*, which has no guidelines on advocacy advertising. The paper responded by saying the ad "should have been identified clearly."

The Directors and Staff
of
The Canadian Jewish News
deeply mourn the sad loss of

JACK CUMMINGS ז"ל

a member of our Board of Directors
for many years.

He will be sorely missed.

We extend our sincere condolences
to the entire Cummings family.

Greater Toronto Area

Poet explains to us 'what it all means'

In 1965, sociologist John Porter published his most famous work in which he described Canada's society as a "vertical mosaic." Thirty years and a number of societal changes later, we hardly hear the term any longer, let alone use it in reference to the Canadian community. Thus, with due apologies to the late Porter, I shall appropriate the term as the most fitting way to describe the rich, inspiring inheritance of Canadian Jewish poetry.

Canadian Jewish poetry is its own vertical "mosaic," a literary ladder to heaven, as it were, firmly planted on Canadian soil, but lifting us through the middle air of daily travail, upward to the heady, poignant heights of Jewish life, love and lore. Along the rungs we encounter writers such as A. M. Klein, Miriam Waddington, Adele Wiseman, Melech Ravitch, Irving Layton, Leonard Cohen, Naim Kattan, Eli Mandel and Seymour Mayne. There are many more. One writer in particular is now helping to build and to secure that ladder. He is Shel Krakofsky. *The CJN* has featured some of his poetry in the past.

Shel Krakofsky at his home in Komoka

Krakofsky was born and educated in Toronto. He was an English teacher and a journalist with the *Globe and Mail*. He is now a physician living with his wife and three children in the farming community of Komoka, situated just a tad west of London, Ont. And of course, he is also a poet.

His second collection of poetry, *Blind Messiah*, has just been published by Moonstone Press. It follows by four years the publication of his first collection of poems, *The Reversible Coat*.

Krakofsky's poetry has been described by other poets and writers in various ways. Layton raves: "Shel Krakofsky's blazing lyricism grabs my soul by the lapels." Waddington observes: "His poems are skillfully anchored in the strength of modern Jewish reality. Religious without religiosity." And Mayne simply states: "Krakofsky's poetry is thoughtful, witty, playful and a pleasure to read." They are all correct, each describing a different aspect of the light reflected through Krakofsky's beautiful, many-angled, precious poems.

Krakofsky writes because, as all true writers, he must. His stories, his lines and his phrases must find their expression. Writing is as essential to his well-being as are movement, laughter and love. In an essay he wrote in 1992, in the inaugural edition of *Parchment*, a journal of contemporary Jewish writing which he edited, he defined the function of the writer generally, and of the Jewish writer specifically thus: "Historians like Irving Abella, Michael Brown, Stephen Speisman and Harold Troper have given Jews a sense of place, if not total comfort, in Canadian history. As the historians have told us how we got here and the sociologists have delineated where we are, it is the writers and the critics who have interpreted what it all means by choosing their characters and themes."

Being able to read Krakofsky's insights into "what it all means" is the sweet and incomparable delight of his poetry. For example, in *Last Meal* we read how he feels about the happy, unpretentious camaraderie of the *seudah shlishit*. of Saturday night.

Last Meal
(from *Blind Messiah*)

let my last meal
be the third meal of Shabbat
that includes the crumbs
from a tzaddik's modest plate

let me pound a crippled table
and sway with magic eyes
singing Zemirot songs beside
Isaac Luria and the medieval
rabbis and dreamers of Safed

let us levitate in dance
"yedeed nefesh av
harachamon. . ."
arms surrounding shoulders
intertwined like Havdalah torch
burning evanescent
separating this week from the
next
this life from the next

let me rise with the aroma
of the spice box
my palate scorched with
Sabbath dynamite
a mix of herring, onions, chick
peas
and biting rye

when this vessel can no longer
hold the sparks from the sun's
gaze
the moon's pull

let me depart
exhausted from rest
with wine on my lips
passing Elijah on his way

His insights are often so accurate, they ache in our hearts as we reflect on them. He expresses the unburnished truths of human existence, and of Jewish existence especially, with rare, skillful, artistic, economy of words. For example:

Last Lines
(from *Reversible Coat*)

it's a waste to index the first
lines
it's the last lines of poetry that
count
not the first

it's the last lines that should be
remembered
not the first
truth is at the end
not at the start
on Yom Kippur
at Armageddon
in business
in prayer
in poetry
in death
in love

it's the last lines that count
not the first

Or, as in **Higher Mathematics**
(from *Reversible Coat*)

when Jews
become
jews for jesus
the collective I.Q.
of both groups
goes up

This is how Krakofsky observes the quiet parental satisfaction of the Shabbat table.

Once a Week
(from *Reversible Coat*)

we sing Shalom Aleichem
to the Angels
sanctify the wine
and challah bread
and sit around the Shabbos table
(the children say, Shabbat)
this night robed with tablecloth

our children's excitement
has diminished as they wait
impatiently for the obligatory
chicken
and more current affluent
delicacies
our former singsongs cancelled
Grace after the meal less
frequent

the issues personal and public
we still talk and laugh
like no other evening
they plan the rest of Friday
night
even some TV (Zaida, forgive
me)
plus weekend homework
visits with friends
their futures
their dreams

over exhausted candles
I smile through shadows
at my grown and growing
prince and Sabbath queens
hoping it will not be long
or painful until they discover
that this used to be
and still is
as good as it gets

There is an indescribable exhilaration one feels on a mountain peak: the air perfectly translucent, the breeze cool, the light gold and brilliant, seeing the world to the furthest corner with rare clarity and insight, seeing oneself in that world, and occasionally even sensing a glimpse of heaven. Krakofsky's poetry can carry one to the top of a mountain. For those people who have never been there, it is an important journey and highly pleasurable.

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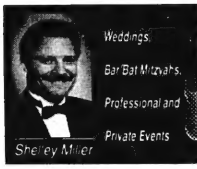
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Greater Toronto Area

Tory cutbacks threaten non-profit Jewish housing

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

On The Avenal's patio.

TORONTO — Tenants of about 1,100 apartments in non-profit housing in the Toronto Jewish community are worried about their future in the wake of the Ontario government's decision to get out of the subsidized housing business.

Also, though there is a huge waiting list, the government has not approved any applications for future non-profit housing in the Jewish community, according to Lisa Lipowitz, project coordinator for Kehilla Residential program, an affiliate of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

"It's a very serious situation, we are very worried," said Stan Sugarbroad, a tenant at the Dorothy Klein Project on Roselawn Avenue. "With rent controls coming off, and a possible end of subsidies, there is concern about the future."

Whether rents will go up as the result of budget reductions is unclear until government policy is clarified, Lipowitz said.

About 50 per cent of the 1,100 units are subsidized, Lipowitz told *The CJN*. The total includes 50 per cent seniors, the rest being made up of people on social assistance, families, including single mothers with children, New Canadians, and persons with a physical disablity, some wheelchair bound.

The Kehilla is concerned with a government directive that tenants in arrears of rent face possible eviction, though no evictions have yet taken place.

"This is an uncomfortable thought for boards of directors who sponsored non-profits in order to assist those members of our community who require subsidized housing," Lipowitz said.

A predicted slash in operating budgets means that the standard of maintenance and care will be lowered because there will be less money to run the buildings, she said.

In addition to Dorothy Klein, the projects include three buildings operated by B'nai Brith Canada, two on Bathurst Street, and one on Torresdale, Reena Foundation, Ohr Somayach, Moshav Noam, Plaut Manor, Habayit Shelanu, Project Marc and the Avenel, the latter two sponsored by Kehilla.

"They are as diverse as the Jewish community itself," noted Lipowitz.

Of particular concern is the government reduction of 22 per cent in welfare benefits, while the rents for people on social assistance in these projects remains the same.

"We think the community should be aware of the tremendous hardship being imposed on some people by this government," said Lipowitz.

Another concern is a report that the government is moving to a system of shelter allowances, directly to tenants, instead of a subsidy system. "A fat lot of good that will do," commented Sugarbroad.

Rents that are not subsidized in the projects are linked to fair market values in the areas concerned.

Waiting lists are long because there is little turnover. In the Avenel building on Ridley Boulevard, for instance, where there are 111 units, applicants are told they face a delay of five to 10 years.

Government regulations require that at least 20 per cent of the units be made available to applicants from the provincial registry. In the case of the Dorothy Klein building this has resulted in 60 per cent of tenants being Jewish. About 80 per cent of the rents in the building are subsidized.

"The need for new housing is great now and in view of the cutbacks the need will be even greater in the future," Lipowitz said.

Veteran recalls a wartime Chanukah

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — With his blue coveralls spattered with antifreeze and his rubber boots dripping mud, Sol Friendly of Toronto was master of ceremonies at a most unusual Chanukah party in Eindhoven, Holland, 51 years ago.

Along with other members of the RCAF, the YMCA, Knights of Columbus and Canadian Legion, Friendly organized the party for Jewish residents, who, until December 1944, were hiding from the Nazis.

"A Jewish butcher in Eindhoven and I figured there would be 17 Jews at the party, but to our amazement 77 attended. They were coming out of the woodwork," Friendly said.

The reason his clothing was so dishevelled was that he had just helped to refuel aircraft and had to tramp through a muddy field.

"When I got to the base to pick up the other Jewish fellows, I was half an hour late and one of them said, 'What is this a party on Jewish time?' and they insisted that I drive them over without shaving and changing my clothes."

That wasn't the only unnerving experience for the Canadian airman who is a Jewish war veterans' representative to the Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario region executive.

"A Jewish cook on the base heard about the party and made dozens of trays of pastries. I was driving a three-ton lorry and had to dodge the bomb holes in the road or else the pastries never would have made it."

The price of admission was two chocolate bars, and one unexpected guest was a Jewish RAF wing commander from London. A 5-year-old Jewish Dutch girl lit the first candle.

Friendly said he was able to get use of the truck and the cooperation of the recreational agencies on the base because he was a member of the rugger team.

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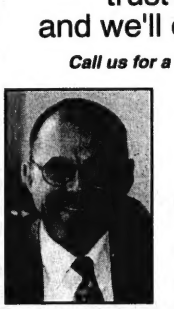

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Greater Toronto Area

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Our sincere sympathy to his wife, Minnie and the entire family.
The Executive & Members of
Upper Canada Lodge, B'nai Brith

The Officers, Directors and Staff of
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wish to express their deepest sympathy to
The Granovsky Family
on the passing of
PHIL GRANOVSKY ז"ל
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Jewish National Fund of Canada
express their sincere condolences to
Shirley Granovsky and family on the sad passing of
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Disabled doctor credits Beit Halochem for its support

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Eyal Gur

TORONTO — With a white lab coat over his street clothes, Dr. Eyal Gur walks confidently down the halls of the Hospital for Sick Children, where he recently began a microsurgery fellowship in the Plastic Surgery department.

The fact that he is an amputee comes as a surprise even to some of his medical colleagues. The 36-year-old Israeli war veteran lost his right leg below the knee in 1982.

At the time, he was an experienced captain commanding a select parachuting unit in Syrian-occupied Lebanon. Along with other Israeli soldiers, he was injured by anti-aircraft missiles firing at the ground.

Following rehabilitation at Tel Aviv's Tel Hashomer Hospital, Gur was windsurfing a month after his injury, he recalled over coffee in the Sick Kids' cafeteria. "I was young, I was healthy and in very good physical shape."

The initial adjustment was eased by an "incubator" of loving family and friends.

During his rehabilitation, he was visited by members of Beit Halochem, the Israeli organization providing support, counselling, therapy and recreation to disabled war veterans, but he felt no need to avail himself of the group's services.

The war veterans, also amputees, were members of Beit Halochem's competitive volleyball team — not a wheelchair team but "regular standing." Gur declined to join because he didn't want to identify with a disabled group.

Although he still downplays his disability, his feelings about Beit Halochem have changed.

About six months after his injury, Gur decided to try out the organization's Tel Aviv facility, one of four in Israel. He was looking for somewhere to swim, and Beit Halochem's American-style pool was available to him at no cost.

A strong swimmer, he was asked to join the team for 50- and 100-metre relay races. He also joined the volleyball team, which gave second-ranked local teams with able-bodied players a run for their money.

"The wonderful thing was that there is no feeling of anyone being disabled. They were all like me or worse physically, but everyone was very strong and very demanding of themselves," said Gur.

Both teams went on to compete internationally in the Paralympic Games in Seoul, Korea (1988) and Barcelona, Spain (1992). In Seoul, the volleyball team took home a silver medal and the swim team placed fifth in the finals.

As active as he was in Beit Halochem, Gur continued living a full life in the "outer" world.

A year after his injury, as planned, he entered medical school at Tel Aviv University. He volunteered in the army for 10 years in a planning role, travelled to Paris and the Himalayas, and had an active social life.

When he was single and in dating situations, he raised the issue of his disability early on. "There was never any problem," he said. "There was no reason for me to search for support anywhere else."

Now married and the father of two children, Gur works long hours to perfect his microsurgical skills. Despite his busy schedule, he has offered to participate in Beit Halochem Canada programs.

He credits Beit Halochem with helping him physically, emotionally and psychologically. "Even though you're with disabled people, you get a strong feeling of competence. It helps [you] be a better part of the outer society, not just the Beit Halochem society. I owe a lot to Beit Halochem."

USY YOUTH HELPS SERVE DAILY BREAD
From left, Erica Rashop, 16, Ruth Ades and Rachel Olstein, 16, all of Boston, were among a 300-strong delegation from the United Synagogue Youth (USY) international convention helping out at the Daily Bread Food Bank last week. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Mendelson part of Metro's real Law and Order

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If you're smart, you won't try to tell Mark Mendelson that he reminds you of Detective Logan from the popular television show *Law and Order*.

Not that he's got anything against Chris Noth, the actor who played the fictional TV character. Like his TV counterpart, Mendelson is tall and lanky, and he too has the air of cynicism and savvy that comes from peering beneath too many slimy rocks in the Toronto underworld.

Profile

But unlike Noth, Mendelson is a real cop, a detective in the homicide unit of the Metro Toronto Police force. And he dislikes *Law and Order* with a passion. It fails to portray the gritty, grinding detective work that is part and parcel of real-life homicide investigations.

"Witnesses fall out of the ceiling tiles for those guys," he says with disdain.

So what TV show or movie best depicts the real life drama of a cop at work?

"*Barney Miller* is about as realistic to police work as I've ever seen. They're just real police dealing with real people," he said.

In an interview from the homicide section at police headquarters on College Street — where the radiators don't rattle and the air conditioning works — Mendelson described what it's like trying to collar society's most despised desperadoes.

"There's a whole different world out there that people who sit at home in the suburbs don't even realize. There's a world of drugs, money and violence.

"A lot of murders, if you track them back from the scene of the crime, have a drug influence.

"I dealt with 13 straight murders that all had some involvement with crack [cocaine]."

A homicide detective since 1991, Mendelson revels in his job, which is considered the pinnacle of prestige among police officers.

"Here, you're supposed to be the best. This office has tremendous pride" and lots of recognition by police forces around the continent, he said.

Altogether, there are only about 28 homicide detectives on the force, and to join that elite brotherhood, a majority vote of the serving officers is required.

"There's a certain standard of professionalism required," because murder is the most serious of crimes and detectives face the most experienced and capable defence lawyers in court, Mendelson said.

Unlike the situation depicted in *Law and Order*, investigations often take a lot of time.

In the past, most murders were committed by people who knew the victim, and detectives operated under the premise that "it's always safe to start at the home and work your way out. Essentially, it's a process of elimination.

"Everyone related to the deceased may have a little piece of the puzzle. They may not think it's of great investigative value, but to us, it's a piece of the puzzle and [helps create] the bigger picture."

Forensic evidence like fingerprints or DNA samples is important, "but I think the bottom line is that you have to go with your gut reaction."

Worked on 40 homicides

Since joining the unit, Mendelson has worked on 40 homicides, including some high profile ones: the murder of Simone Sandler, who was last seen on Yonge Street looking for movie extras; the shooting at an after-hours club in which one person died and in which the patrons all claimed to be in the washroom or didn't see anything; the ongoing investigation of the murder of Marsha and Tami Ottey, sisters who were found slashed and stabbed in the basement of their Scarborough home.

"When you knock on someone's door at 3 a.m. and tell them their daughter's been murdered and you're responsible for finding the perpetrator, you're taking on a tremendous responsibility ... The parents look on you as the only person who can put their disaster to rest."

Mark Mendelson

You can be called to a crime scene at 3 a.m. or 4 p.m. and 90-hour weeks are not unusual.

"At 38, I've got grey hair," he said.

After 20 years as a cop, Mendelson says very little surprises him any more. "I've [investigated] people killed for $20 worth of crack cocaine or people who have killed because they feel they've been disrespected," he said.

As a teen, Mendelson had no plans for joining the force. Back when he played drums in a rock 'n roll band called Impulse, two friends told him they were planning to apply to join the police and asked if he'd join them. Mendelson, who was attracted by the excitement of the job and the chance to work with people, agreed.

While the others never became cops — one is a teacher, the other ended up *in* the crowbar hotel — Mendelson began as a uniformed officer in 52 Division downtown.

After three years on the beat, he was promoted to work as an undercover narcotics officer.

Although he's had guns pointed at him and was grilled to see if he was a cop, Mendelson today says "I wouldn't call it dangerous. It was different. There you had to take on different personalities and mingle with people you normally wouldn't have to deal with."

Most of the dealers "packed a piece" and he was searched often to see if he was armed or carrying a microphone.

One incident still brings a smile to his face: "I got burned once by a girl who I went to high school with. She came up to us in a bar, said 'Hi, are you still a cop?' "

The dealer panicked, bolted and "ran straight through a plate glass window." The attending officers nabbed the suspect and he was convicted of trafficking.

Of his time as a narc, Mendelson said, "It was something I could hardly wait to get into. It was something I could hardly wait to get out of."

After leaving narcotics, he was teamed with Doug Bowerman and from 1983 to 1987, the two formed the first ethnic unit of the Metro Police. Their job was to liaise with the Jewish community, investigate racially-motivated incidents, examine hate literature and gather information about anti-Semitic groups.

Mendelson said part of their duty was to provide security for pro-Nazi publisher Ernst Zundel at his preliminary hearing and 1985 trial.

"It wasn't easy being a Jewish policeman and ensuring Zundel's safety. It put me into an ironic position ... I'm six-three and I remember a five-foot, elderly person jumping over my back at Old City Hall trying to get at Zundel. Their emotion must have been overwhelming."

The ethnic unit was assigned that particular duty "because we knew all the players from both sides and the lines of communications were all there."

He believes the ethnic unit was Toronto's first example of community-based policing, the latest trend in law enforcement.

In 1987, he was promoted from constable to sergeant and assigned to supervise a group of uniformed constables working out of 53 Division at Yonge and Eglinton.

Another promotion followed in 1989, when he was made detective and given the reins over the major crime unit at 53 Division, investigating sexual assaults, drug sales, break and enters, robberies and stolen car rings.

He was even "promoted" to "policeman" by his B'nai Brith hockey team. "Whenever there was a fight, they said, 'Mark, go straighten it out.' You can't throw an orthodontist in there. A chiropractor won't go.

"B'nai Brith non-contact hockey was the most violent experience I've ever encountered," he said.

In 1991, he was promoted to homicide. Mendelson acknowledged that with a constant diet of crime scenes and autopsies, and a clear view of the "underside of the city," many homicide detectives suffer from burn-out.

But one of the most gratifying aspects of police work comes "when a jury looks at a judge and says, 'Guilty.' Then you can say, there's been closure."

Correction

In our Dec. 21 story, titled "Author outlines West's 'war against the Jews,' " reference was made to Western intelligence recruiting "anti-Nazi freedom fighters."

In fact, they were pro-Nazi fighters who opposed the Soviet Union.

"Those who provide tzedaka for the many are like the stars forever."

The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto/United Jewish Appeal
extends its condolences to the family of the late

Phil Granovsky ז"ל

His kindness, community commitment and generous spirit
are his eternal legacy to light the way for succeeding generations.

May his memory be a blessing.

Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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True torches

No flame lasts forever. Inevitably, to preserve its light and force, its original spark must be passed on. So too with human beings. Indeed, so too especially with human beings.

Last week, barely hours apart, in one of those inscrutable, head-shaking coincidences that life occasionally places before us, the Jewish community in Canada and throughout the world lost two leaders who were torches casting a giant glow.

On Dec. 23, Jack Cummings of Montreal passed away at the age of 73. The very next day in Toronto, Phil Granovsky died at the age of 74. Both men were bastions of the community. Their achievements were legion. Such was the extent of their involvement in community affairs, the obituaries which appear elsewhere in this issue can sketch only a bare outline, in faint strokes, of the full, generous portrait of their lives. Each undertook numerous volunteer executive positions with local and national organizations. Each held positions of local and national leadership.

It would be no exaggeration to write that their labors over the past half century probably benefited the lives of every Jewish person in Montreal and Toronto in some direct or indirect way, as well as, in significant measure, the Jews of Canada, the people of Israel and the community at large. Their association with worthy causes was endless; their efforts were tireless and their willingness to step forward, to set the example, was inspirational.

Like true leaders, they saw with sharp, far-seeing vision; they perceived the world with unembellished realism; and they willingly accepted the grinding, day-to-day, detailed work of responsibility. Like true torches, they lit the way for others who followed, the next generation, touched, warmed and inspired by the flame of their love for their people and their commitment to a better world.

But the torches are now extinguished. In the midst of our melancholy, we pray the original spark of their flame has been preserved and passed on. As with their memories, the light and force of their unique flames will also be for blessing.

Hollow apology

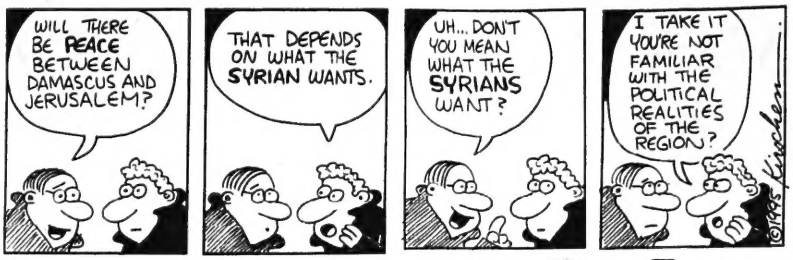
For the third time in three years, according to the ombudsman of the *Toronto Star*, that newspaper has violated its own guidelines regarding religious advertising. The most recent incident occurred during Chanukah.

Jews for Jesus placed a full-page ad in the paper. It was clearly a proselytizing tract aimed at Jews. As such it was deeply offensive. But this particular advertisement went one step further. It invited the reader to self-identify into one of two categories: Jew or gentile. It was thus offensive and despicable.

The response from the community was swift and unequivocal. Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario region and B'nai Brith immediately protested to the publisher, John Honderich. But his response was less than satisfactory.

He apologized for the paper's lapse in honoring its advertising guidelines and agreed that the portion requiring identification... was "offensive and in bad taste." But he did not condemn the principle or the purpose underlying the ad. He told *The CJN* that the ad "should not have run *in this form.*" Honderich has clearly missed the point of our protest and misunderstood the essence of our pain. Any attempt to lure Jews away from being Jewish is an affront to the Jewish people. It should therefore be unacceptable to the paper to assist in that attempt and unjustifiable on any business grounds. To be fair, it must be pointed out that the *Toronto Star* was not alone in carrying the ad. It also appeared in the *Toronto Sun* four days earlier. The ad was equally offensive in that paper. But unlike the *Star*, the *Sun* has no guidelines which it trumpets as proof of its ethical and ethnic sensitivity. They admitted error in not clearly identifying the ad for what it was.

The real proof of the *Star's* sensitivity would have been to reject the ad outright. The seeming regularity with which the guidelines are violated, at least insofar as the Jews are concerned, leaves one to wonder about the *Star's* commitment to its guidelines. To us, those guidelines seem hollow, as does Honderich's apology.


WILL THERE BE PEACE BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND JERUSALEM?
THAT DEPENDS ON WHAT THE SYRIAN WANTS.
UH... DON'T YOU MEAN WHAT THE SYRIANS WANT?
I TAKE IT YOU'RE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE POLITICAL REALITIES OF THE REGION?
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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

On Dec. 31, 1891, the Baron de Hirsch Institute was founded in Montreal. (*Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995*)

Mr. Justice Hall fought for Soviet Jews

It is with great sadness that our committee of 700 lawyers and judges across Canada learned of the death of former Supreme Court of Canada justice Emmett Hall. He will deservedly be remembered in Canadian history for his outstanding contributions to the fields of medicare and education. He was a stalwart defender of human rights both in Canada and abroad.

In 1975, when our committee was formed, he graciously agreed to be our honorary chair and lent tremendous credibility to our efforts in fighting for the rights of Soviet Jewry. Hall was much more than a figure head and at the age of 80, undertook on our behalf an arduous trip to the former Soviet Union. He met with Soviet Refuseniks and attempted vainly to meet with Soviet government officials, judges and lawyers. When he returned, he appeared on national television and decried the Soviet Union's violation of its own and international agreements. Hall wrote critiques of the Soviet legal system and remained very active in our organization and took understandable pride when the Soviet Union crumbled and was succeeded by democratic governments. All Canadians are indebted to Hall for his remarkable achievements and leadership but none more than former Soviet Jews now living in freedom in Canada as a result of his tireless efforts on their behalf.

Our committee extends its deep sympathy to the family of Hall, a truly remarkable man, the likes of whom we will never see again.

Bert Raphael, Q.C.
Chair
Canadian Laywers and Jurists for World Jewry

Betel Centre not cut by 25 per cent

I am writing at the request of our board of directors to express our upset over a recent article titled "Metro community hit hard by budget cuts" (*CJN* Dec. 7).

In the article, I was quoted as saying: "A 25 per cent cut in services to Bernard Betel Centre is already being implemented and the agency faces another 25 per cent cut in funding next year." This is *not* correct and has caused distress in our community.

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living has *not* been notified of any reduction in funding for 1996-97 from the province or from Metro. There has been the suggestion from Metro that it may reduce its community grants by at least 25 per cent. With respect to our centre, this would mean a reduction in our total revenues of approximately 2.3 per cent.

Esta M. Wall
Executive Director
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living

Bienvenue owes real apology

It is unbearable for this survivor of Nazi terror to accept the easy apology to the Jews given by Quebec Superior Court Judge Jean Bienvenue.

It took two hours of discussion behind closed doors to convince this arrogant man that there is reason to apologize to the rapidly dying out Holocaust survivors, and to Jews in general.

No word was heard from the judge about women, who were also insulted by him, nor of the damage to the fabric of this nation, when in the not-too-distant future, all kinds of Holocaust deniers, neo-Nazis and assorted rabble-rousers will start to quote the judge as the new prophet, like it or not, of the people.

The judge apologized, but where was his humility where the women of Quebec were concerned? He should issue a complete apology and make it real and sincere to the survivors and the women he insulted. His resignation will be welcome.

S. Schweitzer
St. Laurent, Que.

Learning French in Montreal

I moved to Montreal from Toronto in September to study Public Relations at McGill University, but because of the political uncertainty, I am torn as to what I will do when I graduate next year.

Since I am now living in Montreal, I decided not only that I would like to learn French again, but that it is imperative if I want to continue living here.

There are courses offered through continuing education at McGill, at $245 per semester, without credit. These courses are only offered at the beginner level on days that I am taking other classes. There is also a course at the University of Montreal, at $285, with credit. I received the application form for this course and it was in French only. When I called the university to request an English application, I was told that they would have to put in a special request for one.

A classmate of mine at McGill has just become a Canadian citizen. Through Immigration Canada she was able to take an intensive French course free, for a seven-week period. I was informed that since I am a Canadian citizen, I could not take this course.

It is hard for me to understand why some people feel that the French language and culture must be preserved by having a sovereign Quebec. It is quite clear to me that Quebec is very different from Toronto and the rest of Canada. Some sovereigntists also seem to think that English-speaking Canada has no interest in their language or culture. I am trying to learn the French language so that I can experience what it is really like to live in Montreal and experience the French culture.

It seems as though it is easier for someone from another country to be accepted in Quebec than it is for someone from another province in Canada.

Lesley M. Feldman
Montreal

WISDOM OF THE AGES:

A wounded spirit is hard to heal.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

From 'ordinary' man to beast and back again

(Karl Frenzel, an SS guard at Sobibor, was tried in the mid-sixties and convicted for his crimes. Fifty years after the Nuremburg trials, we must read and re-read reflections about evil's "ordinary" face.)

By DENA BLATT

We waited for him in the hotel lobby and at last he appeared. It was Karl Frenzel, all right, a former member of the SS. We were in Hagen, Germany; it was 1983 and Frenzel, while appealing his six consecutive life sentences after spending only 16 years in prison, was being accommodated in this moderately priced hotel. With me was Gotz Bockmann, a German reporter covering the war crimes trial. Frenzel greeted him, looked at me, smiled and said in German: "Is she the other journalist?"

"Yes," said Bockmann, "Her German is not the best. I will interpret. Herr Frenzel this is Frau Blatt."

Frenzel was stunned, then angry. So, I was the wife of a witness1 "Nein, nein," he muttered, and turned quickly to leave. I rushed after him. Long before I had married a survivor I had wanted to know, needed to know, where this evil came from — what made a man into a monster.

I caught up with him. Now I was face to face with the man accused of having personally murdered 40 people and had participated in the deaths of over 200,000. More personally, I was looking at the man who had brutally beaten my husband's father for stumbling on the "way to Heaven," and who played a crucial part in my husband's life minutes later by taking him out to be his "shoeshine boy."

I begged Frenzel to stay. I assured him I didn't want to talk about the death camp or the ongoing trial, only his childhood and family life. He smiled, came back and sat down.

He was in his early 70s, with the usual signs of advancing age — the double chin, a little bulge around the middle, hair grayish and receding. His face was a bit flushed, perhaps due to his fair skin. His eyes, quietly observing me, were soft and kind. He wore a neat dark suit with a white shirt and dotted tie — by itself a cold conservative look — but the colorful argyle wool vest over it gave him a touch of warmth and casualness. He was well-mannered, kind looking. Yes, I thought, he could be anyone's grandfather, holding a child lovingly on his lap, or a revered school teacher in front of respectful students. Yet this was the man who had killed men, women and children each day, and then had gone home and kissed his wife and young son.

Some of the accusations: he had given the cook 100 lashes for supposedly stealing food; anyone sick or slow he sent to the gas chambers; he had reported the escape plan of 72 Dutch Jews, then had led them to the gas chambers; he had had a youth shot for stealing a can of sardines; he had smashed a baby's head; and at the end, when the workers made a planned revolt, he had methodically shot down fleeing Jews.

I was anxious to hear his story. We were given a quiet room off the lobby and a hotel employee brought us cold drinks. As I fumbled with my tape recorder, I glanced at Frenzel. He was sitting calmly, sipping his beer, a slight smile on his face.

"I feel sorry for the witnesses," he said between sips, "the way they are pressured — made to prove everything, remember everything."

I nooded, then asked Frenzel why he had wanted to talk to a journalist.

"Perhaps it was to say I'm sorry," he went on, "but also to say you don't know what went on in us; you don't understand the circumstances we found ourselves in. For us it was also a very bad time."

I made no comment on his claim of personal suffering. "Tell me about your mother, father, sisters, brothers," I said. He seemed eager to talk. When it was over, I realized why.

He had had an ordinary childhood and youth in an ordinary middle class family, strongly religious. His brother had been studying for the priesthood. He sang in the church choir. He liked school. Math, history and religion were his favorites. He had friends, buddies, and played football. He even had a Jewish girlfriend but broke up. His father was a middle-of-the-road Social Democrat, who worked as a government clerk. His mother was a housewife. They were firm, but not too strict.

He eventually married, had five children, worked as a stage hand or prop man, and once managed a castle. He was a family man, proud of his family.

He was trying to tell me — and he succeeded — that he was like most people, an ordinary guy, a human being — which made it all the more horrible, all the more scary to think about. For as a human being, he made choices which ultimately led to Sobibor. The first of these was joining the Nazi Party in 1930 at the age of 19. What made him choose this route, I wondered. There were countless other ordinary men who took other paths.

"Tell me," I said, "why did you join the Nazi Party?"

He looked dumbfounded. "Because there was unemployment!" he exclaimed.

"Was there a conflict in you, being a Nazi and a Christian?" I asked. He looked bewildered. "Could you be a good Christian and be a Nazi too?"

He didn't seem to understand. "I was always a good Christian," he responded finally. "I was brought up in the Lutheran Church. I attended every Sunday with my wife and children. I'm still religious and so are my children."

He reached again for his beer, sipped and was quiet for a moment. "I worked at various jobs in Frankfurt. When a survivor recognized me years later and I was arrested, I was a projectionist in a theatre."

He paused, then continued: "I lived a simple life," he said. "I was a law-abiding man. I had to take care of my five children after my wife died."

Tears welled up as he held back a flood of emotions. He had returned to East Berlin, only to learn that his wife had been raped by Russians and later died of typhus. As he spoke, one could sense the mixture of rage and grief. He was not a robot. One could picture him showing love and tenderness at home. I wondered about his children, how much they knew. Of his three sons, one was a policeman, one a house painter, one a civil servant. Both daughters married master mechanics. I wanted to meet them. I needed to know more.

* * *

A week had passed. His children had refused interviews with me. Perhaps Frenzel could persuade them. With my interpreter, I dropped by unexpectedly, on the chance he'd be home.

The apartment building in a nice middle class suburb of Hanover was modern and well-kept, the landscaping neat and well-tended. I pressed the buzzer. The door opened and we entered the foyer. He could see us clearly from above.

"I wasn't expecting you," he said excitedly, "but come up."

He appeared upset as he ushered us into the living-room. "My children," he said, "called after the hotel interview. They said I shouldn't come to my grandchild's birthday. They don't want scandal. Not only that, my youngest son, just now hearing things for the first time, said that if he had known, he would not have shaken my hand." There was anguish in his voice.

"It was like being put on the stand by one's own son," he said, finally. "They don't understand it was my job."

I reminded him that one of his co-workers in Sobibor had asked for a transfer and had obtained it. He paid no attention to my remark.

He asked us to make ourselves comfortable. The home was unpretentious, but neat and tidy. Flourishing plants and knick-knacks in just the right places gave warmth and coziness to the simple modern furniture. We sat down on a couch in the living-room.

Suddenly a parakeet flew in and lighted on Bockmann's shoulder. Frenzel smiled. He loved his bird, his pet. With the cage never closed, it had free rein of the apartment. He coaxed it to him, but it flew off instead, then returned to Bockmann. Frenzel was clearly annoyed.

"Where's your wife?" I asked.

"She's not my wife," he answered softly. He wanted it clear that they were only living together but thinking of marriage, perhaps when the trial would be over.

She entered. She had been shopping. Despite the surprise visit, she greeted us with a gracious smile, hung up her coat and joined us. She was about 60, attractive, hair coiffed, nails polished, dressed in a simple beige form-fitting wool dress. It wasn't long before she revealed her feelings.

"It would be best if the Holocaust were forgotten," she said, placing an ashtray on the coffee table. "There should be no more trials. It does no one good to relive it." And in one breath, staring us down coldly: "Enough is enough. We *too* have suffered. It's the past and the past is over. We'd like to forget it."

Throughout this, Fenzel was quiet, impassive. She offered wine, tea, cookies. The talk moved to comparisons of Nazi colleagues. Franzel complained that other Nazis he had worked with or knew talked badly about him in court but didn't talk about their own crimes, and none had changed, none were repentant.

"I at least admit," he added, "that I am responsible for the deaths of 100,000. It's OK, you can put it in the American press."

"What do you say," I asked him, "when people say it never happened?"

"I say it's not right to say it never happened."

Appearing bored, Frau Frenzel turned to me as Frenzel took up conversation with Bockmann. "I mustn't forget my hairdresser's appointment," she said. "I'm going on vacation in the Canary Islands."

"For how long?," I asked.

"Three weeks, but he can't go with me," she said, resentment rising in her voice, " 'cause he has to attend the appeal." There was a pause. Then in an emotion-laden voice, "I worry so about him, all alone in the apartment ... sleeping restlessly, with no one to care for him." She wept softly.

I felt extremely uncomfortable and excused myself to "look at the bird" in the kitchen. I needed to collect myself.

Soon Frau Frenzel was beside me. Good, I thought. We could talk alone, woman to woman. I wondered how they had met six years earlier, while he was in prison. Was she a member of a Nazi support group? And how could a woman love a man she knows has personally murdered innocent men, women and children? Even a supposedly repentant one? Maybe she doesn't believe it! I made some inane remark about the bird, and then came right out with it.

"Tell me, do you yourself believe that Karl Frenzel did all those things they say he did?" I pictured her pondering this, then giving me a guarded reply full of rationalizations, but her answer came unhesitatingly.

"Yes, of course," she said. "It's in the trial transcipts. I believe it. But that was *then*. He's not that man now. He's kind and gentle. Why, he wouldn't hurt a fly!"

It left me dumbfounded. There it was. From ordinary man to beast and back again.

When we returned to the living room, I looked about and noticed the absence of books. There was only a cookbook and a conservative newspaper — nothing really to judge a person by. Seeing me eye the room, Frenzel offered to show me the bedroom, the one room I had not yet seen. I declined, but he insisted; so I went in. Was it to prove to me that it was only a bedroom, an ordinary bedroom, with bed, dresser and chair?

"Wait," said Frenzel, "you must see pictures of my grandchildren before you leave." Proudly he brought them out. And there they were, sweet adorable faces — the faces of *all* children.

We muttered Thank you and good-bye and left. My heart was heavy. Outside in the bright sunshine we joined the unconcerned — people going about their daily business, and I wondered ... "Who among them? Who in any crowd, anywhere?"

* * *

On Sept. 12, 1985, once more the verdict was given and recorded — life imprisonment. However, it was openly stated that for "health" reasons, he would live at home as a free man.

Karl Frenzel (right) as he appeared in 1941 and being interviewed by Dena Blatt in Hagen, Germany, 1983.

Opinions

Public opinion evenly split

The debate in the Israeli public is often reduced to an even split between the "50 per cent" who support "land for peace" and the "50 per cent" who do not believe in the trade. In this simplistic presentation, the left and right are two equal camps, a division which allows the Opposition of the day to challenge the government's legitimacy in making decisions.

By Shira Herzog

The reality, not surprisingly, is somewhat more complex. Underlying Israelis' positions on specific issues in the peace process, or even their decision on voting day, is a web of feelings and values about their country and its future that is not captured in the common discussion of the "split" in public opinion. Since 1967, most Israelis have known that they cannot have a democratic state, with a Jewish majority, that retains the West Bank (and Gaza) in its entirety.

The differences among Israelis are in the relative weight that they attach to several key values: a state with a Jewish majority; a state that is a democracy in which all citizens have equal rights; a state that incorporates the land captured in 1967 — the "Greater Land of Israel;" and a state at peace with its neighbors. Every Israeli recognizes that these cannot all be reconciled and that one or more of these must be compromised.

The Israeli daily, *Yediot Aharonot*, recently published the results of a seven-year tracking survey of Israelis' attitudes about these values, done by political scientists Michal and Yaacov Shamir. In September 1992, shortly after the last election, the Shamirs asked a random sample of Israelis if Israel can aspire to achieve all of these values. Only 17 per cent said Yes, while 80 per cent responded that this was impossible. In other words, Israelis know that it is difficult — if not impossible — to achieve a Jewish majority in an expanded land that contains the West Bank and Gaza (at the time both under Israeli occupation) and to establish in such an area a truly democratic government that will offer equal rights to all its residents, including the Arabs.

And in the Middle Eastern and international reality, it seems unlikely that peace can be achieved without either granting full citizenship rights to all or giving up some land. If these objectives are irreconcilable, then the critical question becomes what relative importance the public attaches to these different values, and what choices it is prepared to make among them.

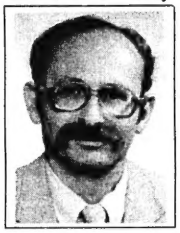
The results of 10 surveys conducted on these values since 1988 have been consistent. Two of the four values noted above emerge as significantly more important to a majority of Jewish Israelis. These are the value of Israel as a state with a Jewish majority, and the value of peace. These results include voters on the right and left of the spectrum. On the right, the values were ranked in the following order: a Jewish majority, peace, the Greater Land of Israel and democracy. Voters on the left of the spectrum, in contrast, ranked the values as follows: peace, a Jewish majority, democracy and the Greater Land. In other words, the common thread that binds Israelis when forced to weigh among these values is the desire to live in peace in a state with a Jewish majority. (In the last survey, immediately after Rabin's death, only one significant change was seen. More Israelis ranked democracy as important than in the past, due to the assault on democratic norms that they saw in the murder.)

These findings are instructive as the details of the Oslo accords are dissected and the legacy of Yitzhak Rabin is debated. As early as 1968, when he left the army after serving as chief-of-staff during the Six Day War, Rabin expressed his discomfort with Israel's occupation of another people and his belief in the value of a Jewish majority in a democratic Israel. What changed for Rabin were not his basic values, but his assessment of a changed regional and international reality that could allow Israel to pursue these values while retaining a position that he felt was strategically secure. In so doing, he felt that he was speaking to the values that are foremost in the hearts and minds of most Israelis.

According to the Shamirs' findings, only 10 per cent of Israelis surveyed at any time ranked the "land" value as first on their list. And only about 20 per cent of Israelis ranked democracy as first on their list. Therefore, the essential questions for Israelis, according to the Shamirs' findings, are not whether any given deal forces them to trade land for peace. Rather, they are whether any deal on the table furthers their desire to live in a state with a Jewish majority that is secure and at peace with its neighbors. The positions presented to voters by political parties are analyzed, consciously and subconsciously, against a political and cultural ethos that has these values at its core.

Baseball, CD-Roms & Jewish education

My 13-year-old son is a baseball fan and a student of the game, including its history. He reads all manner of books written by baseball experts, as well as the sports pages and baseball magazines. Yet for all his voracious reading, perhaps nothing has enhanced his love of the game more than two non-print sources: a CD-ROM version of the *Baseball Encyclopedia*, and the 18-hour Ken Burns PBS series on the history of baseball.



By Morton Weinfeld

The CD-ROM *Baseball Encyclopedia* has all the statistical information of the print text, but includes dozens of video and audio clips associated with key players. There is something magical about seeing and hearing the athletes in action. The same is true with the Burns video, which makes wonderful use of archival baseball footage.

What has this to do with Jewish education?

Many Jewish schools or school systems have yet to recognize fully the potential of both traditional audio-visual aids and newer technologies. (Of course the same is true for many mainstream schools.)

Last year, as a history project in his Jewish day school, my son wrote a major research paper dealing with Jewish life in Israel at the time of the rise of Christianity and under Roman rule. While he immersed himself in reading about that exciting period, one of the major sources he used, which also energized him, was the Abba Eban PBS series on *Civilization and the Jews*. At least two of the nine one-hour segments dealt with that Roman period. There is something about seeing film footage of Masada today, or archeological sites in and around Jerusalem, which makes the drama of the time come to life.

Over the past few years, a number of CD-ROMs dealing with Judaism have been produced or are under development. These are listed in a recent issue of *Ten Da'at*, a Jewish education journal. These CD-ROMs range from some aimed at teaching alephbet and basic Hebrew, to the massive computerized data bases produced by Bar-Ilan University's Responsa and Judaic Library. There are CD-ROMs dealing with the Holocaust, Jewish folklore and Jewish cooking. Judaic encyclopedias of various sorts are also available. The Internet also contains Judaica Web sites, as well as daily news reports from Israel and the Israeli press, in English.

Such learning tools are becoming popular more generally. McClelland and Stewart are releasing a CD-ROM version of the *Canadian Encyclopedia*, complete with video and audio clips of great Canadian figures and events.

We know from previous general research that computer assisted instruction can be of educational value. But there is very little scientific evidence on the impact of Jewish software. I have not evaluated the available CD-ROMs. Yet one can easily imagine that if they are done well and integrated into a coherent, rigorous program, they can enhance many aspects of a Judaic curriculum. Students would be able to relate to material in a way that would be more exciting, more immediate, than that available from text alone.

The cost of most of the CD-ROMs listed in the journal was under $100 (US). This makes them relatively affordable, assuming schools have the needed computers with CD-ROM capability. Jewish schools vary in the degree to which they have been willing and able to embrace this new technology. This is understandable. The technology is new, there are start-up costs involved and schools are usually too preoccupied with day-to-day issues to plan major innovations. Nevertheless more Jewish educators are finding the on ramp to the information superhighway.

But some caution is in order. Educators must be careful not to assume that the new technology will be an instant panacea, for all pedagogic problems. My son's love of baseball was not caused, only enhanced, by the CD-ROM. No one knows whether these new tools will ultimately lead to more positive Jewish outcomes. Moreover, many teachers would have to be made comfortable with them and ponder ways to introduce them into Judaic curricula.

More basic is the fact that all Judaic knowledge is ultimately rooted in text. The adoption of any new technologies must be seen as complementing but never substituting for the centrality of the text. The new technologies are learning tools which help students access more information more effectively. As in the case of video clips, they can stimulate interest and make learning more enjoyable. But they are a means to a greater end.

For Judaism, the medium is *not* the message. Jews are "people of the book" because of the message, whether on papyrus, in print or on computer screen.

Germany's first woman rabbi

The Week in Germany reports: Germany's 50,000-plus Jews are members of 71 congregations around the country. Although there are national organizations like the German Conference of Rabbis and the Central Committee of Jews in Germany, the congregations are autonomous and responsible for their own rabbinical appointments. That helps to explain a recent appointment that has provoked deep disagreement within the Jewish community. Earlier this year, the congregations of Oldenburg and Braunschweig (both Lower Saxony) offered a joint position to a newly ordained rabbi named Bea Wyler. Upon taking office on Aug. 1, she became the first woman rabbi to lead worship in Germany.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

The Oldenburg and Braunschweig congregations are exceptions to the norm in Germany in that they are Conservative and not Orthodox. The majority of pre-war city congregations were Reform, and were re-established after 1945 by Orthodox Jews from Eastern Europe. The Oldenburg congregation was founded in 1992 and the majority of its members are women. In Braunschweig, too, women dominate and have taken over many of the tasks during worship traditionally reserved for men. The women convinced the men in the congregation that this would ensure their survival; since then, the congregation describes itself as "Conservative with gender equality." The appointment of a women rabbi was thus a logical step. "We reject any charges that we are abandoning Judaism. But if we aren't flexible, we'll lose the young people," said Renate Wagner-Redding, Braunschweig's congregation chair. The decision was accepted by Lower Saxony's State Association of Jewish Congregations, which provides part of the funding for Rabbi Wyler's salary.

The German Conference of Rabbis will be meeting this fall to consider the matter; its spokesperson, Rabbi Joel Berger, told the weekly *Die Zeit* that Rabbi Wyler would not be accepted as a member nor would her decisions in matters of religious law be recognized. The Central Committee of Jews in Germany, according to chair Ignatz Bubis, would not take a stand on the issue. Speaking on his own behalf, though, Bubis similarly predicted that the new rabbi would not be recognized by her colleagues, adding that he himself could not participate in religious services conducted by a woman.

Rabbi Wyler, 44, was born in Switzerland, where her family has lived for nearly three centuries. An agronomist by training, she worked in a variety of jobs before deciding to pursue rabbinical study five years ago and this past May, she was ordained in New York by the Jewish Theological Seminary. She is optimistic that the furor her appointment has spurred will gradually give way. "Step by step," she told *Die Zeit*, "practical solutions" to the problem arising from the differences among the various Jewish traditions are certain to be found.

Rabbi Wyler is the first woman rabbi to lead a congregation in Germany, but she is not the first ordained woman to work there. In 1935, Regina Jonas was ordained a rabbi, possibly the first ever. She received an appointment in Berlin, not as a rabbi but as a teacher, and was deported to Auschwitz in 1944.

The Kirshner File

The Russian poem that caused a sensation

By Sheldon Kirshner

Yevgeny Yevtushenko, arguably Russia's greatest living poet and literary idol, slouched in a chair, his body relaxed, his long legs stretched out langorously.

Rays of pale morning sunlight filtered through his thinning gray hair and highlighted his luminous blue eyes.

He wore a loose-fitting colored shirt, the tails hanging out of his blue pants, and black loafers. He was clearly in a relaxed mood, but his rolling, heavily-accented Slavic voice was tinged with heartfelt emotion.

"This poem, " he mused, "gave me an understanding of how one poem can have such an impact on society. I am very proud of it."

Yevtushenko, of course, was referring to *Babi Yar*, described by the *Encyclopedia Judaica* as "the most famous single poem of the Holocaust." First published in 1961, and subsequently reprinted in 72 languages, *Babi Yar* triggered a sensation in the Soviet Union.

Named after a ravine in Kiev where some 30,000 people, mainly Jews, were murdered by the Nazis in 1941, *Babi Yar* turned on Yevtuskenko's outcry that no official monument had ever been erected to commemorate this baneful event. In a nation where monuments were as common as mushrooms after a rain, it seemed incongruous and unjust that one had not been commissioned in honor of the hapless victims of Babi Yar.

"I was shocked," recalled Yevtushekno, who was in Toronto recently as a guest of the International Festival of Authors. "I was indignant."

One of the guiding lights of the liberal intelligentsia during much of the post-Stalinist period, Yevtushenko was apprised of the massacre in Babi Yar by Anatoly Kuznetzov, an obscure writer whom he met in 1960.

Shaken and angered by Soviet officialdom's blithe rejection of Babi Yar as an event worthy of remembrance, Yevtushenko was inspired to write the 99-line poem, which created a political storm in the bastion of Communism.

To conservative ideologues, *Babi Yar* was anathema because it challenged two pillars of Soviet dogma. It implied that anti-Semitism, formally outlawed, still existed in the Soviet Union. It unmasked the hypocrisy that Jews had been killed as "Soviet citizens" during the destructive German occupation, when in fact they had been marked for death as Jews.

Immediately after visiting Babi Yar in the company of Kuznetzov, Yevtushenko composed his now-famous poem, and he read it before a vast audience in a concert hall in Kiev, the capital of the Ukrainian region.

"The first reaction was dead silence," he said, suddenly alighting from his seat to pace the floor of the hotel room with a panoramic view of Lake Ontario. "Then, an avalanche of applause."

But his strongest memory is that of the sight of a wizened old woman who climbed to the stage and kissed his hand in a flourish of appreciation. "And she was not Jewish, believe me."

The response was similar in Moscow, and encouraged by the feedback, Yevtushenko submitted *Babi Yar* to the open-minded editor of *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, probably the leading Soviet journal of its kind.

Yevtushenko has not forgotten the editor's misgivings. "He recognized that the publication of *Babi Yar* would cause a scandal. He also thought he would be fired."

As it happened, he was entirely correct. *Babi Yar* ignited a fierce controversy, not only within the Communist party and the state-controlled media, but at the very apex of the Soviet leadership. "Comrade Yevtushenko, that poem has no place here," party secretary Nikita Khrushchev is reported to have told him.

"I was accused of being anti-patriotic, of forgetting my own people," said Yevtushenko, a smile creasing his pallid face. "Some even said that my poem provoked anti-Semitism!"

Critics took him to task for passing over the murder of ethnic Russians and Ukrainianss in Babi Yar and for insinuating that anti-Semitism was alive and well in the Soviet Union.

Defending himself, Yevtushenko explained that Babi Yar was more complex than it appeared. "My poem was not only about Babi Yar," he observed. "It was a denunciation of global anti-Semitism."

Amid the uproar, Yevtushenko was deluged by 10,000 letters, mainly from fans who praised *Babi Yar*. "But some of the letters were very dirty and libelous."

One irate vandal scratched the epithet "Zhid" on his car. In a calculated show of bravado, Yevtushenko left the curse word on the car, driving around Moscow until the police stopped him and painted it over at their expense.

But the worst was yet to come. The city of Kiev, sensitive to charges that Ukrainians had collaborated with the Nazis, banned Yevtushenko from municipal concert halls. The ban was not lifted until 1985. (Ukrainians seemed particularly miffed by *Babi Yar*. In 1972, while he recited it in St. Paul, Minn., anti-Soviet Ukrainian nationalists pounced on him, breaking two ribs.)

Eventually, the Soviet authorities sanctioned the publication of *Babi Yar* in book form, albeit in a modified version. Under pressure, Yevtushenko added four new lines concerning the martyrdom of Russians and Ukrainians at Babi Yar. He yielded so that Dmitri Shostakovich — the composer and conductor — could proceed with presenting the *13th Symphony*, which was based on *Babi Yar*. Shostakovich had been profoundly touched by it, said Yevtushenko.

He rejects charges that the additional stanzas compromised the integrity of *Babi Yar*. "I was not happy to make these changes," he allowed. "But they do not tamper with the spirit of the poem. I did it so that the *13th Symphony* could be performed."

Khrushchev, nevertheless, was perturbed by the *13th Symphony*, complaining that the Central Committee of the Communist party had been overwhelmed by letters critical of *Babi Yar*.

Yevtushenko remains respectful of Khrushchev, his attitude to *Babi Yar* notwithstanding. "He was a man who exposed Stalin's crimes and liberated many political prisoners." And, he claimed, he was not an anti-Semite. "No, no, I don't think so."

Due to the popularity and notoriety of *Babi Yar*, Yevtushenko was branded as a "hidden Jew" by racists, a label he greets with amusement. "I don't have one drop of Jewish blood," he said. But Yevtushenko, who is of Polish, Ukrainian and Russian origin, emphasizes that he was raised in a tolerant atmosphere which valued multiculturalism and internationalism.

Born in Siberia in 1933, Yevtushenko established his reputation as a dissident in the aftermath of Stalin's death in 1953. Branded an "individualist," he was expelled from the Young Communist League and thrown out of the Writer's Institute. Later, he protested the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, and together with Andrei Sakharov, called for a kinder, gentler Communism. But Yevtushenko was always a member in good standing of the elite, which is perhaps why some critics sneered that he was really a pseudo-liberal and, as *Life* magazine sardonically put it in 1967, "the Soviet Union's best-established anti-Establishment poet."

No one, however, is contemptuous of his remarkable body of work, which includes 42 books of poetry and three novels, the latest of which is *Don't Die Before You're Dead*.

And neither is anyone skeptical of his principled opposition to anti-Semitism, which he has lambasted repeatedly throughout the years.

Yevtushenko, who has visited Israel three times and plans a fourth visit in January, considers it tragic that Russian Jews are emigrating.

"It will be a big tragedy for us if they all leave. Jews are very important to us. I could not imagine Russia without Jews. They're indispensable."

Israeli museum's catalogues are of the highest calibre

Last year, I had the pleasure once again of visiting Beth Hatefutsoth, the Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora in the garden-like setting of Tel Aviv University.

I found the exhibits unfailingly creative and fascinating. The museum, I believe, should be on the itinerary of tourists who wish to immerse themselves in a total Jewish/Israeli experience. Beth Hatefutsoth imparts enormous insights into the vast panoply of Jewish history and, I might add, of the raison d'etre of Israel's existence.

As I was leaving, I paused at the gift shop, fastening my eyes upon a set of handsome coffee-table books on sale.

They were the official catalogues of past exhibitions. Flipping through the pages of several, I was increasingly impressed by the erudite essays and the artfully rendered illustrations. These were not mere, hastily-assembled program notes, if you will. They were bright, professionally-bound volumes of the highest order that any library worth its salt would welcome.

Thanks to the generosity of Joel Cahen, one of the museum's curators, I took a few sampler catalogues back home.

Odyssey of the Exiles: The Sephardi Jews 1492-1992, with an introduction by Yitzhak Navon, the former president of Israel, is a superb piece of work. Consisting of learned articles by such reputable historians as Haim Beinart, Yosef Kaplan and Joseph Hacker, and of beautifully reproduced paintings, woodcuts, photographs and maps from the period in question, it is a wonder to behold.

In the Land of the Golden Fleece: The Jews of Georgia, History and Culture was not, as some may have flippantly guessed, about that southern American state with an identical name. No, this volume dwelled on the other Georgia, the Georgia of the Caucasus, which declared its independence after the tottering Soviet Union finally collapsed under its own weight in 1991.

My knowledge of Georgia's venerable Jewish community and of its ancient customs had been scant. But after delving into an illuminating series of thoroughly researched articles by David Lang, Gershon Ben-Oren, Yitzhak David, Rachel Arbel, Lily Magal and Lily Baazova, I was no longer ignorant.

Workers and Revolutionaries: The Jewish Labor Movement guided me in a completely different direction. As I steeped myself in the intricacies of the topic, surfing from the shtetls of Eastern Europe to the tenements of the Lower East Side in Manhattan, I remembered S. Frug's *Eulogy to Labor:*

"Let us sing praises to toil and to labor/ Let us salute them with love and pride/ Strength to the hand which is horny and calloused/ Strength to the brow which with sweat is bedewed."

Beyond the Sambatyon: The Myth of the Ten Lost Tribes propelled me into a mist-shrouded subject — the fate, such as it was or might have been, of the Israelite tribes who were detached from the body of Judaism seemingly eons ago.

Where are they now? Are they still Jews? Do they practise Judaic rites? Not all my questions were answered. But it had been quite a journey of the mind.

The State of Israel

The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption
The Foreign Ministry

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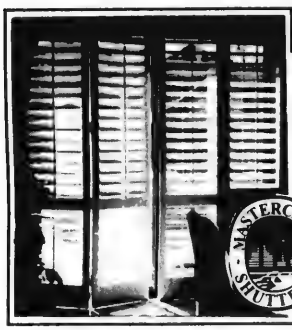

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SILVERBERG, MORRIS JOEL ז"ל

With everlasting courage and dignity, Morris Joel Silverberg passed away on Thursday, December 14th, 1995. He is sorely mourned and missed by his wife, Ada, his daughter and son-in-law, Ronna and Roy Birnboim, his precious grandchildren, Deborah and Jason, and his sister, Marion Silverman. Also mourning his loss are his sister-in-law and brother-in-law Anne and Leo Shulman, his sister-in-law Sarah Nagler, and his numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents Aaron and Rachel, his brother and sister-in-law Abraham and Sarah, his brother and sister-in-law Jack and Sally, his sister and brother-in-law Betty and Willie Lidowitz of New York City, and his brother-in-law Ben Silverman.

As a young child, he immigrated to Winnipeg with his family, where he spent his childhood, youth and married life until 1986 when he and his wife moved to Toronto to be near his beloved daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren.

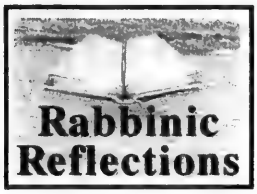
Morris Joel Silverberg was a man who thrived on hard work and commitment to the values of Judaism. He became a successful businessman as a partner in Acme Chrome Furniture Company, was past president of Rosh Pina Synagogue, a devout Zionist and supporter of the State of Israel. The love of his family was paramount.

A true man of integrity, he should be described as living by the golden rule of "derech eretz".

The funeral took place in Toronto on Sunday, December 17th at Beth Tikvah Synagogue. Interment was at Pardes Shalom Cemetery. The pallbearers were: his grandson, Jason Birnboim, nephews Merrill Shulman, William Silverberg and Norman Silverberg, Dr. John Nkansah, Dr. Chaim Birnboim, Dr. Meyer Birnboim and Dr. Rodney Slonim. Honourary pallbearers were Max Birnboim, B.G. Gladstone, and Arly Shaban.

As an expression of sympathy, donations may be made to the Jewish National Fund or charity of your choice.

May his beautiful deeds be recognized by G-d Almighty.



Powerful contrasts

By RABBI LAWRENCE M. PINSKER

Some people say that our truest and deepest values are revealed only to our attorneys. A look at the wills people compose reveal their loves and hatreds, achievements, and awareness of how others have affected their lives.

The Torah reading for this Shabbat, Vayechi, and its related Haftorah offer us a powerful contrast between Jacob's blessing of his sons in Genesis and King David's last testament to his son Solomon. King David urges Solomon to follow G-d's ways, but ends on a bitter note of court intrigue, politics and revenge. He seems to caution Solomon that no blessing is sufficient unless one fulfils the commitment to the Divine Mandate — in this instance, to not let a murderer go unpunished even years after the crimes. David sees Solomon as enacting Davidic policies in a time after his death.

Jacob's testament, on the other hand, does not deal with politics in the present, nor with past grudges, but rather with defining a future beyond the lives of his children and grandchildren. It does not dwell on the moment except insofar as the moment contains the visible seeds of eternity; it does not rest on the management and disposition of property, but rather on the transmission of an intangible heritage.

Both the patriarch Jacob and King David bestow a blessing upon their descendants, but there is an irony to the text; the blessings reveal the limits of these two men. All through the book of Genesis, whenever one generation blesses another, people can give to others only that which they have been given.

Jacob cannot bless his children with something he does not have within himself; nor can King David. Whatever they lack, they cannot leave as an inheritance for their sons, since they never modeled that behavior. If either lacks compassion or sensitivity, it is unlikely that his children will be blessed by it, never having seen it in action. This is the hidden meaning of the word *brachah* (blessing): it doesn't refer to an abstract concept, but rather to embodied action.

In the contrast between Jacob's blessing and David's, we see that the idea of a blessing is not quite what we had expected. It is a statement of one's deepest hopes and beliefs. In a perceptive note, one commentator tells us that the ancient Israelites saw human beings as being saturated with power to affect their own growth and to affect the well-being of the world around them.

This vital power, without which no living being can exist, "is not simply an internal state of the soul, but also the way the power affects others and the world around each individual. What is possible within the scope of an individual's *brachah* is what comes to be. Therefore, the blessing means at the same time something internal and something external. It is our internal strength and at the same time the happiness and fullness in life that we create."

Seen from this perspective, *brachah* bridges the realms of human and Divine, connecting the gifts we receive from G-d to our need to live with gratitude by doing good with our health, strength, compassion and talents. Blessings may vary according to differences between individuals and may be of different sorts — as Jacob notes in the words addressed to his children — but we are alike in our obligation to turn these gifts to make a difference for the good in the world.

As the commentator notes: "There are people who succeed in everything they undertake, others who fail in everything. There is so far nothing strange in this. But for the ... Israelites this was not a matter of chance. It depended upon the blessing of the (person) — upon some gift or capability of the person ... — and matching the circumstances in which one finds oneself."

The blessing — what you do with what you've got — has an impact on everything and everyone that surrounds it. The poet Ruth Brin expresses this beautifully when she writes: "Living we must bless our children, placing our hands upon them and turning their faces toward G-d; living, we must struggle for a better way." It is the wise parent who can show his or her children the individuality of each child's ability to address G-d and bless the world, whatever our talents.

A story is told about Michaelangelo, who was hauling a huge block of marble through the marketplace in an Italian town. Onlookers mocked him because the marble was ugly and misshapen.

"What do you expect to do with this ugly rock," they taunted him.

He replied, "Inside this rock there is an angel trying to get out," and went on to sculpt what he perceived within the stone.

Inside all of us are blessings we have yet to manifest. Recognizing this potential, this blessing — so that we can begin to live it more fully — is the beginning. Whoever aids us in our efforts to "let the angel fly free" is a part of our blessing, and living the mandate of their own as well.

Rabbi Pinsker is the spiritual leader of Congregation Darchei Noam in Toronto.

Guest Voices

Abraham's Understanding

I, Abraham, forged a path from Ur,
guided by God. And day by day,
shaping the future was my constant thought.
I was no architect constructing ziggurats,
as men in Ur. No scribe of cuneiform.
I sought to be a spiritual guide, no less!
I was so proud! My son so headstrong!
I knew what to do, better than he,
and so my stubborn son and I
butted our heads each day,
while he grew stronger, and while I,
sensing the ache within my joints,
knew that my own strength waned.

Sarah, far wiser then than I,
warned me of danger in my path,
but I argued with Isaac daily
to make him see the folly of his ideas.

I heard God call to me to sacrifice,
I was to take my son, my Isaac,
and deliver him for death.
Though I seemed then to bow
to the command of God, in fact
I was prepared to carry out His will,
for it was mine. I wished to sacrifice
my son, so long as he opposed me!
I would have killed him gladly.
I would have killed him then,
had not a ram appeared.
A sign from God, I took it, that I should desist.

My son is headstrong still. And I?
I've learned I cannot shape the future as I will.
That task is Isaac's now, not mine.

© Joan Burstyn, 1995

Jewish Life

Ethiopian Jew enters rabbinate

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Many young Ethiopian Jews in Israel are leaving Judaism, says rabbinic student Yafet Alamu, who will be the first Ethiopian Jew to be ordained by the Conservative movement.

"Our spiritual leaders were not accepted in Israel and we were insulted," said Alamu, who was here recently for a four city lecture tour in Canada and the United States with Rabbi Harvey Meirovich, formerly of Toronto, who made aliyah in 1989.

Alamu participated in the services at Adath Sholom Synagogue, where Rabbi Meirovich conducts the *yomim tovim* services, and was the guest speaker at a Tribute to Jerusalem 3000 program at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

"I thank all the Jewish people who brought us to Israel and gave us freedom. But on our arrival, we began to loose our identity and direction as a result of the official attitude of the religious establishment," he told *The CJN*.

Although 95 per cent of the 60,000 Jews who lived in Ethiopia were religious, Alamu explained that the spiritual leaders in Ethiopia, called *kessim*, are not considered by the Israeli establishment as rabbis.

"Today, there is a struggle to keep the young people from leaving Judaism and that's why I entered the rabbinate," he said.

Alamu is a community leader and president of the Southern Wing of Zion, a group of Ethiopian Jews working to bring to Israel the remaining 14,000 Ethiopian Jews, whose status was considered by some to be questionable.

"Through the efforts of the Southern Wing of Zion, the rabbis in Israel have now declared that these Ethiopians are Jewish people," he said.

When he completes his studies at the Seminary of Jewish Studies, he said, he will try to bring the Ethiopians back to their roots.

At the seminary, he said, they do not deny any point of view — they integrate tradition and modernity.

He is pleased that there are Ethiopian rabbis ordained in the Orthodox tradition, "but I don't think they will have influence," he said. "They are moulded in the Orthodox perception; therefore, I doubt if they can reach the broad spectrum of Ethiopian Jews."

Rabbi Meirovich, who is affiliated with the seminary, said that along with graduate programs in rabbinic ordination, education and Jewish studies, and preparation of Russian and Ethiopian immigrants for leadership roles, the seminary teaches the values of Masorti (Conservative) Judaism and supports the TALI program which provides Jewish studies programs within Israel's secular public school — it insures the integration of Judaism, Zionism and modernity.

Married with four children, Alamu, who works part time as a graduate nurse at Hadassah Hospital, was born in a small village near the northern city of Gondar in Ethiopia in 1959. He described his escape to Sudan from Ethiopia as "long, arduous and dangerous."

He said he thanked film-maker Simcha Jacobovici, Prof. Irwin Cotler and all the Jews who helped his people leave Ethiopia. "I ask all the Jewish people to come help us solve the problems we face.

"And I call on the Canadian Association for Ethiopian Jews, who have acted in the past to bring us home, to act in support of education."

Author probes Speer's psyche

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Albert Speer: His Battle With Truth by Gitta Sereny, Random House $45.00

This revealing book, a 12-year quest by the author to pierce the facade of half-truths, deceit and evasions erected by Hitler's favorite architect and minister of Armaments and War Production, is a massive and continually absorbing study. It throws light on an enigmatic and paradoxical personality and at the same time on the many-sided history of Nazi Germany.

At the Nuremberg Trials, Albert Speer received a 20-year sentence for his war crimes. But his conscience gave him no rest and he was tormented with guilt and remorse for his part in atrocities against Jews and others. With unusual honesty he confronted his unspeakable behavior — even as he steadfastly denied actual knowledge of Hitler's "final solution" or awareness of the horrendous mistreatment of slave laborers under his control. A Faustian pact had been made with the devil and Speer could not acknowledge his part in the bargain.

The author, one of Europe's foremost journalists, who has a special interest in the Third Reich, has written an engrossing study of a benighted regime and a psychological portrait of one of its prime movers whose affection for Hitler was unbounded and at one point in his career admitted, "All I wanted was for this great man to dominate the globe."

At the book's end the author records Speer's admission, at an unguarded moment, in a letter written in 1977. "It is not individual acts or omissions, however grave, which weigh upon me, but my conduct as part of the leadership. This is why I accepted an overall responsibility in the Nuremberg trial and reaffirm this now. However, to this day I still consider my main guilt to be my tacit acceptance of the persecution and the murder of millions of Jews."

The author concludes, "If Speer had said as much in Nuremberg, he would have been hanged."

* * *

The Statement by Brian Moore Knopf Canada $29.95

Who murdered Pierre Brossard? Was it the Committee for Justice for the Jewish Victims of Dombey? Did this group place the statement on the dead man's chest accusing him of crimes against humanity and exulting that after 44 years of delay the slain Jews had been avenged?

Perhaps, on the other hand, the killer or killers were friends or relatives of French resistance fighters whom Brossard, as former chief of the Second Section of the Marseille region of the Milice, had betrayed to the Nazis.

Or maybe Brossard's death was deemed necessary by the Catholic Church, in order to silence an erstwhile friend who knew too much. Over four decades they had protected him from harm, hidden and sustained him and rationalized their behavior.

As the hunted man seeks refuge in the monasteries and abbeys of southern France, he becomes increasingly aware of his relentless stalkers. Twice he lashes out to kill. Ingeniously he eludes his pursuers. Death finally comes as a surprise: "Uneasy, he went into the dark. And in that moment saw Pochon raise both hands, saw the gun, a moment before the first bullet hit him in the chest. The second bullet hit while he was on his knees ... Pochon took a flashlight from his pocket and shined it on the dead face. He then put on a pair of surgical gloves. There must be no fingerprints on the statement. He crouched down and, carefully, using two large safety pins, pinned the statement to the dead man's chest."

Moore, 74, was born in Belfast, lives in California and retains his Canadian citizenship. In a recent Toronto interview he revealed that the protagonist of *The Statement* is based on several personalities of recent French history, especially Paul Tovier.

Why did the Catholic clergy hide so many war criminals? Moore answers, "The reasons ranged from arrogance about the primacy of church law over civil law, to charity, to anti-Semitism, to self-protection. The Church was very pro-Petain [Vichy government leader Marshal Philippe Petain], and a great deal more might be exposed by having Touvier tried than they wanted."

The Statement holds the reader through sheer narrative drive and power, the subtle delineation of character and unswerving intelligence. *The Statement* is a quick read but it persists tenaciously in memory.

The Ontario Sephardic Association
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LOUIS POCH ל"ז
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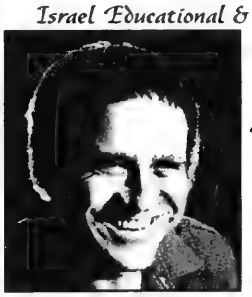

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From coast to coast

Likud would continue peace process, shaliach predicts

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — No matter who wins the 1996 election in Israel, the peace process will continue, says Brig.-Gen. Itzchak Fuchs, the newly-appointed Jewish National Fund (JNF) shaliach in British Columbia.

Speaking at a JNF meeting in Victoria at the Jewish Community Centre, Fuchs, who used to work closely with Yitzhak Rabin at Israeli military headquarters, said that unless Israel wants to live in a constant state of battle with the Arab world, an overall peace agreement is essential.

He noted that Jordan made peace with Israel as soon as the peace negotiations started a year ago. He reported that Israel now has diplomatic relations with 160 countries — double the number before Rabin and Arafat shook hands in Washington.

Even if the Likud wins the election, the peace process will carry on, he said. Further, Fuchs predicted, at least 50 per cent of the settlers in the West Bank will move into Israel if they receive proper financial remuneration.

Fuchs said dissenting Israelis will have to learn to get along with each other. "Israelis," he said, "can't debate. They shout at each other." But now, he added, they at least are talking and beginning to listen and there is general agreement the government can't continue to spend 25 per cent of its budget on the army. Nor should young people between 18 and 21 years have to give three years of their lives to the armed forces, he said.

Of those who don't approve of the peace negotiations, nobody yet has come up with a satisfactory suggestion about solving the Jewish-Arab situation, he maintained.

Replying to a question from the floor, Fuchs said Rabin promised to negotiate with Syria about the Golan and he was certain Peres would carry out the promise.

Speaking for himself as a military man, Fuchs said control of the Golan is no longer a military essential and if negotiations with Syria begin, they will go quickly and smoothly, just as did the negotiations on the Sinai between Menachem Begin and Anwar al-Sadat.

As for Jerusalem, Fuchs said he expects "tremendous U.S. pressure" to make some sort of arrangement with the Palestinians.

Fuchs announced a JNF "megatour" from Vancouver to Israel, May 7 to 20. The cost is $3,245 (plus taxes) plus four trees at $36. The tour will include three nights at the Tel Aviv Hilton, one night in the Moriah Tiberias and six nights at the Hyatt Regency in Jerusalem. A dinner with the mayor of Jerusalem is scheduled.

Poster campaign adopted

KELOWNA, B.C. — A Program Against Racism poster campaign has been adopted by the Rutland Senior Secondary School here, in an effort to discourage the spread of racism, reports lawyer Robert Levin, an official of the Okanagan Jewish Community (OJC).

Levin met recently with the school's principal to discuss other projects to combat racism. He said Rutland was singled out by the OJC because it's a school that has been targeted for recruitment by Charles Scott, Canadian leader of the Aryan Nations, and by other white supremacist, anti-Semitic groups.

At a Remembrance Day ceremony, students presented several mini-dramas portraying the suffering of various people, including Jews, during World War II.

שישאר ביננו

גידי קורן

הילד הזה לא קורא יותר :

ביקור מולדת הפגיש אותי עם יהודה אטלס, סופר ומשורר הילדים הידוע שכתב את "הילד הזה הוא אני," ושמופיע באופן קבוע בפני ילדים ובבתי ספר. יהודה מספר לי על המשבר הענק בקריאת ספרים שמאפיין את העשור האחרון. ילדים שצופים בטלביזיה, ילדים שמשחקים ניינטנדו וסגה, הינם ילדים שקוראים פחות או שאינם קוראים כלל. והתוצאה? בעוד ש"הילד הזה הוא אני" והספר שבא אחריו נמכרו בשנות השבעים ברבע מליון עותקים (!), נמכרים ספריו החדשים של אטלס במהדורות של שלושת אלפים ספרים בלבד. כעבור יומיים פגשתי בידידי, המשורר נתן יונתן, שהוא עורך ספרי השירה של "ספרית פועלים". נתן הציע לפני תמונה עוד יותר עגומה לגבי קריאת ספרי שירה. - איש אינו קונה אותם יותר ואיש אינו קורא בהם! הגיעו חדברים לידי כך שאפילו משוררים מן השורה הראשונה חייבים לממן בעצמם את הוצאת ספריהם, וגם אז נמכרות רק עשרות בודדות! מה קורה לעם בספר? האם ילדים שיקראו פחות אך יצפו יותר בטלביזיה יהיו מסוגלים להתמודד עם שנות האלפיים? ימים יגידו.

מה שלא יהיה, כמי שמקדיש את רוב ימיו לילדים, חן ברפואה וחן באמנות, יש לי רק דבר אחד לחגיד לאלה מיכם שיש להם ילדים : תנו להם לקרוא כמה שיותר ! ואל תוותרו! אבל שיישאר בינינו.

חוק השבות - פרספקטיבה חדשה :

כל ישראלי ויהודי גאה באיזשהוא מקום ב"חוק השבות", אותו חוק שמאפשר לכל בן אדם שמוכיח את יהדותו לקבל אזרחות ישראלית. בשנים האחרונות, כשאתיופים רבים התחילו לטעון שהם יהודים מומרים, החלו ויכוחים גדולים בישראל לגבי הצדק והמצאותיות בחוק הזה. לאחרונה יצא לי לקבל פרספקטיבה מפתיעה על כמה שישראל מיוחדת ומקורית בגישה שלה לחוק השבות, וזה קרה לי דווקא מזווית בלתי צפויה. או ככה: ביקר אותי פרופסור הונגרי, חבר טוב, שהגיע לסיבוב הרצאות בצפון אמריקה. שוחחנו על מה שקורה ביוגוסלביה, והוא סיפר לי שבסרביה יש מיעוט הונגרי גדול. עקב המצב הקשה ביוגוסלביה והגיוס של צעירים סרבים להילחם באחיהם לשעבר בבוסניה וקרואטיה, התחילה תנועת פליטים הונגרים מסרביה לתוך הונגריה השכנה. מה אתם חושבים - נתנו להם אזרחות הונגרית? איפה! לא דובים ולא יער: אלה הם הונגרים שווכים ליחס של פליטים בהונגריה עצמה! תשוו זאת לאתיופי שלא היה לו כל קשר עם היהדות במשך אלפי שנים, שאינו יודע מילה בעברית ושאין לו שום קשר עם תרבות יהודית, ישראלית, ממש כלום! הוא מגיע לישראל, מקבל אזרחות, שיכון, אולפן ומה לא! מה אני אגיד לכם - וזהי אולי תמצית ההבדל בין ישראל לשאר העולם. "כל ישראל ערבים זה לזה" בהחלט מעורר גאווה.

אז אם כולנו ערבים זה לזה, מדוע הישראלים הם כל כך נאחס אחד לשני? אמר לי חבר בביקורי בארץ : "בישראל פועל עיקרון הפַּדָאלים. באופניים - כשפַּדָאל אחד נמצא למעלה, השני חייב להימצא למטה. ככה זה אצל הישראלי : הוא יכול להרגיש למעלה רק אם אתה למטה. לא יתכן ששניכם תהיו למעלה באותו זמן. לכן הוא לעולם לא יפרגן לחינם, כי זה יעלה מישהוא אחר, מה שעלול להוריד אותו" תחשבו על זה.

רק ישראלי יבין :

במפעל הסתדרותי גדול התחיל גל של גניבות, והציבו שומר בפתח שיבדוק מה מוציאים משם. בעיקר היה חשוד בעיני השומר פועל אחד שהיה יוצא כל יום מן השער עם מריצה מלאה פסולת בניין וסמרטוטים, אבל כל החיפושים לא העלו דבר. חלפו שנים והשומר שיצא לפנסיה פוגש בבית הזקנים את הפועל ההוא ושואל אותו : " תגיד, עכשיו כשהכל כבר היסטוריה, מה גנבת כל יום דרך השער שלא הצלחתי למצוא?" ענה לו הפועל: "מריצות, סחבתי דרך השער המון מריצות".

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"My son the psychologist has figured out a way to combine his Jewish background with his professional work -- he leads a support group for people trying to overcome the fear of being called up to the bimah."

From coast to coast

Israel's 'silent majority' said to be lining up for peace

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Yitzhak Rabin's assassination has galvanized moderate Israelis — Israel's "silent majority" — to line up more vocally behind the Middle East peace process, according to the founder and political director of Americans for Peace Now.

But what remains to be seen is whether their shock and outrage at the killing can be institutionalized for political gain in Israel's 1996 election, said Mark Rosenblum in an interview.

"We want to make them permanent players in the political process," said Rosenblum, who was here to deliver a speech at Holy Blossom Temple sponsored by Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

Yet another fallout of Rabin's murder is that the political consciousness of Israel's youth, commonly dismissed as the "MTV generation," has been raised.

"Kids of voting age by the hundreds have converged on Peace Now offices in Jerusalem," said Rosenblum, who is based in Manhattan. Peace Now's task is to keep them in the peace camp.

Peace Now, he disclosed, has launched a massive campaign "to win over youth in Israel. We're opening scores of new chapters all over Israel. We're circulating petitions. We're printing thousands of bumper stickers. We're painting the street with peace."

Turning to a related topic, Rosenblum urged the right-wing opposition "to disassociate" itself from ultra-nationalists, who, he observed, have a history of trying to solve problems through violence.

He said that "the nationalist credentials" of the Likud party have been tarnished because of its ideological affinity with the Greater Israel views of Yigal Amir, Rabin's assassin.

Rosenblum believes that the Labor party can probably capitalize on the assassination if four factors work in its favor.

Will David Levy, the former foreign minister who bolted from Likud to form his own party, throw his weight behind Prime Minister Shimon Peres?

Will Natan Sharansky, the former Soviet aliyah activist who has announced the formation of a Russian political movement, act likewise?

Will the voting turnout of Israeli Arabs, who form nearly one-fifth of the population, be as high as that of Jews?

Will new voters — the country's youth — rally behind Peres?

Labor's fate at the polls is also dependent on the PLO's ability to contain, deter and punish terrorists attempting to wreck the peace process, he noted.

Rosenblum called on the Israeli government to be more vigilant in disbursing funds to religious seminaries. Some yeshivot, he claimed, are "hotbeds of extremism."

As well, he said, the American government should launch a serious investigation of Jewish charitable organizations in the United States which channel money to settlers in the territories.

Rosenblum, who visited Damascus last January to confer with Syrian officials, said that Peres wants to reopen stalled negotiations with Syria.

Rather than concentrate on security arrangements as did Rabin, Peres will probably seek to hammer out a package deal with Syria.

Negotiations with Syria are likelier to succeed, he said, if the Syrians make four major concessions: allow early warning stations on their territory; accept an Israeli withdrawal to the old international line rather than the June 1967 boundary; accept a longer withdrawal timetable; and tighten the link between an Israeli pull-out and a normalization of relations with Israel.

Rosenblum is not certain whether Syria will ever agree to such conditions. In making his calculations, President Hafez al-Assad, a member of the Alawite minority, must take domestic factors into consideration.

Free loans society seeking to expand its membership

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — An outreach program to enlist more Canadian cities in the Association of Hebrew Free Loans of North America will be undertaken by Shirley Barnett of Vancouver, who was elected vice-president at the organization's recent 14th annual convention held here.

Barnett is one of the founders of the revitalized Vancouver Hebrew Assistance Association (HAA), which marked its 15th anniversary and the 80th anniversary of the original organizations which provided free loans in Vancouver.

Irving Levine of Pittsburgh was re-elected president of the North American association (AHFL). In recognition of the membership from Australia and Israel, the convention decided to change the name to the International Association of Hebrew Free Loans.

Barnett's task will be to recruit not only Canadian cities but to expand membership worldwide. She is currently dealing with a request for membership from Prague, she reported.

It was agreed that the organization's work will include helping provide disaster relief in cities hit by hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and other natural disasters.

"Having a worldwide association to respond to such situations will be a great aid to people affected who need loan aid to get re-established," the delegates stated in a resolution.

Barnett said that in Canada she will concentrate on Montreal, Ottawa and Winnipeg. Victoria was represented at the parley for the first time.

She said 15 cities, including Melbourne, were represented at the convention attended by about 65 delegates. The cities have loaned out over $25 million, she said.

Barnett said 30 or so member-cities didn't send delegates but noted that "the free loan world" has money available to provide help. Member-organizations have loans outstanding totalling over $40 million.

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From coast to coast

Matas' book hits too close to home

Shul rescinds invitation to speak

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Award-winning Winnipeg author, Carol Matas, views the issue as one of censorship.

Denise Waldman, president of the Shaarey Zedek sisterhood, says it is a "small issue blown out of proportion."

"This is a case of libel chill," says Matas.

In early September, she explains, she was invited to address an annual Interfaith Luncheon scheduled for the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, Winnipeg's largest congregation, in January. "I considered it an honor to be asked," she says.

In mid-November, she received a call from Waldman telling her her invitation was being rescinded.

"Her [Waldman's] reasons were vague," Matas recalls. "She said something about a mix-up and implied that someone else had already been invited."

Matas let the matter rest for two or three weeks. Then she phoned Sam Wilder, the president of the synagogue. He knew nothing about the matter but promised to look into it. He called back to say that legal advice had been sought and the sisterhood had been told that if she spoke at the luncheon, the synagogue could be sued because of her latest novel.

(Matas' newest book, *The Primrose Path*, is a fictional account of an Orthodox rabbi and principal of a school who is charged with molesting children in his care.)

"I appreciate that he [Wilder] told me the truth, but it makes no sense," she says. "I wasn't planning on talking about *The Primrose Path* in any case."

Although members of Winnipeg's Jewish community may view the book as a fictionalized version of allegations against Rabbi Ephraim Bryks, formerly of the Herzlia Synagogue, Matas notes that people in every community in which she has spoken insist the book is an account of their community.

It's fascinating," she says. "In Montreal, a lady from Kingston insisted that the book was about the choirmaster in Kingston. In Toronto, someone in the audience was positive I was writing about a school teacher in the Jewish school system who was fired a couple of years ago. At the Shaarey Zedek some think it is about Winnipeg. I researched a number of cases. This is a universal story about a charismatic leader. I have done my job right if everyone sees their own community in the book."

Matas however emphasizes that *The Primrose Path* is a work of fiction. "I have never heard of anyone being sued for a book of fiction," she says. "The only parallel that comes to mind is the Iranian *fatwa* (death sentence) on Salman Rushdie. His was also a work of fiction."

She says she is saddened by the sisterhood's response. "Sam Wilder has apologized, but he didn't do the deed," she notes.

She reports that *The Primrose Path* has had only positive reviews. She also notes that she has spoken to other Jewish groups in Winnipeg without any problem.

"The problem is that too many organizations and institutions in the world want to keep these things quiet," she states. "I refuse to be intimidated."

Jewish Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity inaugurated at McMaster University

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

HAMILTON — Mitchell Gilbert may be in his second year of commerce studies, but when it comes to fraternity affiliation, the McMaster University student is just a neophyte.

Gilbert, 20, is president of Eta Omicron, Mac's fledgling chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEII), a Jewish fraternity founded in 1913 at New York University.

Alpha Epsilon Pi was a founding organization of Hillel International and now has about 5,000 campus members in 105 chapters across North America.

There are some 68,000 alumni, including Gary Bettman, National Hockey League commissioner; singers/songwriters Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel; and actors/comedians Richard Lewis and Gene Wilder.

Canadian chapters of AEII can be found at McGill University, the University of Western Ontario (where the frat has a rented house) and York University. All were established within the past decade. The three Canadian chapters have between 40 and 80 members each.

The McMaster chapter came about after Gilbert, who has a friend in the McGill chapter, discussed the idea with two Jewish students he met at a residence party in April.

McMaster has a student population of 15,000, of whom only an estimated 125 are Jewish. There is a campus Chabad House and an active Jewish Student Association.

Gilbert sees AEII as complementing them. "I love the JSA, but it's not everyone's cup of tea," he admitted.

Among the 12 Eta Omicron members, some have attended JSA programs only at the suggestion of fellow fraternity members who are also involved in the JSA, said Gilbert.

At this stage, frat activities at McMaster are primarily social. In January, Eta Omicron will join AEII members from York University for a bus trip to Pennsylvania State University. A community service project has been discussed for the upcoming term, he said.

Symbolic initiation rites exclude hazing

Typically, AEII offers a mix of social, cultural and philanthropic activities (last year's national project supported research into Tay-Sachs disease), opportunities for leadership development and networking with AEII chapters in other cities as well as with AEII alumni.

The McMaster neophytes will be initiated as "brothers" of AEII at a February Midwest Regional conclave to be held in Michigan.

Although the term "initiation" might raise eyebrows among the uninitiated, Gilbert stressed that the fraternity has a strict prohibition against hazing.

Their decades-old initiation rites are "symbolic but not demeaning," said AEII alumnus Danny Debow, a 22-year-old Torontonian who works out of AEII's Indianapolis headquarters as a chapter consultant and travels across North America.

The fraternity sets high standards, both behaviorally and academically, Debow explained. At Western, for example, AEII students have attended annual seminars for the past five years to raise awareness and diminish the incidence of date rape.

CJC considering a special fund for unity task force

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A special fund to finance a national unity task force to all Jewish communities in Canada is under consideration.

"We're working on it," said Jack Silverstone, Canadian Jewish Congress executive director. Although he did not name a specific figure, Silverstone said it "is a costly effort" and would involve "a substantial amount."

At the recent Congress national executive meeting, Unity Chair Max Bernard of Montreal told delegates there was no money available for Congress officers to visit the various Congress regions to bring information and answer questions about the future of Quebec.

Delegates from Western Canada and the Atlantic provinces said they wanted more information, and a decision by the Congress on national unity was deferred.

"It's apparent that in the national unity debate our Jewish communities have a real role to play," Silverstone said. "The unity question is the big question. We've got to save Canada from breaking up, otherwise the country is going to hell in a hand cart."

Bernard told the Congress national executive that he would like representatives of the Italian and Greek communities to join Congress officers on their visit to the regions. A coalition of the three communities on national unity already exists.

If Italian and Greek representatives take part in the cross-country trip they will look after their own expenses, Silverstone said.

MDA SUMMER PROGRAM

For the sixth consecutive year, the Israel Aliyah Centre, in cooperation with Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel, will conduct a volunteer program. The program involves two months and a commitment of approximately 40 hours a week. No previous first aid experience is required, however, each participant must complete an intensive 45-hour first aid seminar in Canada. If you are interested, come out to the first information meeting on Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. at the Israel Aliyah Centre, 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300. For more information, contact Miri at (416) 633-4766.

From coast to coast

Israel to invest heavily in Negev reclamation

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — More than 1 billion shekels will be spent by the Israel government in conjunction with the Jewish National Fund (JNF) and Jewish Agency (JA) for land reclamation and improvements in the Negev, according to a report, Action Plan Negev, released recently.

The report was made available to *The CJN* by the JNF Pacific region.

The Negev is Israel's largest land reserve, says the report, and will be required to make up for the shrinking land and water resources resulting from peace treaties. The designated area for cultivation totals about 1.26 million dunams.

The Negev is not uniform, therefore developing the relative advantages of each region will determine its specialization, while enlarging the population and transforming the Negev into an area of ongoing growth, says the report.

The report notes that the Negev touches Jordan, Egypt and the Gaza Strip and this could increase the volume of tourism as open borders enable the planning and marketing of tourist packages.

Listed among the projects of action Plan Negev are an increase of reservoirs and aquifers to step up the water supply, hopefully in cooperation with Jordan.

There will be a hot house park of over 500 dunams to include 50 hothouses, with a service building attached to each for use by farmers. The park will be operated by a private company which will lease space to farmers so they won't have to lay out capital. The hothouses will have new technologies to make it easier for farmers to compete in world markets.

The program also calls for hot houses belts, close to energy sources, packing plants and refrigeration. Areas within these belts will be allocated to farmers to erect and operate their own hothouses.

Because Israel's citrus orchards are mainly in the Coastal Plain, the growing demand for land for urban use has reduced citrus production. Under Action Plan, orchards will be moved to the south to areas where climate and soil are suitable for citrus cultivation. In the first few years, some 15,000 dunams of orchards, based on existing water quotas, will be established in the Besor region. Later, the plantation area will be expanded to 50,000 dunams.

Despite a worldwide increase in demand for fish, the report states, Israel supplies only 20 tons a year, falling short of local demands by 80,000 tons. To overcome this, fish farms will be established in concentrated belts on common infrastructure. The project will cover 100 dunams.

Olive production will be increased with the planting of 5,000 dunams of olive groves.

Land reclamation covering 12,000 dunams will be carried out in the Central Arava and area.

Arrangements will be made also to transfer water quotas from farmers who are not utilizing them now and this, it is expected, "will boost economic development by means of large scale cultivated expansion."

Action Plan was officially launched in July 1995 by then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin; Minister of Agriculture Yaacov Tzur and JNF chair Moshe Rivlin.

The report was issued by JA chair Avraham Burg, Yaacov Tzur and Moshe Rivlin.

Community mourns a double loss

Phil Granovsky 1921-95

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Canada in the 1939 British Empire Games.

He was the founder of Atlantic Packaging Products Ltd., one of Canada's major paper products companies.

Rabbi Erwin Schild, rabbi emeritus of Adath Israel Congregation, who conducted his funeral, praised him for "practical, action-oriented leadership," his loyalty to his family and community, and for being "personally unassuming, courteous, accessible, modest."

Phil Granovsky

Rabbi Schild noted that for many years, Granovsky had continued his many activities in spite of worsening health. "There was no surrender, no giving up."

Sandra Brown, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, called Granovsky "a special leader with a combination of personal commitment, compassion and vision, well-known for his kindness and consideration."

Ben Schneider, executive vice-president of the Welfare Fund under Granovsky, remembered him as "someone who accepted innovation. He believed you had to have foresight, vision and a sense of direction."

Granovsky, he said, "used his power for the development of the community."

UJA campaign director Ted Sokolsky said that the community owes Granovsky an incalculable debt of gratitude. "He combined fundraising skills with genuine feeling for the welfare of individuals."

Granovsky's brother and business partner Irving summed up what many said; "he was quiet and softspoken, but very strong."

Granovsky is survived by his wife Shirley, children Ronald, Stanley, Maxine Gluskin and Fahla Irving, brother Irving and seven grandchildren.

Jack Cummings 1922-95

[Cont'd. from page 1]

newspaper's Montreal editorial board.

"Jack was truly a beloved personality," recalled Joe King, national director of Canadian Friends of TAU.

"He had a tremendous impact on the community, and a great personal charm. He was unfailingly a courteous gentleman."

King said Cummings was in Israel last May to attend honorary degree ceremonies at TAU and was himself considering an offer to accept an honorary degree by TAU.

Myer Bick, who had worked for Cummings in the real estate field and with him at a lay level at TAU during the late 1970s and early 1980s, said Cummings possessed the "unique ability to distil his full life's work and experience into wisdom for himself and for those around him.

"He was a gentleman, very caring, very passionate about his family, friends and community," Bick said.

Born on Nov. 9, 1922 to Queenie (Victoria Doris Wener), now deceased, and Maxwell Cummings, who survives him, Jack Lloyd Cummings attended Westmount High School and served a stint overseas with an artillery unit in the Royal Canadian Army from 1942 to 1945 before returning home to complete a bachelor of

Jack Cummings

science degree at McGill University in 1946.

In 1947, Cummings, with his brother Robert and father, formed the real estate firm, Maxwell Cummings & Sons, and later, Cummings Properties Ltd., becoming the Canadian arm of the Trizec Corporation. Cummings continued to serve as chairman of the board of Maxwell Cummings & Sons Holdings Ltd.

Bick said the Cummings development firm built Canada's first-ever shopping centre in the Montreal suburb of St. Laurent, the Norgate, and was responsible as well for the construction of several of Calgary's first highrise towers, as well as Montreal's Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce building.

Cummings also once owned Montreal's landmark Windsor Hotel and developed the ski resort of Top Notch, in Stowe, Vt.

"That was his baby," Bick said. "He made it into a world-class resort."

Cummings' community activities included past and present leadership and executive positions with Maimonides Hospital, Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science, Jewish General Hospital, McGill University, Ben-Gurion University, Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, Allied Jewish Community Services, Jewish Community Foundation, Canadian Jewish Congress, the YM-YWHA, and the Elmridge Golf and Country Club.

Cummings is survived by his wife of 47 years, Norma (Reitman), father Maxwell, brother Robert, sons Steven and Richard, daughter Nancy Gold and nine grandchildren.

Vancouver cantor sings for his art

Paintings help form bridge between people

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — In a different way of showing paintings, Cantor-Artist Mordechai (Robert) Edel literally sang his art for a large audience in the auditorium of the new Vancouver public library, designed by Moshe Safdie.

Edel, who is cantor at North Vancouver's Har El Synagogue, recently showed a large collection of his Judaic works, mainly in oil or acrylic or a combination of both, and had a song for almost every one. A number of his paintings are based on portions of daily and Shabbat services.

He uses vivid jewel-like colors generously, with the aim of giving a cheerful effect.

"It is with great thanks to the Almighty for the new material he has created and with which I am privileged to form my paintings," he said.

"The blessings we receive," he continued, "are for us to share. It is my wish that my paintings help form a bridge of understanding between all peoples, one with which we can help bring healing, happiness, joy and sanctification to our world."

A firm believer in the Kabbalistic belief in numbers, Edel sang, as an example, *Moyshela, My Friend*, for a painting of a little girl giving some pomegranate to a friend. There are 613 seeds in a pomegranate, he says, just as there are 613 mitzvot.

Jerusalem of Gold was an obvious song for Edel's brilliant painting of a golden Jerusalem.

For a painting he calls *Shavuoth*, he sings: "Enlighten our eyes in the Torah, cause our hearts to hold fast to the commandments, so that we may never be put to shame."

In *Kol Rina*, he sings and paints of joy and dancing in the streets. "It's something we should be doing every day," he said.

His massive 5 ft. x 8 ft. painting, the *Lamed Vavniks*, is colorful and joyous with mystical concepts, the artist explained.

"There are 36 righteous in every generation who sanctify our world. During the eight days of Chanukah, we light 36 candles. If we allow this light and the light of our one soul candle, we can soon find shalom. A simple formula for peace."

Edel presented *Lamed Vavniks* to former B.C. cabinet minister Grace McCarthy, president of CHILD (Children with Intestinal and Liver Disorders). She said the painting will be auctioned to raise funds for her organization.

Edel was born in England and trained in opera, liturgical music and art. Spiritual messages flow from his canvases. He has exhibited locally and his work is in collections in Toronto, New York, Tel Aviv and Paris.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan. 4, is deadline for Jan. 18 issue and Thursday, Jan. 11, is deadline for Jan. 25 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Sunday, Jan. 7

JEWISH EDUCATION

Congregation Habonim breakfast meeting features **Prof. Syd Eisen**, professor of history and humanities, Vanier College, speaking on The Value of Jewish Education, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. (Bathurst/Glencairn). Breakfast and lecture $6.

JEWISH SINGLE PARENTS

Jewish Single Parents brunch and lecture on handwriting analysis, adults only. 11:30 a.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St., 4th floor conference centre; $10. For information on this program and/or programs with children, 905-881-6860 or 905-731-2881. Group is funded by Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish storytelling 7:30 p.m. at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. All welcome to listen or tell; $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Monday, Jan. 8

DIABETES FOOT CARE

Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA) Jewish Diabetes chapter meeting focuses on Diabetes Foot Care with **Tracy Oliver**, Toronto General Hospital Chiropody Service, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. CDA members $1, non-members $2. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

AGAINST THE JEWS

Aish HaTorah presents Adversos Judaeos — Against the Jews: The Church and the Jews in History with **Arieh Rosenbloom**, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Wednesday, Jan. 10

APPLIQUE ART

Topic of the Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting is Applique Art: Fabric Illustrations of Old Toronto Houses, with **Linda Goldman** presenting a slide show of her work and demonstrating techniques on how to capture a house on fabric using applique; 8 p.m., National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, 4700 Bathurst St. **Haya Nativ** 633-2664 or **Malcah Sufrin** 866-8142.

CAMP SHALOM '96

Camp Shalom, a Zionist residential camp in Muskoka for boys and girls ages 7-13, open house 8 p.m., Haifa Room, 788 Marlee Ave. **Malka** 783-6744.

And What Else Is New...

ADULT EDUCATION

Shaarei Shomayim adult education courses:

Israeli Song and Music led by musician/teacher **Rita Sue Fisher**, Mondays 2 p.m. beginning Jan. 8 for six weeks.

How to Read Hebrew in Six Weeks with **Lela Lechler-Kimel**, student of Jewish Studies Program, University of Toronto, Thursdays 7 p.m. beginning Jan. 11.

Where Religion and Politics Meet: The Land of Israel in Jewish Thought with educator/lecturer **Elliott Malamet**, Tuesdays 8 p.m. beginning Jan. 16 for eight weeks.

ADATH ISRAEL SINGLES

Adath Israel Singles Group, 35-55, Sunday brunch Jan. 14, 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker **Mervyn Rosenstein** discusses Alternative Dispute Resolutions: Family Mediation, Intergenerational Conflicts, Employment Arbitration and more; $8 pre-paid reservations until Friday, Jan. 12, 2:30 p.m., or $10 at door. 635-5340.

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

YIDDISH CLASSES

Yiddish classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students, Mondays, begin Feb. 12:

Daytime — Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, seven weeks, Level I, 1-3 p.m., Level II 9:30-11:30 a.m., $49.

Evening — Bialik Hebrew Day School, 7-9 p.m.; Earl Haig Senior School, Level II, 7-9 p.m., seven weeks. Other locations. **Sylvia Lustgarten**, committee for Yiddish, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, 635-2883, ext. 155.

KOLEL MINI-COURSE

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning two-day seminar on The Meeting of Eastern and Jewish Spirituality, Jan. 13 and 14, North York Central Library. Opening lecture Saturday evening with **Rodger Kamenetz**, author of *The Jew in the Lotus*. Sunday classes on Jewish Meditation, Kabbalah and the Prayer Book, and The Biblical Meeting with G-d. Lecture $12 in advance, $15 at door. Classes $8 each or advance class pass $20. 905-709-1900.

DIRECTOR'S WORKSHOP

Medina Theatre Ensemble two-day director's workshop for intermediate and advanced actors with **Vrenia Ivanofsky** of Ryerson University, Sundays, Jan.21 and Jan 28, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Members $25, non-members $35. Registration limited. 633-2057.

STUDY LUNCHEON

Beth Tzedec Synagogue Shabbat Study Luncheon, Saturday, Jan. 13, at noon following services, features **Max Goody**, past national president, Zionist Organization of Canada, speaking on Exit Joseph, Enter Moses. Reserve by Tuesday, Jan. 9. 781-3511, ext. 13.

TALMUD FOR WOMEN

Many women want to tap into the wisdom of the Talmudic sages. This course is geared to giving women an opportunity to partake of the vast storehouse of Talmudic wisdom, Wednesdays, lunch time, 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m., Chabad Lubavitch Downtown Learning Centre Program. Lecturer **Rabbi Yosef Gansburg**, 101 Richmond St. W., Unit 906. 905-731-7000.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT

Toronto ORT and State of Israel Bonds Women's Division Women of Achievement five-part lecture series begins Jan. 16 with lecture by **Elaine Todres**, deputy solicitor general and deputy minister of Correctional Services, 7:30 p.m. at the home of **Karen Berkow**; $75 for series, $64 three lectures, $20 one lecture. Reserve. 787-0297.

HEBREW ULPAN

Israel Youth Centre's second term of intermediate and advanced conversational Hebrew classes with **Yael Lev** starts week of Jan. 15. Register 398-6931.

HEBREW CONVERSATION

Hebrew classes for parents with children in Jewish schools, daytime or evening, Associated Hebrew School (Atkinson) and other locations start the week of Jan. 15. To register, call teacher **Yael Lev** 225-6151.

JEWISH MUSIC & DANCE

United Jewish Peoples Order concert of Sephardi and Ashkenazi music and dance with singer-songwriter **Batsheva**; clarinetist-saxophonist **Martin Van de Ven** performing with his klezmer music workshops, billed as Heavy Shtetl Music; **Judy Silver** and **Bill Baird** leading Yiddish and Israeli folkdances accompanied by live band, Saturday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Ticket information 789-5502.

ISRAELI SING-ALONG

An Israeli folksong sing-along for children of all ages, Sundays at noon, beginning Jan. 7, B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Knowledge of Hebrew not necessary. Cost, a loonie. 633-3988.

PARENTING WORKSHOP

Jewish Family & Child Service workshop, Parenting the Difficult Teen, for parents with extremely acting out teens, to learn more appropriate responses, begins Jan. 30. Topics include letting go and setting limits, parents' rights and responsibilities and feeling better about yourself as a parent. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FELD RETIRES

Foster parent Brigitte Bass (right) joins 80 staff, foster families and friends to wish mazel tov to Shirley Feld (left) who retired from Jewish Family & Child Service after 19 years of service.

For Seniors

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Jan. 4 is general meeting with elections; Jan. 11 is an Israeli movie with English translation. 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club general meeting for 1996 programs, trips, cruises, Monday, Jan. 8, 1 p.m., non-members $1; upcoming trips include tulip time in Ottawa, May 12-15 (kosher), reservations being taken now; and Catskills at Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel: **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Lifestyle Retirement Communities Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., Thursday, Jan. 4, 2 p.m., **Hugh Innis**, Continuing Education Division, Ryerson University, speaks on Is There Life After Mike Harris: Is It Our Responsibility to Work With Change Rather Than Just Coping With It? Admission free. Reserve. **Marlene White** 785-1511.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Getting the Most Out of Life, with family life educator **Eleanor Miller**, Thursday, Jan. 4, 1:30 p.m.

Wellness Centre new program, Enriching the Later Years, with family life educator **Eleanor Miller**, Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, and Feb. 6. Topics focus on self-esteem, friendship, loneliness, what makes you laugh, family relationships. Program in partnership with North York Board of Education. Sign up with **Sandra** at Wellness Desk or call 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) seminar on Wills and Estates: Answers and Questions, with **Lorne Shuman**, Monday, Jan. 8, 1:30 p.m.

LLI new course, American History as Mythology, with **Sidney Soban**, retired history teacher (Richmond Hill High School), Thursdays, 11 a.m. to noon, Jan. 11-Feb. 29.

Creative Writing with **Sylvia Warsh** continues Fridays, 10 a.m. to noon.

at the JCC/BJC

BJC's Centre Camp is now accepting registration. Register with payment in full before Jan. 31 and receive 10 per cent discount. Half-day program for children ages 2½-4 and full-day program for ages 4-15. 636-1880, ext. 378.

Registration is under way for winter classes beginning week of Jan. 7 for children and adults at Koffler Centre School of Visual Art. Classes include ceramics, painting, stone sculpture, drawing. **Raylene** 636-1880, ext. 270.

Watch for courses offered by Institute for Jewish Learning at BJC. To be on mailing list, **Marlee Pinsker** 636-1880, ext. 270.

Sign up now for preschool programs January to March at BJC. Create your own program or suggest a program you would like to involve your child in. 636-1880, ext. 248.

If you are interested in step classes, BJC offers a three-week session, Orientation to Step, Mondays, 12:30 p.m., Activity Room 2, starting Jan. 8.

Bloor JCC Good Age Club invites you to join for the January meetings where you can have fun and meet people. **Judy** 924-6211.

About People

HAZZANIM COUNCIL

The Toronto Council of Hazzanim new executive: president **Cantor Efraim Sapir**, Beth Tikvah Synagogue; vice-president/treasurer **Cantor A. Martin Steinhouse**, Temple Har Zion; and secretary **Cantor David Nemtzoff**. The Council, made up of cantors from Reform, Conservative, Orthodox and Sephardi affiliations, awards scholarships to deserving students in their pursuit of a cantorial career through the Toronto Cantorial Trust Fund. It is also a major force in the publication of cantorial music. For further information, contact Sapir, 221-3433, ext. 308.

ORT NAMES HONORARY CO-PRESIDENTS

Bernard and Sylvia Ostry (left) were officially introduced as honorary co-presidents of ORT Canada at a recent national board meeting. Joining them are Dr. Mel Schwartz and Edie Kleinstein Glazer, co-presidents of ORT Canada.

WOMEN'S DIVISION EVENT

At a recent function for Women's Division State of Israel Bonds, Debbie Kimel hosted a pre-dinner event at her home for the board and guest speaker Bess Myerson. Standing (from left) Ruhama Goldstein, North American Women's Division chair; Kimel, host and event co-chair; Rose Shapiro, Women's Division director. Seated (from left) Bess Myerson; Dodi Weill, Women's Division chair; Malki Abrams, event co-chair.

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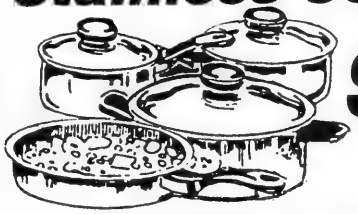

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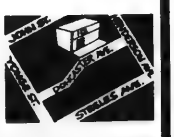

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From coast to coast

Rhodes recipient readies for the Oxford experience

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Once you've won a Rhodes scholarship, where do you go from there?

For Lisa Grushcow, the answer comes easy: onward and upward.

Grushcow, 21, is on her way to Oxford University in England this fall to study Judaism and Christianity in the Greco-Roman world, courtesy of the Rhodes scholarhip, arguably the most prestigious academic grant in the world.

It is worth $24,000 per year, and Grushcow, who is majoring in political science and minoring in Judaic studies at McGill University, was one of only 11 Canadians — and two Quebecers — to win the Rhodes this year as recognition for her academic and extra-curricular achievements. Ninety-five were awarded worldwide.

And that only happened after Grushcow got through three hand-wringing interviews and a three-hour cocktail reception at which she and the other Quebec candidates had to demonstrate their best social skills.

Grushcow's stay at Oxford will be just one stop towards her ultimate goal: becoming a Conservative rabbi. After Oxford, she plans to train for the rabbinate at the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Becoming a rabbi "is a combination of teaching and learning, of transforming Judaism, of making the ritual elements relevant to daily life," says the self-possesed Grushcow, who also is a social and political activist.

Her father, Marc, works in the computer programming field. Mother Ricki works for Ontario's Ministry of Health. Brother Jeremy is studying human biology and genetics at the Univeristy of Chicago.

Grushcow's own resume of activities looks like it belongs to someone twice her age.

Studies martial arts

Her on and off campus activities and recognitions have ranged from studying martial arts and working for the League for Human Rights, to being named to the Dean's honor list, playing trumpet, being involved in a host of student advocacy and feminist activities, and holding several posts in student affairs.

This year Gruschow is serving as McGill Student Society's vice-president of university affairs.

"I do what I do because I like what I do," she explains.

She likes studying the philosophical side of politics. But chemistry was a "nemesis."

"Nothing's a breeze," Grushcow said, despite a Grade Point Average (3.85) that most would die for.

Grushcow sees the Rhodes as an opportunity to demonstrate the potential in being both a scholar and an activist.

Lisa Grushcow

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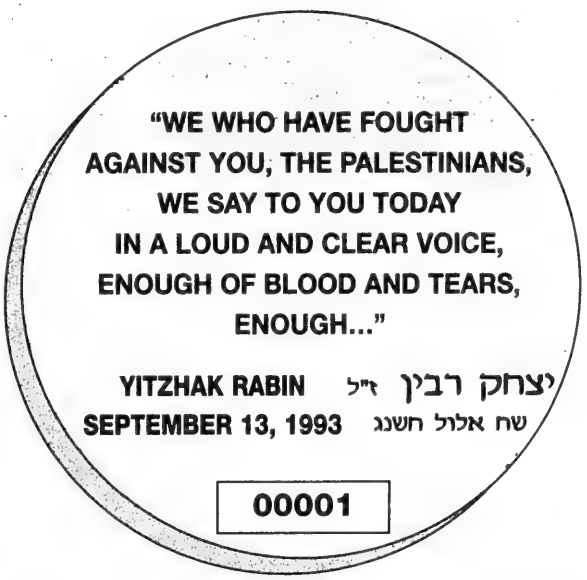
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Jewish Single Parents presents Brunch & Lecture: "Handwriting Analysis", Sun., Jan. 7, Adults Only, 11:30 a.m. $10. For info: 905-881-6860 or 905-731-2881. Lipa Green Bldg. 4600 Bathurst St., 4th floor. Conference Centre.

"LOVE AND LUST IN THE NINETIES!" An evening of fun, interactive exercises, a dynamic film & an informative talk by a psychotherapist and a conflict mediator. The evening will conclude with a party! Doors open at 6:30 p.m. on January 12 at 70 Roehampton Ave. (by Yonge-Eglinton Subway). **YOU MUST REGISTER FIRST!** Phone (416) 484-6739 or 222-1794. $20 in advance, $25 at door.

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news Round-up

UJA Appreciation

TORONTO — The seniors at the Bathurst Jewish Centre ran a sold-out concert at the Leah Posluns Theatre recently, to show their appreciation to the United Jewish Appeal (UJA). They presented a cheque for $1,800 to Elliot Halperin of the UJA.

They did it in their own way and with their own members providing the comedy, singing and dancing, helped by entertainer par excellence Marvin Rosenshein, singer and story teller. The concert, attended by nearly 500, was sold out three weeks before the event.

Principal Honored

HAMILTON — Home and school must work together to provide a Jewish environment and Jewish education for our children if there is to be Jewish continuity, guests at a recent breakfast were told.

About 250 people attended the breakfast at the Adas Israel Synagogue, honoring Hamilton Hebrew Academy (HHA) principal, Rabbi Zev Eisenstein, and launching The Educational Endowment Fund (TEEF), newly established in conjunction with State of Israel Bonds.

Teaching to live the Jewish way and instilling Jewish values must begin in early childhood, Rabbi Eisenstein told his audience.

"If you wait till our children are older before telling them that a Jew must be caring, honest, proud to be a Jew, and that they must marry another Jew, then we've lost them, he warned.

While acknowledging that afternoon Hebrew and Sunday schools have their place, a day school, he suggested, "is the natural environment in which children learn early on what it is to be Jewish."

Moura Wolpert

Awards of Excellence

HAMILTON — An original member of the Holocaust Education Committee of Hamilton-Wentworth & Area was one of two teachers recently awarded the Recognition of Excellence Award by the Hamilton Board of Education.

Beverley Lasky, a teacher for over 26 years, teaches junior kindergarten at George R. Allan public school. She also for many years taught a class of 11-year-olds at Beth Jacob religious school about the Holocaust.

She became involved with the Yom Hashoah committee which plans the annual commemoration program and, convinced of the need to educate the young about the Holocaust, she helped with the formation three years ago of the Holocaust Education Committee.

The second teacher honored was Helen Valenzuela, a secondary school languages teacher, who initiated a telecommunications program under which students can communicate with their counterparts in France and Japan.

Moura Wolpert

WBJE Superintendent Resigns

WINNIPEG — Dr. Arnold Carmel has announced his resignation as of July 1996, as superintendent of the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (WBJE).

He will be moving to Chicago to assume the position of headmaster of the Solomon Schechter Day Schools of Chicago.

Carmel is leaving Winnipeg reluctantly. It is not dissatisfaction with the WBJE, which has about 820 students, but rather immigration problems concerning his aged and ailing father-in-law that has led to his decision to relocate.

Carmel's major disappointment is that he won't be around for the opening of the Jewish Community Campus scheduled for September 1997. He worked to make sure that the BJE will have the right amount of square footage on campus — with room to expand if necessary — as well as state-of-the-art computer technology.

Myron Love

Wrestling With Angels

VICTORIA — A non-Jewish member of Victoria's Holocaust remembrance committee recently published an anthology of his poems which includes a number with a Holocaust theme.

Doug Beardsley, 54, who teaches a course in English literature at the University of Victoria (UVic), calls his book *Wrestling with Angels*. Each person wrestles with internal or external angels, the poet explained at a reading of his works where the book was launched.

A native of Montreal, he spent the first seven years of his life in the Snowdon area, which he describes as a cosmopolitan city within the larger city of Montreal.

Wrestling with Angels is published by Vehicule Press, Montreal, and distributed by General Distribution Services, Don Mills, Ont.

Maurice Lucow

Video Against Violence

VICTORIA — The video, *Take a Stand: Youth Against Violence* is being used to help young people identify violence as a real concern, an issue they can do something about.

The video produced by the B.C. Ministry of the Attorney General is being used by 841-KOZ/Kid Zone, which travels the province conducting school and community workshops focusing on raising awareness of youth violence, overcoming fear and taking action.

The group consists of young people sponsored and trained by the ministry's youth programs division. The group also sponsors the Youth Against Violence hot line (1-800-680-GANG).

Maurice Lucow

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Panthers send rookie forward back to junior

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

POMPANO BEACH, Fla. — It was an unseasonably cool autumn day in South Florida — breezy, 70 degrees and sunny — when David Nemirovsky stepped off the ice at the Florida Panthers' practice facility.

Still dripping wet after the optional workout, he made his way through the Cats' modest training area and past teammates who were continuing their workouts on stationary bicycles.

Making some time for *The CJN*, Nemirovsky acknowledged that being on an NHL roster straight out of junior exceeded his expectations going into training camp.

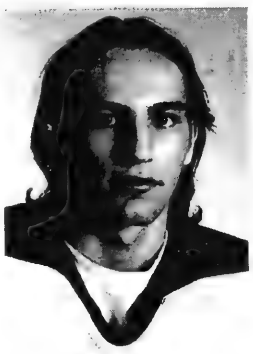
"It feels like all my hard work paid off," the 19-year-old right-winger said. "I'll have to work harder to keep improving."

A standout offensive player with the Ottawa 67s of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), Nemirovsky was the Panthers' fourth-round pick two years ago. He turned a few heads during training camp playing on the team's top line (at the time) with centre Rob Niedermayer and portsider Radek Dvorak, racking up five goals and one assist in seven games and earning a spot on the major league roster.

The regular season has proven to be another story. Although the team had played 35 games prior to the Christmas break, Nemirovsky had gotten into only nine, scoring two assists and registering a -2 in the plus/minus column.

Just before Christmas (or after Chanukah, depending on your perspective), Nemirovsky was "sent down to junior." However, he refused to report and instead returned to his family's north Toronto home.

"It's a matter of fact that I don't get along with [Ottawa coach Brian Kilrea]," Nemirovsky told *The CJN*. Citing personality differences, Nemirovsky said he has asked to be traded to another OHL team so he can finish the season.



David Nemirovsky

On departing Florida, Panthers GM Bryan Murray told him "to go back, have fun and get some ice time," Nemirovsky said. After the junior season ends, there's a good chance Florida will call him back, he added.

Murray told *The CJN* Nemirovsky had a very good training camp and played hard. "I don't think there's any doubt he'll be an NHL player. His skill level is high.

But, the GM continued, like all young players, Nemirovsky (six foot two, 192 lbs.) needs to get bigger, log more ice time and build up his game experience.

"We can't have him sitting out," he added.

"I came to camp knowing there was a youth movement and I had a chance to make the team," Nemirovsky said. "It was fun playing with Niedermayer and Dvorak. They have great speed. It was a great time."

Considering the Panthers — to the surprise of many media crystal ball gazers — have made it to the top of the NHL standings, cracking the Cats' starting lineup can no longer be considered an easy feat.

The Panthers are playing really well and have suffered no major injuries, so it was hard getting into games, Nemirovsky said.

After four months playing and practising with a top NHL outfit, Nemirovsky said "the thing that stands out is how hard everybody works. There are no slackers."

Nemirovksy began his climb to the NHL like numerous other hockey hopefuls, playing in the Metro Toronto junior league for the North York Rangers before moving on to the 67s. The son of immigrants from Odessa in the former Soviet Union, Nemirovsky was born in Canada but believes his style of play shows a strong Russian influence.

Beliveau bringing his skates

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Hockey legend Jean Beliveau stood before reporters displaying his trademark smile and, at age 64, the very same level of charisma and class that marked his 18-year career with the Montreal Canadiens.

The occasion was a historic one for Maccabi Canada:

It announced that Beliveau — for the second time since 1985 — will lead up to 250 Canadian Jewish athletes to Israel as honorary *chef de mission* to the Maccabiah Games in Israel in the summer of 1997.

"This time there'll be a hockey rink," joked the former Canadiens captain.

So far, four teams — Canada, the United States, Israel and Russia — have signed on to compete.

"This time I can bring my skates," Beliveau said.

For Beliveau, Maccabi Canada made an offer he just couldn't refuse.

Beliveau never had the chance to compete as an amateur, so the experience of marching into Ramat Gan stadium a decade ago has stood with him as one of the most memorable of his life.

"Can you imagine what it's like for these youngsters to be in the land of Israel. It's all their dream," he said.

"How can you refuse when they want to honor you and their goals are so great?"

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Health news

New process boosts success of marrow transplants

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A new process has been developed to lessen the complications resulting from unrelated bone marrow transplants, Prof. Yair Reisner of the Weizmann Institute said recently.

Reisner was speaking to the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto.

While 60 per cent of those who need bone marrow transplants receive them either from members of the family or from bone marrow banks, some 40 per cent cannot find matches at all. This proportion is higher among ethnic populations, including Jews, Reisner noted.

The danger in transplants is twofold: Unless the match is perfect, the recipient's body can reject the new marrow (as happens in organ donations); or the transplanted material can reject the recipient's cells. The latter is called graft-vs-host disease, and is a common complication of the procedure.

Until now, massive doses of chemotherapy have been given, which wipe out both cancerous cells and most of the ordinary blood cells. It was hoped that this would prevent both kinds of rejection.

Unfortunately, Reisner said, it was not always effective.

Sloan-Kettering Institute in New York had developed a method of purifying the donor bone marrow, but there simply were not enough bone marrow cells for the procedure to be totally successful.

Research at the Weizmann Institute, as well as in Germany and Italy, led to the discovery that if certain hormones were given to the donor, more cells could be taken through the blood system.

This would mean that transplants could be made from unrelated donors, he said.

Although the process is in its infancy, results appear promising, Reisner said.

In reply to a question from the audience, Reisner said the new technique would decrease complications from matched donors as well.

At the meeting, Tom Beck, who has held the position for 13 years, resigned as president of the Canadian Society. The presidency was assumed by Sharon Zuckerman.

Other officers elected included Stephen Burns as secretary, Leonard Barkin as treasurer and Wolfe Goodman as honorary council.

National vice-president Marvin Tanner gave an impassioned plea for support to the Montreal community "as Jews and as Canadians," to form "a united front against a common enemy — [Lucien] Bouchard."

"Those of us in the eye of the storm are in the midst of troubling times," he said. "By a mere 50,000 votes, Canada could have gone down the drain. If that had happened, you would also be directly affected — one of the most vibrant communities in the Diaspora could go down the drain."

Pravachol helps reduce the risk of heart attack

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Recent studies have shown a new drug, Pravachol, is effective in lowering cholesterol and in reducing the risk of heart attack.

Pravachol (pravastatin), a product of Bristol-Myers Squibb, has been prescribed since 1990 to treat high cholesterol, when diet and exercise have not been successful. A media release explains that "the drug fights the buildup of harmful cholesterol that can lead to clogging of the arteries, resulting in heart disease."

Ex-Montrealer Dr. Joseph Minkowitz, a cardiologist at Markham-Stouffville Hospital, and an enthusiastic spokesperson for Pravachol, told *The CJN* that previously used drugs lowered the risk of heart attack, but didn't lower the mortality rate. In other words, the patient had an increased risk of dying from something else.

Dr. Joseph Minkowitz

In 1990, he said, a new group of drugs, statins (of which Pravachol is one) were developed, which were found to be safe, easy to take and had minimal side effects.

An independent, five-year, double-blind, placebo-controlled study referred to as the West of Scotland (WOS) study, was undertaken, under the leadership of Dr. James Shepherd.

(Double-blind, placebo-controlled, Minkowitz explained, is the only kind of scientific study now considered valid. Neither the doctor nor the patient knows whether the patient is taking the actual drug or a placebo, so bias, on either side, cannot possibly play a role.)

The study found that Pravachol is effective both for those who had already had a heart attack, and also for those who were at risk, but had never actually had heart disease.

Effective is almost too mild a term. Minkowitz calls the numbers "staggering:" 31 per cent less chance of having a first heart attack, a 22 per cent lower risk of death and a 32 per cent lower chance of death from heart disease.

The study was carried out on 6,595 men between the ages of 45 and 64. The results, Minkowitz said, can, however be reliably extrapolated to women, who, while they have a lower risk of heart disease, when they do suffer from it, get sicker and don't do as well after bypass surgery.

Side effects studied

As well, their risk rises from .3 per cent between 30 and 39 to 7.5 per cent in their 60s — a whopping 25 times jump, as compared to men whose risk factor only rises by six times.

A five year study is sufficient for any side effects to become manifest, Minkowitz explained. Pravachol is singularly free of them, although some patients have complained of skin rash (a common side effect of many drugs, he said), muscle cramps and changes in liver blood tests, which reverse when the drug is stopped.

Changes in lifestyle simply don't translate into effective lowering of cholesterol, he said. "It's very demanding, to follow a diet low in fat and calories and to exercise." Nevertheless, it must be lowered, because, he said, "cholesterol is a killer."

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Political reality has changed along the Green Line

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — For Israelis living along the Green Line, the geography has not changed, but political reality has.

In recent weeks, Israeli troops withdrew from several West Bank towns, leaving these Arab population centres under the control of the Palestinian Authority.

This means that Israel's security grip on these Palestinian towns has loosened considerably.

It is therefore no surprise that Jewish residents of neighboring settlements and towns are nervous.

As long as these West Bank towns were in Israeli hands, it seemed as if the Arab neighbors were far away, a remote entity with which Israeli security forces could deal.

But now that the Palestinians have taken control, some feel that the towns and their Arab residents have moved dangerously closer.

"I have 50,000 residents in the Gilo neighborhood," said Shmuel Meir, deputy mayor of Jerusalem, voicing a general concern.

Gilo, a neighborhood in southern Jerusalem, is situated close to such Palestinian-controlled areas as Beit Jala and Bethlehem, across the Green Line.

Prior to the 1967 Six Day War, the Green Line marked the border between Israel and Jordan. Now it separates the West Bank from Israel.

"I would like to know what's going to happen to them," Meir said of Gilo's residents. "Do I need to put more guards in the schools? Do I have to open emergency centres?"

In Gilo, residents are fearfully confronting the new facts on the ground.

In the past, they knew that Israeli soldiers and border police were patrolling the streets of Bethlehem and Beit Jala.

But now, people are wondering how long it will take before a Palestinian sniper takes a position atop a hill in Beit Jala and chooses living targets in the adjacent Jewish neighborhood.

Their fears are not merely a case of mass hysteria.

There have been real changes on the ground and with them, real dangers.

Israeli residents along the Green Line are acutely aware that in the event any hostilities take place, the Israeli military's hands are tied.

Theoretically, under the terms of Israel's agreements with the Palestinians, Israeli security forces can chase Palestinian perpetrators into areas within the autonomy.

But in practice, such a scenario is unlikely.

As a general rule, the army wants to stay out of areas it has evacuated — which includes Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Kalkilya and Bethlehem. The sixth and final withdrawal for the year was in Ramallah.

For the time being, at least, the main problems confronting Israelis from over the Green Line are criminal acts, not terrorism.

Since Israeli troops withdrew from Jenin a month ago, some 90 cars owned by Israelis were stolen and taken there.

And cars are not the only items being looted.

Everything that can be stolen from Jewish homes along the new front, from chickens to television sets, finds its way to the other side of the Green Line.

In a recent television interview, a resident of the Alfei Menashe settlement, located just more than a mile inside the West Bank from the Green Line, recalled how she had seen a Palestinian youth coming out of her house with a television set.

As she yelled at him to return the television, the boy teased her: "Come and get me. Why don't you come and get me?" and disappeared toward a neighboring Arab village.

This new source of tension along the Green Line does as much damage to the Palestinians as to their Israeli neighbors — if not more.

More and more Israeli farmers are using Thais as farm laborers to replace Palestinians workers.

And Israeli shoppers are wary of crossing the Green Line to visit markets in Palestinian towns.

Palestinians cheer as Israel leaves Ramallah

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The Israeli army withdrew Dec. 27, 1995, from the West Bank town of Ramallah as Palestinians cheered, waved flags and hurled stones at the departing troops.

The pullout was carried out a day ahead of schedule and less than a month before the Palestinian elections, scheduled for Jan. 20.

The withdrawal from the town of 30,000 took place in the afternoon, when six Israeli jeeps drove away from the police station in the centre of town.

Thousands of Palestinians converged on the site, waving Palestinian flags and chanting, "Soldiers, go away."

Dozens of boys ran after the jeeps, throwing stones.

The withdrawal from Ramallah completed a two-month process in which Israel — fulfilling the terms of an accord signed September in Washington for extending West Bank autonomy — handed over six towns and more than 400 Arab villages in the area to Palestinian control.

Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat told reporters in the Gaza Strip that he hoped to make Ramallah, located some seven miles north of Jerusalem, the new centre of the Palestinian Authority's activities.

Jewish settlers living nearby expressed concern about their future safety, despite a bypass road completed earlier this week that was built for their security needs.

Under the Israel-PLO accords, the 144 Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza will remain in place during the five-year interim-phase agreement that ends in May 1999.

The future of the settlements, as well as the highly sensitive issue of Jerusalem, is to be discussed in the final-status negotiations, slated to begin this spring.

An adviser to Arafat said that the rock-throwing during the Ramallah redeployment was not an indication of the kind of regard the Palestinians held for the peace process.

"People felt much pain" during the 28-year period of Israeli rule over the West Bank, Dr. Ahmed Tibi told Israel Radio.

"But you must also remember that during the redeployment from Jenin and Bethlehem, people gave the [Israeli] troops flowers," he added. "Those are the kinds of scenes I like to remember, from Jenin and Bethlehem."

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Israel/Syria talks building momentum

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

After a disquieting interlude of six months, Israel and Syria launched a fresh round of peace talks last week, and are scheduled to resume the dialogue early this year.

If all goes according to plan, Warren Christopher — the U.S. secretary of state — will return to the Middle East around Jan. 10 in an attempt to capitalize on the momentum. Washington hopes that Israel and Syria can sign a declaration of principles by the spring.

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

Israel and Syria, whose on-again, off-again talks since 1992 have produced no tangible breakthroughs as yet, headed into last week's negotiations in Maryland exuding prudent optimism and with a high sense of urgency.

The signals from both sides were unmistakably positive. Prime Minister Shimon Peres indicated that Israel was prepared for wide-ranging, open-ended negotiations that may finally settle the status of the Golan Heights (which Israel annexed in 1981) and bring Lebanon and much of the rest of the Arab world into the "circle of peace."

Peres' predecessor, Yitzhak Rabin, who was assassinated on Nov. 4, preferred to focus on the security dimension. On two separate occasions in the past year, the chiefs of staff of the Israeli and Syrian armies met to thrash out the issues, but the results were clearly disappointing and President Hafez al-Assad of Syria cancelled the talks, sending them into limbo.

Last October, the United States tried to coax Israel and Syria back to the negotiating table. Christopher visited Jerusalem and Damascus, but returned home empty-handed, citing "solid differences" between Israel and Syria.

There the matter lay, stagnating and seemingly impervious to a solution. By all accounts, Rabin had despaired of signing a pact with Syria before Israel's general election in November 1996.

But with Rabin's murder, the dynamics of the situation suddenly changed, notwithstanding the fact that Syria had refrained from conveying official condolences to Israel. As it was noted, Syria's response was cooly factual, proof of the profound bitterness, suspicion and hostility that characterize Damascus' attitude to Israel.

In retrospect, Rabin's untimely death reinvigorated the push toward peace, reinforcing the credo that politics is and has always been the art of the possible.

In his very first speech to the Knesset, Peres broke with Rabin's approach. He invited Syria to join in talks without preconditions and outlined a vision of a new, prosperous Middle East in which Syria would play a central role. Then, in the United States, Peres declared he was convinced that peace was in the offing. In an important signal, the state-controlled Syrian media welcomed his remarks.

On the heels of these developments, Ehud Barak — Israel's foreign minister — held out an olive branch. "Let us now make peace," he said at a conference in Barcelona. Farouk al-Shara, the Syrian foreign minister, replied in a respectful tone that Syria was ready to commit itself "to full peace in return for full withdrawal."

In the weeks leading up to the talks in Maryland, when American diplomats visited the region, further signals were exchanged.

Dennis Ross, the chief U.S. Middle East negotiator, said that both sides were "serious" about reaching a settlement. Peres spoke glowingly of "a new beginning" and pointedly linked the depth of an Israeli withdrawal to the depth of Syria's willingness to normalize relations with Israel.

From Syria came word that Assad was impressed with Peres' "openness" and that he was interested in accelerating the pace of the negotiations. As an added sweetener, Shara said that Damascus sought tranquility in Lebanon, a Syrian protectorate whose territory has been a springboard for guerrilla attacks against Israel since the late 1960s.

Despite the promising new mood, incredibly difficult problems block the path toward an accommodation.

First and foremost, Assad still insists on a complete Israeli withdrawal, not just to the 1949 armistice lines but to the borders Syria occupied until the Six Day War, the borders adjacent to the northeastern shores of the Sea of Galilee.

Israel has not publicly spelled out its policy, but Peres may be more flexible than Rabin in this respect, provided he is truly convinced that Syria is psychologically prepared for peace with *all* its trappings. In any event, Barak said recently that Israel does not exclude the possibility of recognizing Syrian sovereignty over the Golan.

Such a move would be fiercely resisted by the Likud (which tabled an unsuccessful non-confidence motion against the government last week) and by the Golan's 14,000 Jewish settlers and their legion of vocal supporters in Israel.

Security issues are also at stake. Syria has repeatedly rejected an Israeli proposal for early-warning stations on the Golan following a withdrawal. Last week, Israel modified its position, saying that such posts may be unncessary should Syria agree to pull back its army sufficiently far from the border.

Water is another stumbling block. The Golan supplies about one-third of Israel's fresh water. Is Syria willing to share this vital resource?

All these crucial questions, and many more, will be addressed when Israel and Syria get down to real bargaining later this month.

The Week in Israel

Dec. 18

• At a meeting with residents of Ofra, Minister Without Portfolio Yossi Beilin stated that under the final peace agreement with the Palestinian Authority, most settlers will be able to live under Israeli sovereignty.

Dec. 19

• The trial of Yigal Amir was postponed until Jan. 21.

Dec. 20

• The United Nations transferred $307,500 (US) in damages to 93 Israelis who submitted claims of physical injury or emotional suffering as a result of the Iraqi scud attacks.

Dec. 21

• The government denied entry into the country as tourists or as immigrants to seven American Jews. Among the seven was Brooklyn Rabbi Avraham Hecht who had proclaimed in the summer that Yitzhak Rabin was deserving of death. He later apologized for his remarks.

Dec. 22

• Likud Knesset member Ariel Sharon called on Likud leaders and the entire opposition to support the candidacy of Benjamin Netanyahu for prime minister.

Dec. 25

• Finance Minister Avraham Shochat stated that "the last three years have been the best ever for the Israeli economy since the founding of the state."

Dec. 26

• Egypt's Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein issued a joint statement from Aqaba, expressing their hope that Syria will join them in making peace with Israel.

Dec. 27

• Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai (Res.) announced that he is joining the Likud and that he will be a candidate for the party in the upcoming election.

Dec. 28

• A Federal Court in Manhattan issued a subpoena to compel Yasser Arafat to testify in a lawsuit arising from the Achille Lauro hijacking.

Dec. 29

• According to *Kol Yisrael*, nearly 77,000 immigrants arrived in Israel during 1995. This represented a decrease of 3.5 per cent from the number in 1994.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• The Institute for Advanced Studies of Hebrew University hosted a Workshop on Formation of Structure in the Universe.

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Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Critics assail Israel's recent crackdown on free speech

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — A Jewish Agency clerk was having coffee with a friend last month when someone overheard his conversation. The next thing he knew he was taken in for questioning by police. The grounds? Undermining the peace process.

The story is just one of dozens of similar episodes that demonstrate the dramatic change in Israel since the murder of Yitzhak Rabin. Until Nov. 4, a driver could run a government minister off the road, an extremist group could engage in illegal paramilitary training and a religious leader could call on soldiers to disobey orders — all with impunity.

But since the assassination, the country's judicial system has begun flexing its muscles. Rarely-used clauses, such as sedition, are being invoked with increasing regularity. The tough new stance has resulted in the arrest of leaders of the right-wing protest movement Zo Artzeinu, the investigation of rabbis for halachic interpretation that may be construed as incitement, as well as numerous smaller incidents like the case of the Jewish Agency clerk.

Excessive?

No, says Tel Aviv University law professor Ze'ev Segal. "Until Nov. 4, we thought there was no danger to Israeli democracy. But we were wrong." Segal is one of a growing number of public figures to back the new judicial toughness. "Inciters should be brought to trial," he maintains. "Democracy must defend itself."

Many agree according to a recent Haifa University survey which found 54 per cent of Israeli Jews favor limitations on freedom of speech in the aftermath of the Rabin murder. They share the view that an unchecked atmosphere of hatred and incitement against Rabin ultimately led to his murder.

"What is a legitmate expression of opposition in a period of peace and tranquilty is considered to be incitement and insurrection in a situation of war or crisis," says historian Dr. Eyal Naveh. "Freedom of speech is determined by context. The words of [Rabbi Meir] Kahane's supporters and provocative halachic rulings must be censored not because of their essence, but because of the change in atmosphere in which these words are heard."

Even those who decry the latest series of arrests acknowledge the need for a new verbal restraint. Elyakim Ha'Ezni, a right-wing lawyer and settlement leader who is himself under investigation for incitement, called the recent clampdown a "dictatorship of peace." But he admits that he wouldn't use the same expressions today that he used before the murder.

In the past, he repeatedly compared Rabin to Henri Petain, the World War II general and premier of Vichy France who was later convicted of treason. "I wouldn't make such a comparison again," says Ha'Ezni. "At the same time I didn't believe such a thing [as the murder] could happen ... Now the atmosphere has changed. We all have to realize that there may be other potential murderers among us, and we must choose our words carefully."

But many say the heightened sensitivity to words has reached absurd levels. The attorney general castigated the police recently for arresting people in barber shops, banks and cafes for what turned out to be not incitement, but bad taste. One of the arrested was a man in line at the bank. When asked, "Who's next?" he had the poor judgment to respond "Peres."

"We're searching for incitement on the walls of the washrooms of Bar-Ilan University," charged political science professor Michael Keren. "Even in the most extreme circumstances freedom of speech must not be curbed," insists Keren of Tel Aviv University. "Opposition groups must be able to vent steam through verbal expression rather than through more dangerous means." He also warns that by depriving extremists of freedom of speech the authorities are inadvertently turning them into heroes. (Indeed Ha'Ezni recently compared his struggle to that of Martin Luther King's.)

The most controversial charge leveled against opposition groups is that of sedition. This rarely-invoked clause, which outlaws expression that lead to "hatred, ridicule and disloyalty to the country," is one of the vestiges of British Mandatory law. But even some outspoken left-wingers cringe at the use of this charge against the leaders of the Zo Artzeinu movement, which in addition to verbally challenging the legitimacy of the government, has held illegal demonstrations, blocking roads and disrupting traffic.

"If it's possible to charge the leaders of Zo Artzeinu for their acts ... why bother resorting to this problematic law?" asked an editorial in the Hebrew daily *Ha'aretz*, adding that this clause is "inappropriate for a democracy."

The editors called for a distinction between "illegal acts which must be punished and unusually infuriating expressions. The answer to bad taste should be in words, not arrests and investigations."

Legal affairs commentator Moshe Negbi agrees. "Limiting free speech is justified only when there is a high probability of danger that words will cause violent acts. Otherwise we must swallow even the harshest expressions."

Negbi cites the case of an army officer who was sentenced to 10 days in military prison for failing to mourn Rabin's murder in an appropriate fashion (When the case was exposed in the media, the army promptly released the officer from prison.)

"After this incident there is a justifiable outcry," notes Negbi, who warns that the real danger Israel faces is the blurring of the distinction between such petty incidents and serious threats to democracy. "While we're sentencing this so-called "dangerous" officer to 10 days in prison, someone in a position of influence, who advocates violence, is going free. It's not only undemocratic — it's dangerous."

ALL ROADS LEAD TO JERUSALEM
An Israeli soldier using a field telephone carefully watches as workers erect a sign pointing the way to Jerusalem via the newly-opened 11-kilometre bypass road near Beit Jalla. [RNS photo]

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Israel allocates $160,000 to Reform, Conservative groups

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Advancing the cause of religious pluralism in Israel, the Religious Affairs Ministry will allocate some $160,000 to the Reform and Conservative movements in the Jewish state.

Secular organizations that deal with Jewish issues from a pluralistic perspective are also expected to receive funding.

Israel's High Court of Justice previously ruled that the Reform and Conservative movements should receive funding from the Religious Affairs Ministry for Torah studies.

But until now, only small amounts were disbursed in an informal matter.

In New York, the move by the Religious Affairs Ministry was welcomed by Rabbi Alexander Schindler, outgoing president of the Reform movement's Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

"I could not be more delighted," he said.

The announcement of the allocations reportedly came in the wake of new funding criteria established by Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet, who has sought to eliminate inequities in funding for non-Orthodox institutions.

The allocations provoked criticism from Orthodox parties in Israel.

Knesset member Avraham Ravitz, of the Orthodox Degel HaTorah Party, said Shetreet "did something that should not have been done, when he allowed the Reform movement to embezzle the public coffers.

"The Reform movement has lots of money already, and it is outrageous that it should swoop down on the meager allowances of the Religious Affairs Ministry," Ravitz said.

However, Knesset member Avner Shaki of the National Religious Party, a former minister of the Religious Affairs Ministry, was more accepting of the decision.

"Their way is not mine," he said of the Reform and Conservative movements. "But it is a good deed to teach every Jew the Torah."

In related news, Jewish Agency for Israel chair Avraham Burg has called for the establishment of a religious conversion court comprised of non-Orthodox rabbis to provide alternatives to Orthodox conversions in Israel.

If non-Orthodox conversions that are performed abroad are recognized in Israel, he said, then there should be a way to perform them in Israel as well.

Burg said that if his proposal for establishing non-Orthodox conversions in Israel were not adopted, then the government should fund overseas conversions for all Israelis who want them.

The Supreme Court issued a landmark ruling that paved the way for possible Knesset legislation to enable the recognition of non-Orthodox conversions performed in Israel.

Orthodox parties are actively opposed to such legislation.

Syria, Israel resume talks

[Cont'd. from page 1]

of talks, the two sides agreed to address a number of issues at the same time in an effort to prevent the negotiations from becoming deadlocked over any one particular issue.

"We're satisfied with the atmosphere, the openness, and the approach,"one Israeli official said, but he would reveal nothing about the substance of the talks, citing the parties' commitment to maintaining confidentiality.

At various points, the meetings included Syrian Ambassador to the U.S. Walid Mualem, Michael Wahbi, director of Syria's Foreign Minister's Office, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. Itamar Rabinovich and Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir. Foreign Ministry legal advisor Joel Singer and his Syrian counterpart, Riad Daoudi held separate discussions.

In Damascus, Foreign Minister Farouk Shara, who met with seven Arab foreign ministers to discuss the peace process, said he is optimistic about the renewed negotiations.

Israel's Foreign Minister Ehud Barak was a little more guarded than Shara. "The atmosphere is really good and the dialogue is positive and I think that the next few days will lead to some kind of general shifting of the positions of both side," he told Israel Radio.

But he added, "I think that we can expect long negotiations that will conclude stages that will not be simple and even difficult. I don't think this is something that will wind up in a few weeks.

"For us, the main question is to what extent the Syrians are ready or open to appropriate security arrangements. In the end, our formula is the depth of the peace and security arrangements."

Meanwhile, Israeli officials categorically denied that Israel has requested a financial package from the United States to pay for security systems on the Golan and to compensate residents who could be uprooted by the terms of a peace treaty.

One official said, "There's no agreement, so how could we have approached the Americans?"

He did concede that planning for such a package might be under way in Jerusalem. But, he said that the entire notion of a $12 billion package, as reported in Israel last week, might be a trial balloon to elicit Washington's response.

A THOUSAND BIKES FOR RWANDA

Dr. Ruth Westheimer presents the first of 1,000 bicycles to a Rwandan child as part of an American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee project to facilitate the provision of vital social and medical services in Rwanda. The bicycle shipment was funded by a coaliton of 39 Jewish organizations and was launched at a Chanukah celebration.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Call It Sleep: The death of Henry Roth last October at the age of 89 marked the passage of one of the most enigmatic figures in modern Jewish literature.

Roth was best known for *Call It Sleep*, his astonishingly pure novel that captured the Jewish immigrant experience in America. Told from the point of view of a boy who is the son of immigrant parents to New York, *Call It Sleep* was published in 1934, when its author was only 28 years old. Although the book was received favorably when first published, it sold only several thousand copies and quickly faded into obscurity.

The book was rediscovered in the 1960s, however, and more than one million copies of a 1964 paperback edition were sold. Many critics, including Irving Howe, have hailed the novel as one of the great American novels of the 20th Century. "*Call It Sleep* is one of the most important, pivotal novels of classic American literature," said Ruby Newman, a professor of literature at York University in Toronto.

According to Newman, Roth, by relating the narrative through the point of view of a child, used a Joycean story-telling technique, even while paying close attention to the cadences and rhythms of the Yiddish language that the boy's parents speak throughout. "He's fused these two techniques together," Newman said, "and he's used techniques of Yiddish literature. He's used the Yiddish language to make his English so lyrical and beautiful."

After publication of *Call It Sleep*, Roth attempted a second novel, but gave up after writing 75 pages, and did not publish anything again for 60 years. In the interim, he worked at a series of blue-collar jobs, eventually bought a duck and goose farm, and became an ardent communist until the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. The communists supported the Arabs, but Roth preferred to support the Jewish state, and came to view Israel as "a place where the Jewish writer can live his entire life with a sense of belonging — and a chance of maintaining his identity intact."

The renewed success of *Call It Sleep* allowed Roth to turn once again, with greater determination, to his writing. From 1979 until his death, he worked feverishly, despite crippling arthritis, on a literary project called *Mercy of a Rude Stream* (the title is from a line from Shakespeare). During that time, he produced some 3,500 manuscript pages divided among a series of six related novels, the first of which -- *A Star Shines over Mt. Morris Park* -- was issued in 1994. *A Diving Rock on the Hudson* came out in 1995, and more titles are expected in 1996.

Henry Roth is survived by a sister and two sons, including Jeremy Roth of Toronto.

*****

Manor Boy Brings Boogie to Big Apple: *Eye On Arts* broke bagels in a New Jersey cafe recently with "Boogie" Mike Barris, who performed a two-hour set of vintage blues and jazz tunes that was more reminiscent of the Mississippi delta than the north Toronto suburb of Bathurst Manor where he grew up.

An editor of online financial news on Wall St. by day, the former Torontonian, who now lives with his wife Bonnie in Little Silver, N.J., has played often in clubs in the New York City and New Jersey areas. Barris says he is on a mission to revive America's musical heritage at festivals, coffeehouses and clubs. "A lot of kids don't know that before rock there were all these other types of music, from blues to ragtime to swing, and I'm bringing it back," he told *Eye on Arts*.

*****

Theresa Tova in Concert: Home-grown songstress Theresa Tova combines Yiddish classics and popular show tunes in an evening entitled From Belz to Broadway, at the New Yorker theatre, 651 Yonge St., Toronto, on Sun. Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. Tickets $18. (416) 872- 1111.

Former Torontonian "Boogie" Mike Barris is on a mission to revive America's musical heritage at coffee houses and clubs.

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TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

National Unity Week: Travel, as they say, broadens the mind. It may also help strengthen the fabric of national unity. Last October, two airlines and other organizations offered discounted fares to help bring Canadians to Montreal for the memorable national unity rally that arguably helped the federalist side prevail in the referendum.

Now a few Canadian travel professionals have discussed marking the anniversary of the Montreal rally next October with a National Unity Week, during which air, rail, hotel, car-rental, tourist-attraction and other travel-related fares would be substantially reduced. The idea is to encourage Canadians from all regions of Canada to see any other region.

Even the most ardent Quebec separatists would be welcome to take advantage of these travel bargains. Perhaps it might even help them appreciate the greatness of this Dominion.

Travel Talk hopes the idea catches on. If you do too, please let us know. Contact *Travel Talk* in writing c/o The CJN, or by e-mail at 76075.507@compuserve.com.

*****

What's New In Acapulco: 'Tis the season to dream of palm trees, sunny splendor and warm ocean breezes. Why not do it in Acapulco? This month, the Hyatt Regency Acapulco completes its $10 million refurbishment of all guest rooms lobby, swimming pools, meetings facilities and restaurants.

There are two other Hyatt Regency Resorts in Mexico, both in Cancun. As well, the company is planning to open another Grand Hyatt in Los Cabos in 1997. Hyatt also operates three city centre hotels in Mexico, in Guadalajara, Merida and Villahermosa. For information on the internet, type http://www.travelweb.com/hyatt.html. On compuserve, type GO HYATT.

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A Sparkling Occasion in Israel: More than half of the world's round polished diamonds and almost three-quarters of all fancy polished diamonds come from Israel. The Israel Diamond Exchange is the world's largest and the country's jewelry manufacturing business is worth US $450 million.

Thus, it makes perfect sense that Israel is hosting the world's leading lights in the diamond business next month. The International Diamond and Jewelry Fair takes place in Tel Aviv, Jan. 7 to 10, 1996. It involves gala social events, seminars, sightseeing and much more. For details, contact the Israel Government Tourist Office, (416) 964-3784.

*****

Kosher Cooking in Tuscany: *La Cucina Kasher in Toscana* (Kosher Cooking in Tuscany) combines a cooking program with a variety of tourist experiences in Florence, Italy. The program offers five three-hour cooking classes by chef-historian Edda Servi Machlin, whose family has lived in Italy for more than 2,000 years. Machlin's classes are in English and focus on the food of the Jews of Rome, Tuscany, Venice and other regions. After each class, participants enjoy the meal, for which printed recipes are provided.

Four trips are scheduled for 1996: April 15 to 22, April 22 to 29, Oct. 14 to 21, and Oct. 21 to 28. The cost, excluding airfare, is US $2,400 per person. Ralph P. Slone Inland Services, Inc., 360 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017. (212) 687-9898.

*****

Jewish Italy, Part II: Rabbi Ron Lubofsky, noted Australian scholar, is leading a two-week tour of Jewish Italy, taking in sites of significance in Rome, the Vatican, Siena, San Gemignano, Florence, Venice, Verona, Milan, Casale Monferrato and other cities.

The tour involves numerous Jewish communal events, a private viewing of unusual artifacts, and a gourmet kosher lunch at Il Gigetto, a restaurant near the Spanish Steps in Rome. In Rome, the group is hosted by Dr. Samuel Gruber, head of the Jewish Heritage Research Center, and his sister, Ruth Ellen Gruber, author of the bestselling Jewish Heritage Travel.

Departs JFK Airport via Alitalia June 30, 1996. The price of US $3,995 per person includes airfare, accommodation, continental breakfast and kosher lunch or dinner daily, all Shabbat meals, comprehensive sightseeing and other charges. Lotus Tours, 2 Mott St., New York, N.Y. 10013. (212) 267-5414.

Business Briefs

Canadian Firm To Invest In Laser Technology

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. – On the heels of FDA approval of the VISX Excimer Laser Technology, Vision Sculpting Inc. has announced it has entered into a memorandum of understanding with Canadian Investors Corporation (C.I.C.)

C.I.C., a Toronto-based investment firm, will be the lead investor in a financing package anticipated to exceed $20 million (US), says Vision Sculpting's co-founder Robert Mackey.

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Business Profile

Nina Wright: Arts and Communication Counsellors

Company finds sponsors for cultural events

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Nina Wright is one of the most successful matchmakers in this country. But her clients don't end up under the chupah.

Wright, 64, makes *shidduchs* between business and arts organizations. Her company, Arts and Communication Counsellors (A&CC), finds corporate sponsors for high-profile Canadian cultural events such as the 1994 Barnes exhibition and the National Ballet of Canada's *New Nutcracker,* now playing at the O'Keefe Centre.

When it needed money to mount this new production the ballet company turned to Wright. Through her efforts, BPI Financial Corporation celebrated its 10th anniversary with a $500,000 gift, the largest corporate donation ever given to the National Ballet.

Wright has been responsible for over 150 sponsorships. "We turn down more than we take. We only do a few things," she said recently at A&CCs downtown headquarters.

Dozens of posters of cultural events from the 1995 Barbara Hepworth Retrospective to the 1979 King Tut exhibit adorn the walls of the office. Each poster, like a trophy, represents a successful sponsor partnership brokered by A&CC.

The leading cultural organizations of this country like the Royal Ontario Museum, the Cirque de Soleil, and Edmonton's Citadel Theatre are among A&CCs clients as are hundreds of blue-chip heavy weights which include CIBC, Chrysler Canada and Joseph E. Seagram and Sons Ltd.

Arts & sports are obvious beneficiaries

Arts and sports organizations are the obvious beneficiaries of these sponsorships. But corporate philanthropy is not solely based on altruism: these partnerships are mutually beneficial according to Wright.

Sponsorship can be an effective marketing tool to enhance a corporation's image and increase its exposure to the general public, she said. "Much of what happens is strategic philanthropy. It actually accomplishes some business."

Nina Wright, of Arts and Communications Counsellors. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

By virtue of its sponsorship, the public will come to associate BPI with some of the positive characteristics of the National Ballet — its longevity and reputation for quality performance, Wright explained.

The returns of philanthropy can also be greater than advertising, she added citing Lexus' sponsorship of The William S. Paley Collection at the Montreal Museum of Fine Art in 1995 — the company was allowed to put a car in the museum.

"Many car companies buy advertising space in magazines. You couldn't buy the space in the museum," she said. "A car in a museum. That's a mind set. That already says to you, 'This car is very beautiful.' "

Wright, a native New Yorker, had an intuitive understanding of strategic philanthropy — she coined the term — early in her career. She pioneered the concept of integrating corporate sponsorships with marketing programs back in the '50s.

In 1951, she began working for the American Federation of Arts, a non-profit organization based in New York City. She was responsible for organizing travelling exhibitions of art collections.

She and the organizers wanted to put together more ambitious projects, but government financing was limited. So she turned to the corporations.

In those days money for the arts used to come out of a corporation's donations budget, she said. "The marketing and the donations departments rarely talked to each other."

Getting the two department to collaborate was an innovative move, but for Wright "it was pure common sense." She pointed out that the people to whom the arts could mean something were the consumers, the same group targeted by the corporations.

She was so successful at tapping corporate coffers the public relations firm Ruder Finn and Rotman lured her to the private sector in 1958, hiring her to head their newly created fine arts division, which later became known as Arts and Communications.

By the mid 1960s, Wright's boardroom finesse had changed the way many top American cultural institutions approached fundraising. She developed philanthropic programs for many corporate giants such as American Express, Mobil Oil and General Electric.

In 1973, Wright set out to blaze a trail on a new frontier — Canada. She opened an A&CC office in Toronto when she moved here with her 10-year-old son, Tom, following her marriage to Canadian business executive Norman Wright, president of Vertek Vision.

Initially business at A&CCs Toronto office was slow: many Canadian non-profit organizations, accustomed to a high level of government subsidization, were not eager to woo corporate patrons, Wright said. "Everyone has to prove themselves."

It took her six years. The turning point for the Canadian leg of her career came in 1979 with the success of the King Tut exhibition sponsored by American Express.

"It was one of the greatest shows that had ever been to Toronto and corporate funding helped make it possible," Wright said. "The awareness level of what corporations could accomplish by the association with a visual project became apparent overnight."

She described the growth of A&CCs Toronto office, originally part of Rudder, Finn and Rotman as "slow and careful." It started out as a two-person operation. Today there is a staff of 13 — as well as a Calgary office run by Karyn Allen Keenan.

"It's a passion."

In 1988, Wright bought the Canadian branch of A&CC from the parent company and expanded its scope by adding a sports and recreational division a year later.

The company's total earnings are in the range of $1.5 million a year. But for Wright the money is secondary to the work.

"It isn't a business. It's a passion," she said. "You get paid but it's not big business. You know when you come here you work on fascinating things and hopefully things that make a difference."

She gives a lot of credit to her hard-working staff, she said. "I've never seen such an incredible group of women." She emphasized that there's a team work approach to most projects, whether the company is orchestrating high-profile special events like the Bay Street Rat Race or identifying new projects and corporate players.

The company has a highly sophisticated system for tracking the fiscal health of companies to narrow the range of potential sponsors, Wright said. "When we undertake a project and target a company we believe in a rifle not a buckshot approach."

A&CC can only be retained by one side of a partnership. If it's working on behalf of an arts organization it cannot work for the corporate sponsor until the "deal is consummated," she said.

Wright loves her work and puts in 12-hour days, she said, enthusing about up-coming projects like the 1997 Maud Lewis exhibition, and poetry in the Toronto subway.

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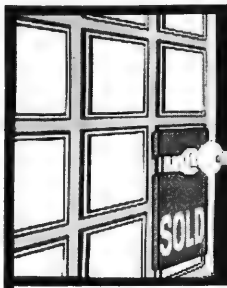

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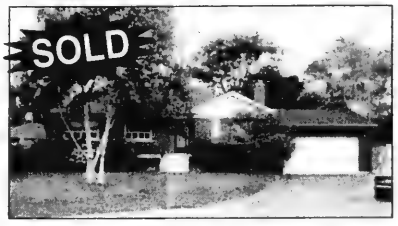

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Janice and Morrie Goldsmith are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter **Marnie to Mark**, son of **Perlan and Ted Waxman**. Delighted grandmother is **Molly Chester**. Proud sister and brothers are **Sheibi Goldsmith, Aaron Waxman & Randy Waxman.** A summer wedding is planned.

330 OBITUARIES

GRACE, Samuel Abraham - Peacefully at the Brantford General Hospital on Fri., Dec. 22, 1995, in his 92nd year, loving husband of Althea, cherished father of Mitzi Moore and her husband Norman, Brantford; will be sadly missed by his grandchildren Jennifer Moore, Jason Moore and his wife Tracey and greatgrandchildren Brandon and Aidan, fondly remembered by his niece Penny Dana and her husband Alex, Streetsville, Mississauga and by nephew Richard Iwasin, St. Catharines. Graveside services were held at Beth David Cemetery, Brantford, Sun., Dec. 24, 1995, Rabbi Eisenstein officiated. Private Shiva. Donations to the charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. A Memorial Tree will be planted for Samuel in the Beckett-Glaves Memorial Forest.

Jerry Bitter on December 7, 1995, late of 1627 Houston Ave.
Sylvia Pancer on December 6, 1995, late of 6200 Bathurst St. #507
Bela Arje on December 7, 1995, late of 660 Briar Hill Ave. #704
Sam Gaffe on December 7, 1995, late of 50 Delahaye St.
Anne Madras on December 6, 1995, late of 35 Canyon Ave. #212
Ralph Lesser on December 15, 1995, late of 50 Cambridge Ave.
Peter Levine on December 15, 1995, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
Helen Katz on December 15, 1995, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
Bertha Herman on December 15, 1995, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
Ruth Swern on December 14, 1995, late of 35 Canyon Ave. #1208
Freda Fishbein on December 14, 1995, late of 73 Stonedene Blvd.
Morris Silverberg on December 14, 1995, late of 85 Skymark Dr. #2601
Sue Bader on December 14, 1995, late of 3151 Bridletowne Circle #902
Harry Brown on December 15, 1995, late of 1555 Finch Ave. W.# 905
Melville Isenberg on December 16, 1995, late of 165 Roseborough Cres.
Bertha Marshak on December 15, 1995, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
Rose Cohen on December 17, 1995, late of 550 University Ave.
Samuel Yolleck on December 16, 1995, late of 93 Mossgrove Trail
Sara Handley on December 19, 1995, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Halifax actress magical as Dorothy in *Oz*

By JOEL JACOBSON
CJN Maritimes Correspondent

HALIFAX — More than 3,000 people roared their approval at Halifax's Rebecca Cohn Auditorium as Dorothy led the Tin Man, Scarecrow and Cowardly Lion down the Yellow Brick Road.

And the applause thundered as Dorothy musically imagined what was *Over The Rainbow*.

Members of Halifax's Jewish community, comprising a small part of the audience, almost burst with pride when 18-year-old Heidi Lipkus as Dorothy brought audiences at three weekend performances of the *Wizard of Oz* to their collective feet.

Lipkus, a first-year arts student at Dalhousie University, starred in a Nova Scotia Drama League production of *Oz*. Director Eva Moore was happy to have her aboard.

"She just soaks everything in and gives you a big smile," Moore said. "She has a great deal of talent. It will be a shame if she doesn't get into the theatrical field."

Lipkus came late to the *Oz* production. Auditions for the lead roles were held early last summer while she was a counsellor at Camp Kadimah. Moore had seen 15 or 16 potential Dorothys and cut the numbers to a short list by mid-August.

"I hadn't seen Heidi, except in Queen Elizabeth High School productions, and even then she didn't have leads so I didn't really remember her," said Moore. "But everyone I spoke to said, 'You must see her!' "

Looking for a "fresh young look with the maturity to handle a monstrous role but still look like an 11-year-old," Moore invited Lipkus to the call-back session.

"She had an intangible quality you always hope to find. Her voice needed work but there was a light inside her."

Lipkus first started performing at Kadimah when, at age 11, she played Sandy in *Grease*. She performed in the *Atlantic Hagadah* a few years later, in *Les Miserables* at Kadimah, and in a number of high school musicals.

She played in *Oliver*, was Grandma Tzeitl in *Fiddler*, and Gloria Thorpe in *Damn Yankees*. At Camp Biluim in 1994, she was Joseph in *The Technicolor Dreamcoat* and was the narrator in an Atlantic Jewish Council production of *Joseph* that played Halifax and Moncton.

"I've always loved the theatre," said Lipkus. "I've enjoyed watching and performing. Playing Dorothy was by far the most challenging thing I've ever done. I had to interpret the role to feel comfortable with Dorothy as the child everyone has in them. The audience [a good blend of adults and children] certainly gives you energy."

Lipkus said she'll complete her BA, then possibly go into education or journalism. "My dream is to go to Broadway but realism might stop me," she said with a smile.

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330 OBITUARIES

Bernard Sol Leibel on December 17, 1995, late of RR #2 1715 Hwy #9
Zelda Straf on December 17, 1995, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Pauline Barkin on December 20, 1995, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Samuel Geller on December 20, 1995, late of 10 Shallmar Blvd. #905
Edith Leventhal on December 20, 1995, late of 773 Spadina Rd.
Gloria Rotstein on December 21, 1995, late of 14 Mellowood Dr.
Edith Somer on December 21, 1995, late of 231 Argyle St. South

Abraham (Al) May on December 8, 1995, late of 260 Heath St. W. #1601
Aida Golberg on December 9, 1995, late of 150 Neptune Drive #602

Minnie Koman on December 9, 1995, late of 179 Waverley Rd.
David Shane on December 10, 1995, late of 130 Eglinton Ave. East #701
Bessie Blumenfeld on December 11, 1995, late of 100 Canyon Ave. #603
Pauline Cohen on December 11, 1995, late of 8 The Donway East
Benjamin Schachar on December 12, 1995, late of 322 Terrace Hill Street
Ida Tuchow on December 13, 1995, late of 70 Innisbrook Cres.
Sidney Hurwich on December 13, 1995, late of 140 Erskine Ave., #401
Max Silverberg on December 13, 1995, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Selma Stein on December 12, 1995, late of 135 Antibes Dr. #906

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Tarnopolskaya, Anna on December 17, 1995, late of 4455 Bathurst St., #510
Satory, Richard on December 17, 1995
Segal, Roy on December 18, 1995, late of 3000 Bathurst St., #1112
Budai, Robert on December 18, 1995
Merkur, Perla on December 20, 1995, late of Lincoln Place Nursing Home
Jacobson, Harold on December 19, 1995, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #304
Halpern, Miriam on December 19, 1995, late of 3376 Yonge Street
Greenman, Rochelle on December 24, 1995, late of 44 Gwendolen Crescent
Levinsohn, Sara on December 24, 1995, late of 129 Ramblewood Lane

Sobel, Seymour on December 25, 1995, late of 20 Millcroft Way, Thornhill
Gonsenhauser, Mervyn Maxin on December 24, 1995, late of 34 Gossamer Street
Levson, Leslie on December 25, 1995, late of 84 Laurelcrest Avenue

Kane, Maurice on December 9, 1995, late of 11 Chumleigh Cres.
Kleiman, Rachel on December 7, 1995, late of Cheltenham Nursing Home
Pearce, Carl on December 8, 1995, late of 36 Greenbush Dr.
Gray-Gershevitch Lucy on December 10, 1995, late of 175 Cummer Ave.
Moskovits, Zoltan on December 17, 1995

Steeles Memorial Chapel

The Canadian Jewish News classifieds really work!!

Tensions linger in NYC

By ADAM DICKTER
New York Jewish Week

NEW YORK — Even as police investigate the role of race-baiting protesters in the violence at Freddy's Fashion Mart, and as Jewish and black leaders struggle to find common ground in the aftermath, some of the protesters have yet to cool their rhetoric.

Morris Powell, chair of the 125th Street Vendors Association, held a memorial service Dec. 17 at the charred ruins of the Jewish-owned store in Harlem for Roland Smith Jr., the man police said opened fire on customers and employees before setting Freddy's ablaze and shooting himself Dec. 8. Seven people, in addition to Smith, died in the carnage.

Powell also led a group of protesters one day after the massacre to Bargain World, another Jewish-owned store on 125th Street. Powell could not be reached for comment.

"I was astonished with the bad taste these folks have to protest while the bodies were still in the morgue," said Kenneth Stern, the American Jewish Committee's program specialist on anti-Semitism and extremism. "These are ideologues and haters [who] see the world in that particular way because they're so invested in their hatred of white people and Jews."

Michael Meyers, the executive director of the New York Civil Rights Coalition, predicted, "The rhetoric is not going to calm down, not going to go away because these people are so mesmerized by their own rhetoric. They believe in their cause and they believe there is a conspiracy among whites to deprive them of their status as blacks."

The Rev. Al Sharpton, a local activist whose role in the protests against Freddy's preceding the attack is being investigated by police and Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau, offered to meet with Jewish leaders for a dialogue.

"I don't think there's anything to be gained by such a dialogue," said Martin Begun, president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York. "What could come out of such a meeting, a different degree of anti-Semitism, that you can hate the Jews on Wednesdays only?"

Sharpton did not return calls. For months, demonstrators had gathered outside Freddy's to protest the store owner's expansion plans that reportedly would have displaced a record store that is black-owned. The landlord for both stores is the United House of Prayer, a predominantly black church.

Meanwhile, Jewish and black leaders continued to push for cooperation last week, emphasizing that the views of Sharpton, Powell and their supporters are an aberration.

At a joint press conference Dec. 18, Abraham Foxman of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and Hugh Price of the National Urban League outlined what they called an "agenda of work" to reduce racial tensions.

The agenda includes calling on political and community leaders to speak out against bigotry regardless of the religion and race of the perpetrator; intensifying community-based harmony programs; encouraging the prosecution of perpetrators of bias-motivated crimes using penalty-enhancing hate crimes statutes and creation of multi-ethnic coalitions for public policy.

"Our standing together is a statement against exclusion, against separation," said Foxman, ADL's national director, at the offices of the National Urban League here.

Also joining the healing effort was New York Coun. Noach Dear from Brooklyn, who said he has reached out to Coun. C. Virginia Fields from Harlem to arrange an exchange program of business and community people.

"If we had done this after Crown Heights," said Dear, "maybe we wouldn't have seen Freddy's happening," referring to the violence between blacks and Jews in Brooklyn four years ago.

But even as black and Jewish leaders coalesce for joint damage control, some leaders are pushing to ensure that the anti-Semitic overtones of the Harlem conflagration are not lost in vague denunciations of violence and racism.

Many black leaders have hesitated to label the attack an anti-Semitic crime. Shortly after the fire, Harlem business and community leaders quickly labeled the matter a landlord-tenant dispute that got out of hand.

"Before we have a process of healing, you first have to have an admission of guilt," said Rabbi Marc Schneier, chair of the World Jewish Congress' Commission on Intergroup Relations. "We have to spell it out, and we are awaiting this type of condemnation."

In response to a request by Rabbi Schneier, New York State Sen. David Patterson, who represents Harlem, wrote a letter stating his "abhorrence for the acts of anti-Semitism and bias that have been attributed to escalating the 125th Street tragedy."

The murders were "committed by a madman, whose act was surely anti-Semitic," Patterson wrote.

Not since the Crown Heights riots of 1991 has the Jewish community's introspection on its role in race relations taken on such intensity.

Marvin Schick, a Brooklyn-based consultant on Jewish affairs, called the plethora of black-Jewish dialogue and interaction programs that have sprung up since the riots "worthless," insisting that "in the programmatic sense, there is nothing that can be done to bring people together given the current climate of opinion."

Meanwhile, some leaders have observed that overall Jewish reaction to the Harlem incident has not matched the intensity of other recent events involving violence against Jews.

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3 tsp lemon juice

Season chicken with garlic and salt. Melt cranberry sauce, soya sauce and lemon juice. Pour over skin side down chicken. Bake at 350°, 1 hr. each side.

Recipe of the week

This week, The CJN brings back a popular feature of years past - a weekly recipe column. Please feel free to make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Dear Susan,

Our 2-year-old son had his first encounter with peanuts. Unfortunately his introduction to peanut butter was less than a happy experience – terrifying in a word. Within a few minutes of sampling this new food, our son broke into hives, experienced swelling of the mouth, turned ashen and began vomiting violently. We rushed him to a local hospital and were fortunate to get immediate help. The doctor confirmed that our son was allergic to nuts and had experienced an anaphylactic reaction. We are still in a state of shock, and somewhat overwhelmed about the extent of this problem and how it will impact on our son and our family.

Dear Reader,

You must first recognize that this incident was in no way your fault. It is quite proper to introduce your child to new foods as he grows older and you would have had no way of knowing what would transpire. In fact, you are to be commended for your swift and effective response to the situation.

Your son had an anaphylactic reaction, which is an allergy so severe that it can lead to death. Most parents discover their child's severe allergy between the ages of 18 months and three years, when their child is broadening his/her dietary variety. This is a particularly dangerous and accident-prone time for children generally, in that they are increasing their cognitive and motor skills, but still lack the judgement to exercise those skills in a totally safe manner. This lack of judgement extends to food choices and therefore as parents, you must be vigilant in ensuring your child's dietary environment is as risk-free as possible. This includes safeguarding your home and educating relatives and friends as to his condition. Always carry a supply of Epi-Pens, and when at home or travelling, be aware of the closest hospital.

This stage of a child's development is one of exploration and discovery and you must try not to let this episode and the ongoing risks he faces compromise this. It will be natural for him to be "clingy" for a while, and you must allow him to work through this. As a couple, it is also important that the two of you support each other. Overall, you must maintain an atmosphere of calm necessary for your child's physical and emotional growth, while ensuring you take all necessary medical precautions.

You should also know that you are not alone. Information and support is available through allergy and asthma associations. Allergists who specialize in this area will help you develop ongoing lifestyle strategies. Finally, there are groups in your community for parents of children with severe allergies, which will provide information and emotional support. Your greatest challenge is to make the unpredictable as predictable as possible. Knowledge is power – use it well.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

'Insidious ethos' said threatening Jewish life

BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The emphasis on individualism and personal freedom in Western society is eroding Jewish life and precipitating "a crisis in the Jewish family," says a noted social work educator and author.

Norman Linzer is the Samuel J. and Jean Sable Professor of Jewish Family Social Work at Yeshiva University (YU) Wurzeiler School of Social Work.

He recently gave a lecture sponsored by the Canadian Friends of YU in honor of Samuel and Jean Sable at Congregation Shaarei Shomayim.

The high incidence of assimilation among Jews — the rate of intermarriage in the United States is 52 per cent — can be attributed to personal freedom, said Linzer. "People live with few restrictions ... There has been a de-institutionalization of traditional forms of authority."

The rabbi and the priest used to be in a position of authority and were rarely challenged, he noted. "The institutions of family and religion had coercive power to make you obey ... In the East European *shtetlach* you did what you were supposed to do. You never questioned. Children were nurtured. They had an identity."

Western value of individualism has taken primacy

In Western society, there is a conflict of values between the needs of the self and a concern for others; and individual rights versus responsibility to the group, he said. "The ethos of western culture is that the needs of the self take primacy over the other."

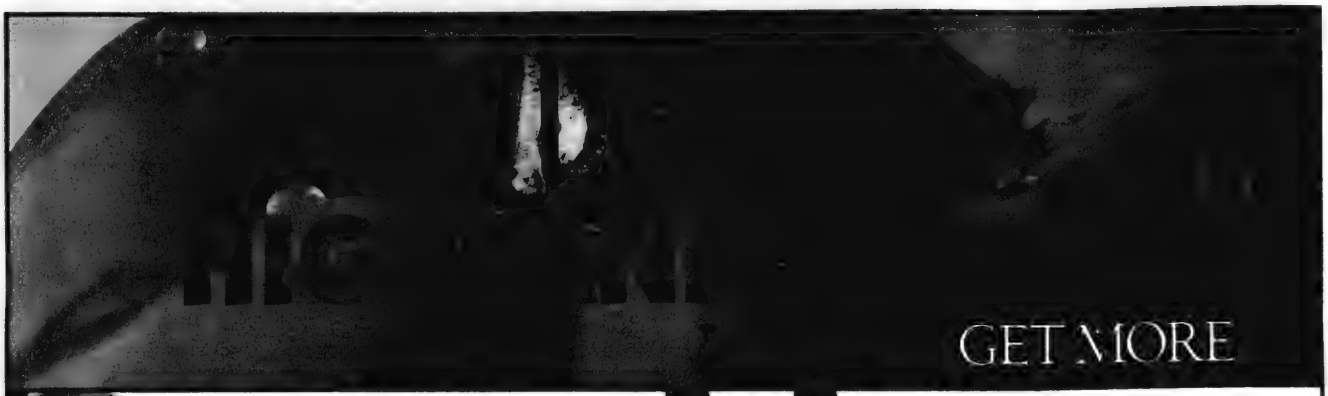
Such self-absorption devalues family relationships — people devote less time to raising children — and it can lead to marriage breakdown; it can also weaken the individual's sense of responsibility to his or her community, he said.

"The high rate of intermarriage reflects the ethos of self-realization, the lack of concern for the continuity of the Jewish community," he said.

Although Jewish community institutions are promoting continuity and doing outreach, they are failing in their efforts because the cultural values wielded by the greater society has more impact, he said. "It's an uphill battle against an insidious ethos."

While Linzer believes that "the problem is greater than the solution" and there are "no magic solutions," he offered the following suggestion as a first step to fighting assimilation.

"We need to teach families and individuals to consider others' needs before their own ... We have to start with our own families — to meet their needs, then turn to the rest of the Jewish community."



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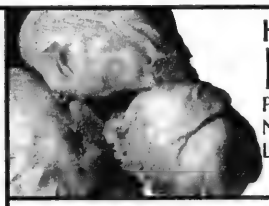

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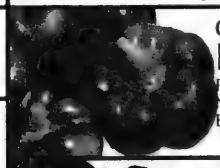

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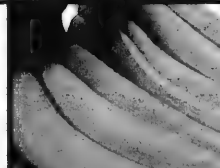

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Vaad Harabonim updates Toronto *eruv* to accommodate increase in Jewish comunity and Torah observance.
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Aharon Davidi is the founder of Sar-El – Service To Israel – which supplies volunteers from over 20 countries including Canada.
Page 6

Coast to Coast

Anger has replaced apathy to Quebec according to a recent poll.
Page 22

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Palestinians get ready to participate in the best show of democracy the Arab world has ever known. *Commentary.*
Page 25

Health *news*

Israeli researchers isolate gene responsible for adventurous and risk-taking behavior.
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Compensation claim outrage

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A senior Palestinian official angered Israelis last week, when he said Israel should compensate Palestinians for claims arising out of the intifada, just as Jewish survivors of the Holocaust had received reparations from Germany.

The remark prompted Israel's Justice Minister David Libai to cancel a planned meeting last Thursday with his Palestinian counterpart, Freih Abu Medein, who made the remark.

Libai was scheduled to meet with Abu Medein to discuss the planned release of Palestinian prisoners, as part of a series of confidence-building gestures called for under the Israeli-Palestinian accords.

The outrage was sparked by remarks made by Abu Medein in an interview with Israel Radio.

The Palestinian official said he could not understand why Israel was not willing to pay compensation to Palestinians who had been injured by the Israel Defense Force during the seven-year uprising against Israeli rule in the territories, when Israel had accepted German reparations for the victims of the Holocaust.

"While Israel accepts billions of marks from Germany, Israel refuses to give compensation to those people who lost sons or lost their eyes or lost their legs or their hands," he said.

Wicked and vulgar comparison

Earlier in the week, the Israeli government decided that it would not issue blanket compensation to Palestinians seeking damages from intifada-related injuries, though a special committee would be set up to examine what were termed "exceptional cases."

Israeli officials said Wednesday that Prime Minister Shimon Peres had met with the justice and finance ministers to discuss the issue of providing compensation to Palestinians for injuries suffered during the intifada.

Damage suits pending in the Israeli court system that are related to the intifada — the 1987-1993 Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the territories — are estimated to total hundreds of millions of dollars.

At Wednesday's meeting, Peres and the ministers reportedly agreed to seek legislation in the Knesset giving Israel blanket immunity to the suits.

The legislation will be included in a bill on implementing the Interim Agreement, the accord signed Sept. 28 in Washington for extending Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank.

Libai said he was shocked by Abu Medein's statements.

"It is wicked and vulgar to compare the Nazis' occupation, which systematically destroyed millions, to the Israeli control over the [West Bank] and Gaza," Libai said.

Continued on page 28

FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, ELECTIONS

A Palestinian woman passes several election posters for the upcoming, first ever Palestinian elections scheduled for January 20. Please see related story page 25. ***(RNS)***

Chechnya rescue complete

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — The effort to rescue Jews from the breakaway Russian republic of Chechnya is in its "last stage," said Chaim Chesler, head of the Jewish Agency for Israel's office in the former Soviet Union.

About 40 Chechen Jews remain in the Jewish Agency's refugee camp in P'atigorsk in the region, Chesler said in a telephone interview last week from Moscow.

Another 100 Chechen Jews are with family members in other former Soviet republics, he said.

"I believe that in the next couple of weeks all of them will leave for Israel," he said of those who fled because of the ongoing war between Russia and Chechnya that began in late 1994.

In 1995, some 200 Chechen Jews went to Israel under the auspices of the Jewish Agency, many of them settling in Ashdod and Ashkelon, Chesler said.

Among the recent arrivals was the oldest immigrant in Israel's history — a 110-year-old Chechen woman.

Tzippora Mataiyeva, who was born in April 1885 in Chechnya, reportedly came to Israel last month with her 74-year-old son.

As the violence in the region continues, Chesler said, he expects the approximately 20 Jewish families remaining in Chechnya will also leave soon.

Chechnya has some of the harshest living conditions in the former Soviet Union, with no running water, gas or electricity, Chesler said.

Continued on page 28

PURIM PICTURE CONTEST

Look inside for the rules of our second annual *CJN* Purim picture contest.

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Israel once again on high alert— please see page 27

The News In Brief
International

CANADA

Women Against Violence

VANCOUVER — A number of local Jewish women's organizations have banded together to form Jewish Women Against Domestic Violence.

The group aims to set up and train people to staff a crisis line for Jewish women who are experiencing violence in the home.

Palestinian Deported

TORONTO — Canada has deported to Sudan a Palestinian charged with being a former terrorist.

Wahid Baroud, 44, was admitted to Canada with his family in 1991. He was arrested in June 1994, after immigration officials discovered that he was a former member of Force 17, a terrorist arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

He was considered such a security threat that Canada's solicitor general and minister of citizenship and immigration signed a rarely used security certificate against him.

Issuing the certificate "means that both ministers concur that the person is a security threat and should be removed," said Roger White, a spokesperson for the Department of Citizenship and Immigration.

100th Anniversary

TORONTO — The Pretoria Hebrew Congregation in South Africa will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in March 1996.

If you have any pictures or memorabilia that you would like exhibited, or for more information, contact Julian Grabman, community director, P.O. Box 840 Pretoria, 0001 South Africa, 012-344-1551 or fax 012-660-2456.

ISRAEL

Return to Nablus

JERUSALEM — The IDF allowed 40 yeshivah students and worshippers into Joseph's Tomb in Nablus last week, the first time it has been opened to more than a token number of students since the city was handed over to the Palestinians.

The IDF said that until further notice, only 40 people will be allowed into the tomb at a time, and they will be driven there in IDF vehicles.

Amir's Story

JERUSALEM — The family of Yigal Amir, the confessed assassin of Yitzhak Rabin, was reportedly considering selling movie, book and interview rights.

The family views the potential sales as a way to raise funds for the legal defence of Amir, as well as for his brother Hagai, who was also charged in connection with the assassination.

Daylight Saving Time

JERUSALEM — The Knesset Interior Committee has decided that daylight saving time will start on March 14, one month earlier than last year. It will officially end on Sept. 15.

Bone Marrow Test

JERUSALEM — Yavneh Olami, together with the Sue Harris Bone Marrow Campaign held a successful bone marrow drive, testing over 1,500 people.

Harris is a 32-year-old British resident who has been searching for a bone marrow match since she was diagnosed with leukemia over three years ago.

Judaica Prize Announced

JERUSALEM — To commemorate the 3,000 years since King David established Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish people, 350 artists from around the world will create one-of-a-kind Jewish ceremonial objects for the sixth Jerusalem Judaica Fair.

The fair, which attracts both serious collectors of Judaica and those who simply like to browse, will take place May 5 to 9 at Binyanei Ha'uma, Jerusalem's international convention centre.

Competing for a prize of $25,000, the artists have been asked to create Torah crowns, kiddush cups and Passover seder plates. The objects must incorporate the themes of Jerusalem and King David, and reflect a vision of Judaica in the next millennium.

Memorandum Signed

JERUSALEM — A memorandum of understanding for scientific and technological cooperation between the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology was signed recently in Jerusalem by representatives of the two institutions.

The agreement provides for exchange of faculty members and post-doctoral students, short-term projects for technical training, joint study and research activities and exchange of scientific and technical information.

WORLD

Trade Centre Planned

BERLIN — The recent announcement of the 1997 opening of the Jewish Trade and Communication Centre is another move toward rebuilding what once was a thriving Jewish neighborhood in the eastern part of this city.

The new building, which will house a permanent exhibit on Jewish culture and trade, will be located on Oranienburger Strasse in eastern Berlin's Scheunenviertel, a pre-World War II centre of Jewish culture that has been undergoing a renewal.

Bronfman Fellowships

ALBANY, N.Y. — Applications are now available for the 1996 Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel.

The fellowships, now in their 10th year, offer an opportunity for 26 students entering Grade 12 to spend five weeks in Israel this summer. While there, the students participate in seminars and dialogues with a diverse rabbinic faculty.

The program begins on July 8 and concludes on Aug. 14.

Application forms must be completed by Feb. 1. Finalists will be notified March 1 and the names of the fellowship recipients will be announced on March 31.

Application forms and information are available from The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel, 17 Wilbur St., Albany, NY, 12202, by calling 518-465-6575 or by fax at 518-432-8984.

Journalism Award

NEW YORK — JDC invites entries for the 1996-Smolar Student Journalism Award.

The award is designed to develop a better understanding of the global Jewish community, while giving support to young people entering the field of journalism and encouraging their interest in Jewish subjects and Jewish journalism.

Each submission must be cut and pasted on 8½ by 11 sheets and postmarked by April 1.

Entries should be mailed to The JDC-Smolar Student Journalism Award, The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, 711 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017-4014. Attention: Laina Richter.

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Vol. XXXVI, No. 36 (2,782)

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Orthodox rabbinate updates Toronto *eruv*

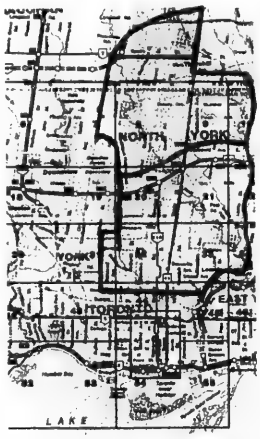
By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Toronto *eruv*, which allows Jews to carry on the Shabbat, has been updated, according to an announcement by the Vaad Harabonim.

On Shabbat, carrying in the public domain (in the street, for instance) is prohibited according to Jewish law. Indeed, it is one of the major 39 prohibitions of Shabbat, which include lighting a fire and cooking.

Recognizing that not being able to carry in the street could mean considerable constraint in terms of fully enjoying Shabbat (pushing a child to the synagogue in a stroller or carrying a *tallit* or medicine is not allowed, for instance), "many centuries ago the great rabbis created the concept of an *eruv*, in which an area was enclosed so that it could legally be considered as a single unit," explained Vaad president Rabbi Moshe Stern.

Rabbi Stern told *The CJN* that for many years, Toronto has had an *eruv*, which was under the auspices of the late Rabbi Abraham Price.



The boundaries of the new eruv.

"Many relied on it — indeed, many still do," he said.

However, with the increase both in the Jewish community as a whole, and especially in Torah observance, "it was felt by many that the *eruv* needed upgrading, so that everyone could feel comfortable [with it]," he said.

The new *eruv*, made by interconnecting wires and passageways throughout the area of the *eruv*, covers where 90 per cent of the Jewish population lives.

It goes roughly from a little north of the railway tracks in Thornhill, south to the Dupont tracks, west to Caledonia and east to Leslie. (For the exact boundaries, see the accompanying map.)

"It took a tremendous amount of time [five years], effort and money," Rabbi Stern said, acknowledging the help of Rabbi Henry Hoschander, chair of the Vaad *eruv* committee; Rabbis Shlomo Miller and Akiva Steinmetz of Kollel Avreichim; Daniel Gordon; Phil Beinhaker; and Manny and Daniel Dienna, as well as the various levels of municipal government, CN and CP railways and North York Hydro.

The new *eruv* does not include the downtown Jewish community, the University Avenue hospital strip, or the areas east of Leslie or west of Marlee, which were included in the earlier *eruv*.

"Rabbi Price's *eruv* extends to the lake," Rabbi Stern noted. "Those who rely on his *eruv*, will probably continue to do so."

The Vaad hopes, he said, to extend the *eruv* south to the hospitals in the future.

Twenty-two volunteers, from various local synagogues, have undertaken to monitor the *eruv* on a regular basis. The major components will be checked every week, and the entire system every month, Rabbi Stern said.

A hotline has been established, so people can verify every Friday that the *eruv* is indeed intact. The number is 416-350-2879.

The Vaad undertook the process of updating the *eruv* as a public service, said Rabbi Stern.

"It is the responsibility of the Vaad to enhance and encourage Sabbath observance. It will be a blessing to the entire community," he said.

Establishment of *eruv* helped curb Shabbat violations

By STEPHEN SPEISMAN
Special to The CJN

Sabbath observance in Toronto was on the decline in the 1920s. It was not that many people would not have preferred to be *shomrai Shabbat*, but economic considerations militated against it. Most did not have the strength of faith to face the sacrifices that Shabbat observance entailed, and the social pressure of the East European *shtetl* which made pariahs of Sabbath violators was no longer a factor.

The trend was not surprising. In factories, where a great many immigrant Jews worked, and which were owned primarily by non-Jews, Saturday morning operation was common. As competition for jobs increased, so too did the fear of being fired for Saturday absence. In the retail trades, Saturday was often the principal business day and Sunday opening was not an option because it was illegal.

Consequently, Jewish stores were opening Saturday, not only on major thoroughfares such as Yonge Street, but also in the solidly Jewish Kensington Market. These included groceries and bakeries, formerly the strictest in Sabbath observance.

Local rabbis and observant laymen attempted to stem the tide, organizing a committee to find jobs for Sabbath-observant young people. Rabbi Yehuda Leib Graubart, rav of Toronto's Polish Jews, launched a campaign against Sabbath violators, delivering sermons on Kensington street corners, urging a boycott of offending stores and encouraging picketing of those establishments. He risked being assaulted in the attempt.

By 1927, it was apparent that these efforts had been largely unsuccessful. Rabbi Graubart, concerned for the welfare of the population, then determined to establish an *eruv*, a rarity in North American cities. This would allow Jews to carry legally within its boundaries, and so not violate this aspect of Shabbat.

Toronto was especially suited to the plan, bounded as it was on three sides by natural boundaries; Lake Ontario to the south, the Don River to the east and the Humber River to the west. All that was needed was to enclose the area in which most Jews lived and worked with a boundary on the north.

This was accomplished by a wire running parallel to Bloor Street between the two rivers.

Because Rabbi Graubart was considered a *gadol*, a recognized halachic authority, the vast majority of observant Jews and even most other rabbis recognized his *eruv*.

After Rabbi Graubart's death in the late 1930s, responsibility for the *eruv*, based on these principles, was assumed by Rabbi Abraham Price, who extended it as the Jewish population spread northward. For a half-century it remained unchallenged because of Rabbi Price's internationally recognized expertise.

It is significant that the *eruv* was not instituted in Toronto to satisfy the needs of observant Jews alone, or even primarily for them. For them, it was a convenience, even a luxury. However, it was principally for the non-observant that a caring Rabbi Graubart felt it was necessary. To paraphrase him, "at least in this they will not violate Shabbos."

Stephen Speisman is the director of the Ontario Jewish Archives. His book The Jews of Toronto: a history to 1937, *won the City of Toronto Book Award.*

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CJN Purim Picture Contest

It's time again for our second annual Purim Picture Contest. We are asking students in elementary schools to submit pictures of the pageantry and the drama of the story of Purim.

Who can enter: Children from grades 1 to 6 inclusive are eligible. The children of *CJN* employees are not eligible.

Prizes: The judges will choose one picture from two different contestants in each grade. These "winning" pictures will be published in *The CJN* Purim issue. In addition, each of the 12 children whose drawings have been selected will receive a prize worth $25.00.

How to enter: You may submit as many pictures as you want. However they should not be smaller than 5 by 7 inches. Please paint, draw, or color bright, colorful, evocative pictures. You can draw on any paper you wish, but keep in mind we are looking for pictures which will show bright colors well. You may use markers, crayons, paint or pencils. And you can even give them a title.

Please send us your name, address, phone number, school and grade along with your drawings.

You may mail or deliver your pictures to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3A1. If you want us to return the pictures to you, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5:00 pm on Monday, Feb.19, 1996.

We will undoubtedly receive many wonderful pictures from children all across the country. But only 12 of the pictures will be chosen for publication. The judges will base their decision on a number of factors such as: the use of color, the imaginative quality of the picture, and the way the picture tells part of the story of Purim. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and quality of submissions received.

How the Winner will be announced: The children whose pictures are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of Shabbat on Friday, Feb. 23, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning pictures will be published in *The CJN* of Feb. 29, 1996. Have fun and good luck.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

From the editor's desk

A precious lifeline to dispersed kin

Two years ago, 10 of the world's leading Jewish newspaper figures were invited to Brandeis University to speak at the conference on the North American Jewish Press. The proceedings of the conference were subsequently published by the university.

Gary Rosenblatt, publisher and editor of the *Jewish Week* of New York, and in my opinion, pre-eminent among all editors of the North American Anglo-Jewish press, took part in the session entitled Key Issues Facing the Jewish Press.

I shall reproduce parts of his remarks. They perceptively describe the situation facing all Jewish newspapers today, including *The CJN*. In addition, his remarks are both a yardstick by which to measure the pages of *The CJN*, as well as a beacon towards whose light *The CJN* is constantly aiming.

"What then, is the role of the weekly Jewish newspaper at a time when interest in Israel is waning, assimilation at home is growing and fewer people are reading newspapers? This is not an academic question. If we don't have people who care about Jewish life, we're out of business. So part of our job is to promote and highlight the vibrancy of Jewish life, in as many forms as possible."

Rosenblatt then suggests some ways for newspapers to promote that "vibrancy."

"To meet the challenge of the next decade, Jewish newspapers will have to continue to change. They will have to do less reporting of news and far more reporting of trends, analyses, opinions and feature stories."

This is a lesson which *The CJN* too will have to learn better. Our newspaper is sent to press on Monday of each week. Normally, it arrives in the home on Wednesday. Most of the paper is actually completed for printing the previous Friday. That means that the stories and columns are generally written at least one week before they are read. Therefore, to compete with television, radio and the dailies, we must cover the stories which are of special interest to our community, as well as provide a different, more focussed angle to the stories that these media do cover.

Rosenblatt adds another method for promoting communal vibrancy. "One role that Jewish newspapers can, and should, place greater emphasis on is education, for adults as well as children. We have the opportunity, through our pages, to inform about Jewish heritage and history as well as politics and the arts ... There is a need not to neglect the Jewish component of a Jewish newspaper. It's not just about Jews, but about what it means to be Jewish."

The educational possibilities within *The CJN*'s mandate are something that we have attempted to develop and will continue to develop. The centrepiece of our efforts has been the page 9 Perspectives essay, although it has not been nor will it be the limit of our efforts.

Finally, in a sparkling flourish, Rosenblatt summarizes the potential of the Jewish press. "Jewish journalists can play a vital role in setting the agenda for the community, for informing and even inspiring large numbers of caring Jews. We have the responsibility and opportunity to report on complex and emotional issues in as dispassionate a way as possible, and at the same time to write and publish opinion pieces that reflect the passion of conviction from many perspectives."

It is the commitment of *The CJN* to its readers that it will always take up that responsibility with integrity and care.

In an age when news was obtained only from print or radio, the Jewish newspaper was a precious lifeline of information about a kinfolk dispersed to the far corners of the vast earth. Indeed, many people of my generation can still recall a time when our parents and grandparents carried the Jewish newspaper around with them for most of the day, twice-folded and coddled under their arm. Until it was fully read, it was not put down.

We can also recall a parent or a grandparent poring over every article and column for news of "the old country," reading aloud for the benefit of the rest of the adults sitting nearby, the newspaper spread open on the kitchen table to its full, storied, broadsheet breadth.

Today, print and radio may in fact be the last places people turn to for their news. In the blink of an eye, information now travels by electronic impulse and computer byte into the very heavens of space and back. Even the vast earth has been brought into our living rooms and onto our display terminals.

It therefore may be exceedingly unrealistic and sentimental to hope that *The Canadian Jewish News* becomes a coddled treasure under the arms of its readers. Nevertheless, it is my aspiration for *The Canadian Jewish News* that our readers, as their parents and grandparents before them, will look upon the paper as "a precious lifeline of information about a kinfolk dispersed to the far corners of the vast earth."

* * *

Worthwhile reading

Beginning today, I will share with readers the titles of articles, essays or books which have found their way across my desk and which, in my opinion, are worthwhile reading.

How to Save American Jews, Jack Wertheimer, Charles S. Liebman, Steven M. Cohen, *Commentary*, January 1996.

The authors offer an alternative approach to the "wisdom" that is current among American Jewish leaders for ensuring Jewish continuity and survival.

- MBD

New study group launched

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A small group of men and women are finding their way to a deeper understanding of their Jewish roots, thanks to Yedidei Shabbat, Friends of the Sabbath.

For various reasons, according to spokespersons Allan Shiff and Shelly Fruitman, they are uncomfortable with existing synagogues.

"They are trying to go back to traditional sources, but not in a shul setting."

Yedidei Shabbat is dedicated, a position paper says, "to the celebration of the positive elements of Jewish tradition and to classic Humanistic philosophy."

They meet on Friday nights, once a month, with Eli Rubenstein, spiritual leader of Beth Habonim, as a discussion leader.

The program includes candlelighting, traditional Shabbat prayers, Hebrew melodies, selected English readings and a discussion of the weekly Torah portion.

The group is by no means homogeneous; some want to reinvent traditional prayers, some are insistent on keeping at least major ones like the Shema and Kaddish. Some feel comfortable with a spiritual approach, some are more secular. Some believe in G-d, others see G-d's existence as irrelevant.

But they are all "interested in acquiring information from a liberal point of view about Judaism," says Fruitman.

"Not that the Conservative and Orthodox [theology] is not of great interest," adds Shiff. "We use Rashi and Maimonides as sources often."

While most are familiar with the main stories in the Bible, (their emphasis is on Bible, rather than on later writings) the group discusses the implications of those stories, such as the place of women.

"While some of the Bible seems quite shocking to modern minds, some of it is very progressive," says Shiff. "I can understand how some people spend their whole lives studying it."

It is no accident that Yedidei Shabbat meets on Friday night, as opposed to any other time in the week.

"It makes us sit back and reflect more," Fruitman says.

Shiff calls Shabbat "a time the world stops."

For more information on Yedidei Shabbat, call Allan Shiff, 416-488-0688.

Greater Toronto Area

Televangelist apologizes for 'joke'

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A popular U.S. televangelist whose weekly program is carried on Vision TV has apologized for a Christmas Eve joke that has been described as "insulting and embarassing" to Jews.

In a letter to Hal Joffe, chair of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, Pastor John Hagee offered his sincere apologies "to you, your organization and the Jewish community of Canada for any and all offensive remarks..."

He promised to make an on-air apology as well.

Pastor Hagee's letter came only days after Vision TV president and CEO Fil Fraser warned the John Hagee Ministries that unless it apologized for the joke and committed to abide by Vision's code of ethics, the show would be pulled off the air.

The remarks that prompted Vision's warning aired during a sermon on the meaning of Christmas, when Pastor Hagee said: "And what do Jews think about Jesus? The family runs down to their department store and dances around a cash register and they sing — 'what a friend we have in Jesus.' "

The joke prompted a letter of complaint by Congress to Vision TV.

"Given the seriousness and potential impact of such anti-Semitic comments by a Christian clergy, which were broadcast on national TV, I would ask you to investigate this matter immediately," Joffe wrote.

Acting that same day, Fraser faxed a letter to the John Hagee Ministries in San Antonio, Tex. stating that the minister's language, even if meant as a joke, is "unacceptable. Even more unacceptable is the way in which the director of the program highlighted the derisive laughter of the audience."

Fraser called for a written apology to the Jewish people of Canada through a letter to Congress; a similar on-air apology; and a commitment to respect Vision's code of ethics.

Failure to do so would lead to the program's cancellation.

Vision had not had any difficulties with Pastor Hagee's show "in recent months," Fraser said, but when asked whether this was the first complaint levelled at the Hagee show, he declined to be specific, saying only that "there may have been previous complaints."

The enforcement provisions of Vision's code of ethics suggests this wasn't Pastor Hagee's first run-in with the network. The code states that a first infraction will lead to a warning to the programming producer, the second would result in a formal warning and "a third infraction will lead to suspension of the program from the broadcast schedule."

In his letter to Joffe, Pastor Hagee pointed out that he has been a strong supporter of Israel and the Jewish people. "I have been give the Humanitarian of the Year Award by the Jewish community in both Houston and Dallas...Our contribution to Hadassah Hospital exceed [$500,000].

"I have had my car windows shot out for being a supporter of Israel, have had our public events threatened by terrorist bombs and have trained over 1,000 American pastors how to conduct A Night to Honor Israel."

Pastor Hagee's apology was welcomed by Congress' vice-chair of community relations, Ellen Cole, who said it appeared Pastor Hagee understood "the impact his anti-Semitic joke had on the audience."

She also lauded both Vision TV and Pastor Hagee for responding so quickly when the community's concerns were pointed out. This shows "how a broadcast policy on discriminatory attitudes, when put to the test, can be a valuable tool," she said.

USY convention draws over 1,000

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Regal Constellation Hotel reverberated with the enthusiasm of 1,000 North American teens at the United Synagogue Youth (USY) international convention held here Dec. 24 to 28.

The 45th annual event — the largest gathering of its kind — brought together high school students from places such as Nome, Alaska; Vancouver, B.C.; Louisville, Ky.; and Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

USY is the high school affiliate of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the association of Conservative synagogues, and is composed of 17 regions with over 400 local chapters. Two regions have Canadian chapters: Eastern Canadian region USY (ECRUSY) and Pinwheel, which encompasses western Canada as well as the northwestern United States.

For newly elected international USY president Aryeh Kieffer, 17, of Fort Lauderdale, the experience of spending as much time as possible with his counterparts from across North America was "incomparable."

On a more sober note, concerned by divisions in the Jewish community in the wake of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, Kieffer wants to "at least discuss the possibility of having a North American Jewish youth council with representatives of as many national Jewish youth organizations as [possible]" during his one-year term as president.

With a triple focus of education, social action and fun, the convention included a variety of activities, among them volunteering at Toronto-area relief organizations such as the Scott Mission and the Daily Bread Food Bank.

"It was such a cool feeling, everybody working together and going from nothing to piling up boxes [of food] until they were higher than me," said Torontonian Rebecca Saxe, 16, executive vice-president of ECRUSY.

Underlying convention programming was this year's theme of *Derech Eretz* (respect for others), which was the subject of several workshops, among them sessions on *lashon hora* (slanderous talk), social justice and ethical wills.

Students said they were tremendously moved by an Israel-related evening program and by keynote speaker Irene Opdyke, a Polish Catholic who hid 12 Jews during the German occupation of Poland.

Jory Berger, 17, co-president of 65-member chapter Or Chadash in Richmond, B.C., returned home with a renewed sense of Judaism "getting stronger and stronger."

The convention "gives you more spirit and excitement to do new programs," agreed Mira Oreck of Vancouver, president of Pinwheel region.

Although his role as a USY member is over, Boston University student Paul Tritter, who co-chaired the convention with University of Pennsylvania student Jeremy Gordon, said, "There's still a commitment to Judaism. That's what it's all about. There is a future to youth in Conservative Judaism."

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Sar-El program heightens Diaspora ties to Israel

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Aharon Davidi established a program so that North American volunteers could help farm the Golan Heights in 1982, he thought it would be a one-time effort.

Israel was at war with Lebanon, and crops had been left unattended when able-bodied settlers were called into army reserve service. Davidi, a retired general with a doctorate in geography, was then responsible for the social, educational and youth activities of the Golan settlements.

Some of the 650 American volunteers persuaded him that the fledgling program should be made permanent so that every Jew could have the opportunity to "rebuild Israel."

Today, Sar-El (the Hebrew acronym for Sherut Le'Am, or Service to Israel) has spread to over 20 countries which supply volunteers to all parts of Israel. Canada joined the program about a year after its inception.

Aharon Davidi

Davidi, 69, recently visited Canadian Volunteers for Israel in Toronto and Montreal as part of a three-week North American tour.

Over 52,000 volunteers, the vast majority of whom are Jewish, have been through the Sar-El program, some as many as 36 times, said Davidi in a Toronto interview.

This year, there was a group from Zagreb and another from Belgrade.

Typically, volunteers fly to Israel for three weeks and spend their time at an army base doing jobs such as maintenance or construction. Some volunteers receive placements at hospitals or on archeological digs. Room and board is included, as is touring.

The only cost to participants is airfare, although in the case of the Serbs, that amount represented up to three months' salary, Davidi said.

While Diaspora volunteers leave with a greater understanding of Israel and a sense of having made a contribution, Israeli soldiers benefit from the work ethic modelled by the volunteers, Davidi noted.

"Many of our [young soldiers] learned a lot and also made friends with the volunteers, notwithstanding the age gap [between them and volunteers over age 55]," he said.

While volunteers tend to be clustered in the 55-plus and 17-to-26 age range, there are few in between. One of Davidi's priorities is to reach out to the younger generation. He sees the program as a valuable spiritual exchange and a way of strengthening "the chain of Judaism."

He views his own work in a similar way. Davidi credits his late father, a Russian laborer and fervent Zionist who immigrated to Palestine in the 1920s, with imbuing him with the values which have become integral to Sar-El.

York U grad student wins Fulbright award

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Nikki Gershbain, a graduate of Toronto's York University and now a graduate student at the New School for Social Research in New York, has won the $15,000 (US) Fulbright-Molson Companies Scholarship for 1995/96.

Nikki Gershbain

A media release says that Gershbain will be working on a research project entitled Racing the Jew/Erasing the Jew: representation of Jews in New York and Toronto anti-racist movements — a comparative analysis.

"With a particular focus on Jewish women," the release explains, "Gershbain intends to examine ideas of cultural difference and identity within this group."

Gershbain has been active in the Winnipeg and Toronto Jewish communities, especially B'nai Brith and campus and youth organizations. In Toronto, she was a member of the Jewish Feminist Anti-Fascist League. She has published many articles on anti-Semitism and Jewish identity.

The purpose of the Fulbright awards is "to expand research, teaching and study opportunities for Canadian and American faculty and students engaged in the study of Canada, the United States and the relationship between the two countries."

The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program relies upon private sector support for scholarships and fellowships. The Molson Companies' Scholarship contribution to the program has been awarded to Canadian graduate students in a variety of fields since 1992.

Feminist weekend planned

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Response to a Jewish feminist weekend conference held here almost three years ago was so great that organizers have planned a second one, to be held January 19 to 21 at the downtown Colony Hotel.

From Memory to Transformation: Jewish Women's Voices will be geared to exploring past and present experiences of Jewish women.

The first event, held in February 1993 at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, attracted almost 500 participants of varied ages and backgrounds.

Discovering "how women's lives have changed through time and how women have in turn transformed the world around them" will be the focus of the upcoming weekend, according to a recent media release.

Keynote speakers will be Norma Baumel Joseph, Montreal professor and activist for Jewish women's rights issues, on History and Herstory — Gendered Memories; and New York-based writer/ activist Melanie Kaye-Kantrowitz, on Jewish Women and Social Justice.

The weekend will include a Friday evening Shabbat celebration with Rabbi/Cantor Elizabeth Bolton, a Saturday morning feminist service with Rabbi Elyse Goldstein and Cantor Phyllis Greenberg, a Saturday evening musical/theatrical performance and a Jewish feminist art exhibit.

Participants will be able to choose four out of almost 50 workshops and panels being offered. Jewish Life in a Single Parent Household, Daughters of Holocaust Survivors, Moroccan Immigrants in Canada, Lesbians Raising a Jewish Family, Yiddish Alive and Well and Women and Healing are among the choices.

"We put a great deal of care into trying to cover a lot of different areas that one doesn't usually have the chance to discuss in the Jewish community," said Sarah Swartz, one of several organizers of the conference.

Registration is $125. For further information call 416-410-7944 or fax 416-392-3136.

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Greater Toronto Area

Entrepreneur's venture program has plenty of byte

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Peter Feldman, a young professional, exchanges his talents and time for computers, which are then used for job training to help young people with special learning needs and others who need employment retraining.

The project is part of a barter system founded by Norman Auslander and Norman Ringel called Mitzvah Partnership, which is affiliated with the Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS).

Feldman, founder of Petrah Consulting, a logistics management and systems consulting firm, has created an alternate billing method whereby his clients provide multimedia computers in exchange for Petrah's services.

The idea for the project evolved at a study program Feldman attended at the Jewish Community Centre, where charities were discussed. Feldman contacted Auslander, who persuaded him that a computer venture would be a way of contributing to the community by means other than cash donations.

Feldman, 32, moved from Johannesburg to Toronto in 1990 and established Petrah Consulting the following year. He has degrees in mechanical and industrial engineering. Petrah works with, among other companies, Air Canada, Molson Breweries, Scott's Food Services, Bell Mobility and Beamscope Canada.

Feldman approached his clients for computers and software. The equipment they donated was given to Jewish Vocational Service and the Jerome D. Diamond Adolescent Centre, which use it to help the unemployed and children with learning disabilities to learn computer skills and increase their opportunities to become self-sufficient members of the community.

Feldman's wife, Debbie Cahan, works with him on the computer projects.

Feldman encourages others to participate in ventures that can generate donations. He says the venture program appeals to some young professionals who do not feel that their charitable donations are wisely used. Those who are able to donate equipment, clothing or services feel they are contributing directly to those in need.

Feldman notes that through Mitzvah Partnership ventures such as the computer project, "the depth of charitable goods and services could exceed a million dollars a year. With cuts in government budgets to our community service programs," he says, "we have a great opportunity to channel some of our intellectual wealth and business momentum to help make a difference with these budget cuts."

Feldman emphasizes that fundraising activities are very important, but venture projects are an alternative and additional method of helping the underprivileged in the community.

"The volunteers receive personal satisfaction and I believe that there is a greater commitment to the project and to the Jewish community." He adds that "when we delivered the computers to the classes where people were training — these were the most advanced generation of computers the agencies had."

For more information on the Mitzvah Partnership ventures, call 416-410-2101 or 416-923-5367.

Basics of Jewish religion explored

TORONTO — Toronto is the first Canadian community to offer A Taste of Judaism: Are You Curious? — a free, three-lecture series offering an accessible, brief introduction to the basics of the Jewish religion.

The program is sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, and the Outreach Department of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism, with the help of a grant from the Commission on Reform Jewish Outreach of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Classes will begin on Jan. 14, and will be held at eight different locations in the Greater Toronto area, including Sunday afternoon sessions on the Danforth, Wednesday lunch sessions at the University of Toronto and a variety of other locations on Monday through Thursday evenings.

The consecutive lectures will deal with spirituality (God), values (Torah) and peoplehood (Israel), a media release explains.

"Looking at both ancient and modern sources including the Torah, the classes will touch on a Jewish approach to ethics, rituals and community."

It is hoped that the program will attract "an eclectic mix of interfaith couples, children of intermarriage, Jews with little or no connection to the community and those on a spiritual search which may lead toward Judaism," the release says.

While there is no fee, space is limited and pre-registration is required. Call the Taste of Judaism hotline, 905-764-1329.

For more information, call Karen Paikin, special projects coordinator for Kolel, at 905-709-1900.

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Death, engineered

In the vile, craven world occupied by terrorists, retribution usually lurks around some future corner. Last week, Yehiya Ayash, the man responsible for blowing apart more than 50 Israelis, turned that corner. It was a dead end.

Israel is suspected of having wielded the retributive sword. It stands to reason. Indeed, there have been no official denials of involvement from the Israeli government. But given the fact that Ayash died while holding a booby-trapped cellular phone, his death was likely engineered also by someone or some people whom he knew.

Thus, while we understand the need for Yasser Arafat's public remonstrations against Israel, we will not take them too seriously. He knows as well as anyone on the scene that the main threats to him personally and to the cause of Palestinian self-rule are the Hamas terrorists, whose chief hero and role model was the late Yehiya Ayash.

As reported in the local media, Hamas leaders warned that attacks against Israel would resume, and that holy war (jihad) was the only option. "The highest revenge against this action is strong bombings of buses." If the reports are true, then Arafat has cause to worry – both for himself and for the self-rule which is now within sight.

Although the PLO has been negotiating with Hamas for weeks about the latter's involvement in the elections, the hodgepodge of official candidates does not include anyone from the "political wing" of Hamas. It is conceivable they may now try to sabotage the elections.

Electioneering and campaigning are in full bloom; preparations are nearly complete for the first ever Palestinian elections slated for Jan. 20. Jimmy Carter and his large international team of election observers will be arriving within a week. A disruption of the elections would be a national calamity for the Palestinians. And if the disruption is carried out in the form of more murderous bombings in Israel, it will also be a national disaster for the Israelis.

Arafat had better take appropriate pre-emptive measures to avert this appalling possibility.

Anti-Semitic misogyny

Before Chanukah, at least one Toronto Judaica store was selling key chains bearing the words "Jewish American Princess" and depicting a little crown. It's likely they were the product of an attempt to be humorous, but the result was offensive and the items were removed from store shelves following a customer complaint.

Although our sensitivity to the power of words has been heightened in the wake of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, negative stereotyping of Jewish women is stubbornly persistent.

Ironically, it's often Jewish women who tarnish their own images by perpetuating such stereotypes. Reactions to the key chain by Jewish women included comments like, "I know someone I could give it to as an *insult*." What the speaker may not realize is that the designation Jewish American Princess demeans *all* Jewish women, just as the expression "to jew someone down" is insulting to all Jews, not only moneylenders of old.

The term Jewish American Princess (JAP for short), denoting a spoiled, materialistic, young Jewish woman, has entered mainstream vocabulary. Even some young day school students use "JAP" or "jappy" as a playground insult. One youngster called her playmate a JAP, but had no idea what the letters stood for.

It's time we stopped using words which impugn our personal and community integrity by promoting misogynistic and anti-Semitic thinking, however mild or subtle – even innocent – those words appear.

And they're not always mild. At Cornell University a number of years ago, "Slap a JAP" became the slogan for a student-run contest.

On a larger scale, the JAP stereotype may well be one cause of increased intermarriage in North America. The stereotype has infiltrated the subconscious of Jewish males, said Letty Cottin Pogrebin, a founding editor of *Ms.* magazine, when she spoke in Toronto last March. Accordingly, a young Jewish man described Jewish women as "all princesses and very demanding" in Susan Weidman Schneider's book *Jewish and Female*. His mindset represents a serious challenge in the struggle to ensure Jewish continuity.

Watching our language is a simple first step in responding to community issues.

- F.K.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

Love is sweet but tastes best with bread.

I'M TAKING A TRIP TO W.O.W. THE SOVIET UNION
"WOW"?
IT'S A NEW DESIGNATION FOR "WHAT ONCE WAS".
WHAT ONCE WAS?
AS IN W.O.W. YUGOSLAVIA OR W.O.W. CANADA
CANADA?
WELCOME TO THE 21ST CENTURY.
WOW!?
Kirschen

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

On Jan.11, 1899, Ahavith Achim Synagogue on Carleton Street in Saint John was consecrated by the Rev. Dr. A. H. Nieto of the Shearith Israel Synagogue of New York. It was the first synagogue in New Brunswick. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Asks Beth Din to punish Rabin killer

There is only one punishment that the assassin of Yitzhak Rabin will feel in his hearts of hearts, and that is punishment meted out by Jewish religious rabbinical authorities. The punishment of excommunication — being cut off from the Jewish people forever and being cast off as an abomination to his people — is the only punishment that he could possibly understand.

To remove the right from this merciless murderer to wear a kippah or anything else that could identify him as being a Jew would be a fitting punishment and a possible deterrent to other fanatics who might be contemplating similar heinous deeds.

I call upon the Beth Din to institute these proceedings as this is the only authority that can deliver *onesh* (punishment) to remotely requite this murderous act. The assassin recognizes only rabbinical authority and therefore punishment of excommunication must be meted out by august rabbinical authorities in Israel.

Max Lissoos
Toronto

Don't rush to judgment on Mulroney

In his otherwise fine article on Hannah Senesh (*CJN*, Dec. 14) with implications of "post-Zionism," Gary Levine compared former U.S. president Richard Nixon to Brian Mulroney.

Levine did not dwell on the issue. It pained me however to see another knee-jerk reaction to Mulroney's current unpopularity when he is vilified with so little thought. It matters not whether one likes Mulroney or whether or not one considers that he was one of Israel's greatest friends and supporters. What does matter is that Levine has chosen to besmirch Mulroney's name by innuendo when the facts just are not available. Shame on you Mr. Levine for falling into this trap and shame on all of us for permitting the "current analysis" to assume the guise of truth.

Harvey Corn
Montreal

Tone down the rhetoric

In the aftermath of the tragic events in Israel, I beseech Milton Harris, past president of Canadian Jewish Congress, (*CJN*, Dec. 7) to tone down the rhetoric. We desperately need words of consolation and national healing that bring our people back together, not words of hate and incitement.

Mark Mandel
Toronto

Offered help to depressives first

The statement in the article of Nov. 9, 1995 (*CJN*, Montreal edition) that the Counselling Connection is "Montreal's first telephone counselling service" is not accurate.

Self Help Against Depression Inc. (SHAD) was established in 1997 and federally incorporated in 1982 as a not-for-profit charitable organization. We have counselled thousands of people with mental health problems and social distress anonymously over the telephone. We are not an emergency hot line.

Sheila Rubin
Coordinator, SHAD

Focus should be on Jewish needs

Why did you print Richard Cléroux's Ottawa Scene (Nov. 23)? Perhaps Prime Minister Jean Chrétien isn't the only one "asleep at home plate!"

CJN readers need better advice for Jewish community survival than new "neverendum" threats. Help us see through the PQ/BQ's illogical self-centred demands. Lead us out of our catatonic-like state of shock. Help us find the way to obtain precise definitions of Quebec's "distinct society" demands to be able to compare them responsibly with multicultural needs and conditions in Quebec and the rest of Canada; and analyze (forecast) the effects on our Jewish community.

Since 1979, we have known the price of living in a continuing environment of threats and accusations against "*les autres*," how it continues to shrink our Quebec Jewish community in a subtle form of ethnic cleansing. We really can't afford much more. As a counter measure, show us a productive way to match their chutzpah with some of our own. Yes, give us Jewish community news reviews on Ottawa and Quebec scenes, but please, let's keep the focus on *our* own needs, and not lend serendipitous support to identifiable opposition.

Sylvia Stipelman
Montreal

Holocaust stamp is precedent

As the first Jewish president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, and also a former curator of the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum, I want to comment on the recent isue of Canada's dynamic Holocaust postage stamp.

It was not too long ago that the commemorative postage stamps of Canada could only depict famous dead Canadians; Canadian historic happenings and major current events; accomplishments by Canadian people of science, medicine, religion and other disciplines. Hence the Holocaust stamp indicates a change in policy that shows Canada Post can no longer isolate itself from major happenings outside its borders.

Please allow me to correct one minor item in your fine article, "Stamped into history" (Dec. 14). It states that no living person except the Queen can be pictured on a Canadian stamp. Actually many living people have been pictured on the stamps of Canada. This is permitted provided they are not identified by name.

Dr. Fred Stulberg
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

'Infused with a fiery idealism'

Jan. 15, 1996 marks the 50th anniversary of the death of former Chief Rabbi Dr. Joseph Herman Hertz.

By RABBI SHLOMO JAKOBOVITS

The British Chief Rabbinate evolved in the same manner as most other British organs of government — gradually, and sometimes illogically.

Jews were admitted to England, after almost four centuries of exclusion, at about the same time as the first appearance of Jews in North America — during the 1650s. The Sephardim arrived in England first and built their synagogue on Bevis Marks. The Ashkenazim arrived a few years later and built theirs on Duke's Place. Both are names of streets which were adopted as the names of the synagogues. For several years, these two were the only synagogues in the entire British Isles and they stood just 300 metres apart. Each of the congregations remained on the same site, holding regular services continually for over 2½ centuries.

After 1700, more Ashkenazim than Sephardim immigrated to England, and in due course Duke's Place overtook Bevis Marks as the predominant congregation. By the late 18th century, several other Ashkenazi synagogues were established, first in London, then in smaller British cities. But the primacy of Duke's Place was recognized by all of them, and likewise the rulings of its rabbi.

It was 1911 and British Jewry by now numbered 300,000, an almost five-fold increase in 30 years. The newcomers, mainly from Eastern Europe, were totally different from the long-established Anglicized community, a circumstance which rendered it unusually problematic for any leader to minister to both groups simultaneously.

Indeed the chief rabbi, during decades of exponential growth, had not succeeded in gaining the confidence of the new immigrants who now constituted the overwhelming majority. Thus there was the very real danger of the disintegration of Anglo-Jewry's long-established institutions and structures, and it would take truly enlightened leadership to avert such a crisis.

At this juncture, Rabbi Joseph Herman Hertz came upon the British scene. As chief rabbi, he did indeed gain the confidence of the immigrant segment, and it is largely to his credit that the structure of Anglo-Jewry has proved so durable.

Rabbi Hertz was born in 1872 in a small town in Slovakia, then a province of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. His family moved to New York just before his bar mitzvah, and four years later he enrolled in the newly established Jewish Theololgical Seminary of America. His was the first graduating class, comprising only eight students.

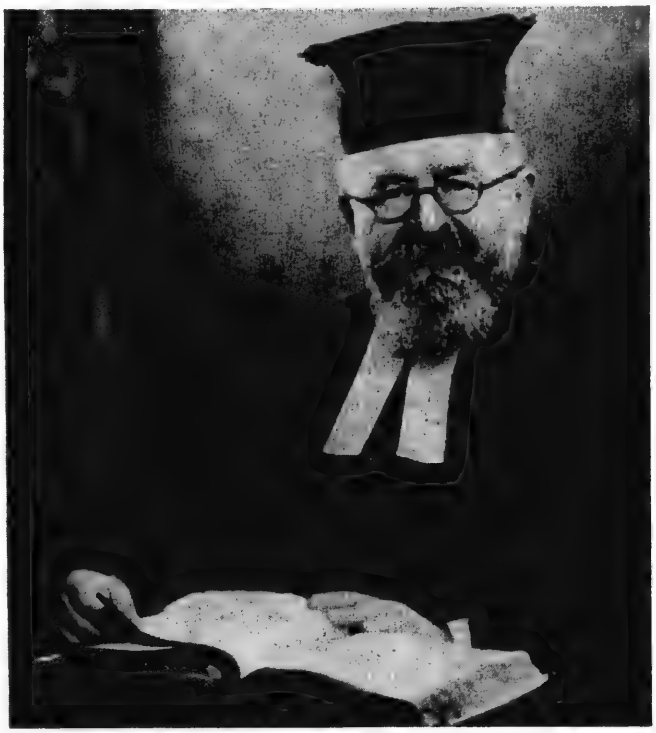
Conservative Judaism was as yet unknown, and in those early years, the Seminary imbued its students with a fighting spirit to defend and promulgate modern Orthodoxy — "historical Judaism" as they often called it then.

Upon graduation at the age of 22, Hertz was appointed rabbi in Syracuse, N.Y. Two years later he was called to a larger syngogue in Johannesburg, Transvaal.

He arrived in South Africa in 1897 at a time of rising tensions which two years later would flare up in the armed conflict known as the Boer War. Rabbi Hertz was appalled at the discrimination he found in Transvaal, which was then an independent Afrikaaner country. Religious minorities, including Jews and other white groups, were severely restricted. Infused with a fiery idealism and endowed with an outstanding talent for oratory, he addressed public gatherings and roused his audiences to such fervor that the government became seriously concerned. So just before the outbreak of war he was deported, a step which brought him widespread fame and acclaim.

The three years of bitter warfare ended with a British victory. Transvaal now came under British rule and Rabbi Hertz returned to his position in Johannesburg, where he remained for 10 more years. In 1911, he became rabbi of Congregation Orach Chaim in New York. That was the year Chief Rabbi Adler died and the search for his successor began.

There were those in England who deemed Rabbi Hertz too Orthodox and too outspoken to be chief rabbi, but the majority of electors voted in his favor. He took up the position in 1913, and again he arrived in a new land on the eve of an all-out war.



The late Chief Rabbi Dr. Joseph Herman Hertz

In his inaugural address as chief rabbi, he defined his function as "the teacher of the Book to the people of the Book." But it turned out that the exigencies of the times called for strong leadership on many fronts beyond the traditional rabbinical field and he met these challenges with forthrightness and rare courage.

World War I broke out on Tisha b'Av 1914. Rabbi Hertz set out energetically to galvanize Anglo-Jewry for the war effort and to provide for the special needs of the tens of thousands of Jewish fighting men. Later he organized relief efforts to ameliorate the condition of the hundreds of thousands of East European Jews displaced and impoverished in the areas of the moving battle fronts.

The land of his birth and childhood was now Britain's enemy, but that in no way detracted from Rabbi Hertz's fervor on Britain's behalf. For the men in the armed forces, he wrote his *Book of Jewish Thoughts*, a compendium of 250 gems of inspiration taken from his own sermons and from numerous other sources. It was a 350-page book, but a special edition was printed in a size measured to fit the pocket of British military uniforms. The work proved to be a best-seller in all English-speaking countries, selling hundreds of thousands of copies, more than any previous Judaica book in any language other than Hebrew and Yiddish.

In 1917, the British government considered the pros and cons of a proclamation for the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. This did indeed come to fruition, and is now called the Balfour Declaration.

When the declaration was finally issued, Balfour addressed it to the second Lord Rothschild. But it was the chief rabbi who had been the most vocal and influential in neutralizing the anti-Zionist and anti-declaration position of Britain's Jewish lay establishment.

Rothschild, Chaim Weitzmann and Nachman Sokolow, the supporters of Jewish nationalism, were outnumbered by the many leaders who opposed it. The opposition was further reinforced by the like-minded majority of French Jewish lay leaders. In the British cabinet, Secretary of State for India Edwin Montagu, scion of an aristocratic Jewish family, vigorously campaigned against the declaration from within the government, while other lay leaders worked against it from outside. But Rabbi Hertz, Weitzmann and Sokolow swayed the Jewish masses and convinced the government that, beyond the Anglicized establishment, most Jews were pro-Zionist.

Before making a final decision, the government submitted the question and the proposed draft to Weitzmann, Sokolow and seven Anglo-Jewish leaders. Of the seven, one response was neutral, Montagu and three others opposed the whole idea and Rabbi Hertz and Rothschild were strongly in favor. Rabbi Hertz suggested some changes in wording; for example, the original draft spoke of "the Jewish race," and Rabbi Hertz preferred "Jewish people." The government decided in favor of the declaration, as everyone knows, and they adjusted the wording to incorporate Rabbi Hertz's recommendations.

If either Rothschild or Rabbi Hertz had been opposed, or had assumed office five years later, it is highly unlikely that the declaration would ever have seen the light of day. It is intriguing to conjecture whether, in that case, there would today be a Medinat Yisrael.

The following month, on Chanukah, the British army under Allenby captured Jerusalem. The occasion was marked in London by a special thanksgiving service. The chief rabbi delivered an address which today, in retrospect, has the earmarks of uncanny foresight to a future of unimagined historic developments in Judea, which would flow from the events of those past few weeks.

Rabbi Hertz was the first chief rabbi to sever the umbilical tie to the Great Synagogue. He was also the first to tour his far-flung congregations in the Commonwealth, especially in the Southern Hemisphere. In the inter-war years he produced his monumental work, which now is known as the Hertz Chumash (Pentateuch). It immediately became the standard Chumash throughout Britain and its domain. His commentary manifests exceptional erudition and draws from numerous sources. Indeed there were those who sharply criticized the work for citing non-Jewish Bible scholars in addition to the many Jewish works.

It has to be remembered, however, that in his era, far more than today, Judaism was under severe intellectual attack, especially Orthodoxy. Rabbi Hertz was often referred to as "defender of the faith," and his works undoubtedly played a major part in stemming the trends towards Reform, assimilation and atheism. A collection of his speeches and written articles was published in three volumes in 1938.

In the 1930s, the menace of Nazi power raised the spectre of Jewish suffering on a scale previously unknown in modern times. Rabbi Hertz set in motion every conceivable line of action on the political and financial fronts, although the potential for influencing the course of events was severely limited. Together with his son-in-law, Rabbi Solomon Schonfeld, he established the Chief Rabbi's Emergency Council, which undertook several avenues of relief work before, during and after the war, and which succeeded in saving the lives of many potential victims. During World War II itself, he again directed his energies to the needs of war with the same vigor as in the previous war. His speeches and writing significantly raised morale among both civilians and the men in uniform.

Just before the war Rabbi Hertz found himself in the unfortunate position of denouncing not only the Germans, but also the British. He took aim at their policies in Palestine, and particularly the White Paper of 1939. Now that he was attacking their own government, the lay leadership sought to bar him from "bringing political issues into the synagogue."

With characteristic fearlessness he defied their admonitions and circulated to rabbis throughout the land his request that in their sermons they should strongly condemn the White Paper and the government's restrictions on the entry of Jews to Palestine.

Rabbi Hertz's last major work was his Siddur, with translation and commentary. The style is comparable to that of his Chumash and it bears a slight resemblance to the Hirsch Siddur of the previous century. The first edition appeared in 1941 in two volumes. The second edition, in one volume, appeared in 1946, a few months after Rabbi Hertz's death. He himself had done all the proofreading up to and including page 1064, as stated in the Siddur itself. Page 1064 contains the Hebrew of *Viduy Sh'chiv Mara*, Confession on a Death-Bed, and nothing else. The correction of that page closed his inspiring rabbinical leadership of 52 years.

Rabbi Jakobovits is the principal of general studies at Eitz Chaim Schools of Toronto.

Opinions

Examining the PLO's covenant

Those "clauses" calling for Israel's destruction — remove them from your PLO "National Covenant!" This was an Israeli demand in the 1993 Oslo accord, hardly unreasonable in an agreement of mutual recognition.

By Emil Fackenheim

Yasser Arafat promised, but no removal took place; instead, in Charles Krauthammer's colorful expression, the PLO chief "sold the same rug" a second time, in Oslo 2 of 1995. But this time, to make sure there would be no third "sale," Yitzhak Rabin insisted on a deadline; and, following Rabin's tragic death, Shimon Peres lost no time in reaffirming it. If those "clauses" were not removed by March 1996, he declared, "the train" of the peace process would "stop."

With March 1996 not far away, this is a good time, even high time, for scrutinizing the document; and it would help the reader if it were published in full in these pages.

Of the 33 articles, numbers 7, 8 and 9 call for Israel's violent destruction directly, but at least 11 others do so indirectly, some by delegitimizing the Jewish state, others by calling for actions that presuppose its destruction. Extreme is the claim that, unlike Palestinians, Jews are not a "people with an independent personality," hence without right to statehood anywhere. (Article 20, also 6) More extreme still is Article 14, and in this, Israel is not even mentioned: the unmentioned Jewish state is a threat not only to the "destiny" of the whole "Arab nation," but — no less! — to "their very existence." Remove anti-Israel "clauses"? Required is a major operation.

The core of the truncated remnant are articles 1 to 5, which make two main points: (i) the "homeland" belonging to Palestinian Arabs is all of Palestine, that is, as it was during the British Mandate; (ii) the following is crucial, and needs quoting: "The Palestinian personality is an innate, persistent characteristic that does not disappear, and it is transferred from fathers to sons."

What if, by now or at some future time, all Palestinians had emigrated or were refugees from the land? It would still belong to them and their male descendants — the *whole* land, only to them and *forever*. And to a Jewish state? *Not an inch* of the land, *not ever*. This the covenant would say, even if all references to Israel were removed.

The anti-Israel "clauses" that need removing, then, clearly include articles 1 to 5 also; and since, without these, over and above those already mentioned, the rest is nothing, their removal would be tantamount to the abrogation of the covenant as a whole.

But here is a snag: according to Article 33, a two-thirds majority of all PLO National Council members may *amend* the covenant; but can even such a majority *abrogate* it? Of this the article says nothing, and it would be rash to assume that this is an oversight. The PLO ideologues crafted the document carefully, word for word, in 1964, and scrutinized it again when they altered it a bit, in 1968. And as recently as in 1993, a leading PLO member called the covenant his "bible."

With the abrogation of the covenant apparently ruled out, is there an amendment that, after all, might satisfy Israel? For its "left" there ought to be. Viewing as it does the Zionist-Palestinian conflict as tragic, between two rights equally valid, it affirms a "just Zionism" that both makes its claim to the land and renounces it in part. The amendment of the covenant thus called for its obvious: PLO reciprocity, that is, another, perhaps final article that recognizes a Zionist right to the land as no less valid than that made by the document in behalf of Palestinians. (This new article — say, number 34 — would, of course, revolutionize the whole covenant, but what is this but recognition in thought of what the Oslo accord is, or is said to be, in political life?)

This amendment of the covenant should be the demand, if not of the "pragmatists" who signed the Oslo accord, of the ideological purists on the left who support it. Indeed, they should have confronted with it, directly their PLO counterpart and indirectly their own government, virtually from the day of the Washington handshake. Their purism was gravely compromised when instead, wasting two precious years, they confronted their domestic opponents.

But has it been a waste? For Israeli "pragmatists" (to say nothing of "post-Zionists"), ideology matters little; and but recently Arafat himself asked a Peace Now group why they thought the covenant important. What they said in response the papers did not report. They should have replied the following:

"We must take the covenant seriously because — reluctant, unwilling or unable as you seem to be to make the needed change — you take it seriously. Is the covenant important? A century from now they will know. If your amended covenant recognizes Zionism now, anti-Zionism, even anti-Semitism, may by then have withered away. But if, except for cosmetic changes, the document remains unamended, then your descendants may say to mine, even at a shared centennial celebration of the accord: 'We coexist in this country, even celebrate our friendship. But only we have a right to be here: you don't.' "

Religious Zionism must change

Although I am a religious Zionist and believe that the rebirth of the Jewish state is vitally important for the future of modern Judaism, I nevertheless take serious issue with the direction taken by religious Zionism over the past 30 years.

By David Hartman

I believe that it must change its priorities and outlook if it is to play a vital role in shaping the future of Israeli society. Religious parties in Israel have relied on legislation to influence the Israeli Jewish population. The state must have a Jewish character and therefore, they claim, the power of the Knesset may be used to maintain the Jewishness of Israeli society. They have created and passed legislation related to family status and kashrut and have made the Orthodox rabbinate into the only legitimate voice of Judaism by giving it exclusive control over marriage and divorce. Religious Zionism accepted these parameters as the necessary and justifiable means for sustaining the Jewish character of Israeli society and for preventing its turning into yet another secular, materialistic state.

The fact is, however, that the use of legislative power to instil the Judaic spirit within this society has been a total failure. If anything, it has alienated Jews from Judaism and has reinforced the stereotype of religion as a callous, self-serving, coercive force, oblivious to human rights and the value of freedom of conscience.

The laws of the state shape the external framework in which people live. Yiddishkeit, however, must grow and develop within the human soul. Without personal identification and respect, no amount of legislation and enforcement can affect how Jews think and feel about God and Judaism. The internal world of Jewish consciousness remains untouched by legal and political coercion.

Students who meet with alienated Jewish youth at the Kotel and invite them to their homes for Shabbat have done more for Judaism than all the religious legislation passed by the Knesset.

Knesset members and government officials are not modern prophets or theologians capable of capturing the hearts and minds of Israelis. In the final analysis, coalition agreements and political power have been most effective in driving serious Jews away from their heritage.

The rabbinate too must undergo a major transformation in order to become vital and significant in Israeli society. It is not enough for rabbis to issue legal pronouncements on normative Jewish practice. It is futile to quote authoritative halachic texts in order to promote an interest in Judaism in Israeli society. You cannot use legal coercive language to influence people if they do not share your authoritative premises and presuppositions. You cannot argue by quoting Leviticus on the issue of homosexuality, if Leviticus is not recognized as a binding normative text.

The rabbinate must not rely on authoritative power and begin to act as genuine educators act, by participating in the discussion about the nature of Israeli life as *a voice* and not as *the only* voice. Religious Zionism must develop a leadership prepared to discard the mantle of authority and present persuasive arguments and compelling moral reasons to convince Israelis that the Judaic tradition has something important to say. Religious leaders must realize that their influence as educators will only increase as their use of coercive legislative power decreases.

To succeed, they must win in the marketplace of ideas. They cannot address Israelis as lost souls or as children. There is a vibrant, liberal humanistic culture in Israel. If you believe that this culture lacks Jewish depth, then present convincing reasons to support your views. If you believe that the concept of holiness is vital for creating a meaningful way of life, then create living examples to convince others to consider seriously your way of life. If you believe in the value of religious worship, then offer an understanding of God that will inspire people to begin a spiritual quest.

In a word, the future of religious Zionism depends on our separating religion from politics. We must give up the monopoly of Orthodox Judaism and allow Torah to thrive by competing openly and freely in the marketplace of ideas and ideologies.

Historical tidbits

The end of 1995 and the beginning of a new civil year, is a good time to look back not only on the history of the past 12 months but on other events which happened in earlier days.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

For quite some time there has been speculation as to just where Mattathias, Judah Maccabee and his brothers were buried, and the recent discovery of a cave near Modi'in seemed to point at the solution of the puzzle. But when it was excavated, archeologists agreed that this was after all not the place.

Perhaps the truth lies altogether elsewhere, in a little Arab village called May'dah where French archeologists 100 years ago claimed to have found the burial site. They laid bare some magnificent collections of stones that seemed to have been used as the foundations for the pyramid-like monuments that stood over the graves. Unfortunately, the expedition was interrupted, and when finally the French were able to return, they found that the stones they had uncovered earlier had been carted away by the local population and are today — somewhere — built into the streets and buildings of Ramllah and Lod.

Every Jew is deeply offended by the very existence of a movement that tries to deny that the Holocaust ever occurred. In an article published in the *National Jewish Post*, Prof. Deborah Lipstadt who is the author of a book entitled, *Denying the Holocaust*, recalls a letter she received after her book was published:

"During the 1958-1959 season there appeared on television a drama later made into the movie *Judgment at Nuremberg*. From time to time there was a momentary silence which was not part of the drama, but — so many of us supposed — was a temporary audio failure.

"And then, a day or so later, we had the explanation. Our local utility company was a co-sponsor of the production, and some official there believed that the references to gas chambers would give gas a bad name. He therefore ordered all such references bleeped out."

So instead of "denying the Holocaust" we have "denying the use of gas."

I recently read that the manuscript of the most famous World War I novel sold for more than $400,000 at an auction. The author was Erich Maria Remarque whose manuscript of *All Quiet on the Western Front* fetched this enormous price.

Remarque had joined the German forces at the age of 18. It took him 10 years after the end of the war to put his memories on paper. When they were finally published, they appeared first in serial form in a daily newspaper — as was often the case in those days. I was a high school student at the time, and I remember how I could hardly wait to read the next instalment. When the final chapter appeared, the book was a sensation even before its pages had been bound. Other great war novels have made their appearance since then, but none had its impact.

There was also a memoir of war experiences written by Israeli soldiers after the Six Day War. Called in English *The Seventh Day*, it was a unique testimony to Jewish compassion for all humans — friend and foe alike. Rereading that glimpse into history should be obligatory for our people in Israel and in the Diaspora, as a means of healing the hurt which all of us feel at this time.

The Kirshner File

A master filmmaker with a mission

From the trenches of World War I to the concentration camps of the Holocaust, the 20th century has been one of almost unrelieved gloom.

By Sheldon Kirshner

Marcel Ophuls, the eminent documentary filmmaker, has made it his life's work to record the evil, the indecency, the moral apathy and the deceit which so often have been the common themes of our epoch.

In a career spanning 25 years, Ophuls has dwelled on Nazi war crimes (*Hotel Terminus*), France's collaboration with Germany (*The Sorrow and the Pity*) and the Nuremberg trials (*The Memory of Justice*).

Diverging from World War II, he has explored the turmoil in Ireland (*A Sense of Loss*) and the disintegration of East Germany and the fall of the Berlin Wall (*November Days*).

Now, in his latest film, *The Troubles We've Seen: A History of Journalism in Wartime*, Ophuls casts a wary eye on the conflict in Bosnia.

No one, least of all Ophuls, pretends that he is an objective observer. As one critic has noted, his presence is always readily, even aggressively, apparent.

Ophuls, who was recently in Toronto as the guest of Cinematheque Ontario, agrees that he is an intrusive documentarian.

"Objectivity has a meaning in an exact science," he explained. "As soon as you have to work with your eyes and your ears, the idea of objectivity is not only abstract but wrong. It is used as an excuse for blandness."

True to his forthright philosophy, Ophuls' films, which attempt to prevent the erosion of historical memory, are tart, acerbic, ironic and personal.

Take *The Troubles We've Seen*, for instance. Replete with the usual horrors of war (burning buildings and people running for cover amid the crackle of gunfire), it is a meditation on the persistence of human cruelty, the phenomenon of media manipulation and the multiplicity of competing "truths."

Ophuls, a German Jew who holds French and American citizenships, had hoped to use the 1991 Gulf War as a backdrop for his newest film. But he could not because his putative sponsor, the BBC, was over-budgeted at that moment.

Eventually, the BBC, as well as others, came up with the funds, and *The Troubles We've Seen*, with a budget of about $2 million (US), turned out to be his most costly project.

The two-part, four-hour film is pro-Bosnian Muslim. "I'm entirely on their side, no doubt of it," he said. "I don't have much sympathy for soldiers who shoot civilians, for ethnic purification, which is a Serb concept and a reality."

At one point in the documentary, a Serb soldier, having asked whether Ophuls is Jewish, claims that Serbs and Jews share a common historical fate. Ophuls does not buy this argument, which he refers to as "the Serbian bullshit line."

Ophuls' bluntness is hardly surprising. Although soft-spoken and personable, he is a prickly character, impatient with cant, prejudice and hypocrisy.

Born in Frankfurt-am-Main in 1927, he was the only child of Max Oppenheimer, a noted movie director, and Hilde Wall, an actress. With Hitler's rise to power in 1933, the family moved to Paris, then to Los Angeles when the Wehrmacht conquered France in 1940.

Ophuls attended Hollywood High School, and when he was 19, he served in a theatrical unit of the U.S. army in Japan. In 1950, having graduated from the University of California in Berkeley, he returned to Paris. "My parents were back in France and I was homesick," he said. "Paris is a beautiful town. Los Angeles is rather bleak."

After studying philosophy at the Sorbonne, Ophuls entered the film business as a director's assistant. Among Ophuls' employers was his father, whose credits include *The Exile* (with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.) and *The Reckless Moment*, starring James Mason.

"He was a very good teacher," he said in praise of Ophuls senior, who died in 1957.

Improbably, Ophuls' first foray into directing was in 1964 with a comedy, *Banana Peel*, featuring Jean-Paul Belmondo and Jeanne Moreau. As luck would have it, his next movie, an action quickie, fizzled, and Ophuls tried his hand at documentary filmmaking on the French television network.

This led, in 1970, to *The Sorrow and the Pity*, his most commercially successful film to date. A pitiless probe of the conduct of the French people under the German occupation, it was banned by French TV but exhibited in theatres all over France to much acclaim.

Three years later, following the appearance of *A Sense of Loss*, Ophuls completed *The Memory of Justice*, an examination of the distinctions between law and justice from the Nuremberg trials to the Vietnam war.

In purely personal terms, it was a catastrophe, as Ophuls and his backers found themselves in sharp disagreement over the film's style and shape. When the dust finally settled after a number of law suits, he vowed never to make another documentary.

Bitter and financially broke, he turned to teaching. But within two years, he was back in the business as a producer of documentaries, first at CBS-TV and then at ABC TV.

Returning to Paris, Ophuls made his Oscar-winning documentary, *Hotel Terminus: The Life and Times of Klaus Barbie*. Neither a biography nor, strictly speaking, a film about the Holocaust, it is instead a vast inquiry into the moral issues that arise from the case of the so-called Butcher of Lyon.

Marcel Ophuls

For Ophuls, *Hotel Terminus* was a nightmare. "I could feel the enemy — the Nazis — closing in on me," he said obliquely.

Curiously enough, Ophuls has never addressed the Arab-Israeli dispute in any of his films. "I did have one idea, a history of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem," he said. "But nothing came of it."

It could have been an interesting film, he suggested. "The topic takes you back to the British administration (in Palestine), and it involves (David) Ben-Gurion, the PLO and (Anwar al-)Sadat."

Ophuls, who lives in Paris with his German wife, a children's book illustrator who bore him three daughters, typically researches his films to the hilt. "I do my homework."

However, he is not averse to spontaneity. As he put it: "I don't script in advance. I leave a margin for discovery and surprise."

Ophuls, whose favorite films are the Hollywood classics of the 1930s and 1940s, has learned from experience that documentary filmmaking is not a lucrative profession.

"Sometimes, I've had a hard time making ends meet," acknowledged Ophuls, who has supported himself for the past five years with a MacArthur fellowship.

Currently, he is trying to round up money for the third and final segment of *The Troubles We've Seen*, which has developed into one of his most ambitious projects, or as he likes to say, his "valedictortian film."

Ophuls is not sanguine about the future of the documentary. With a note of resignation, he mused, "The viewing habits today are against documentaries. Yes, I feel like one of the last of the Mohicans. It is a fight."

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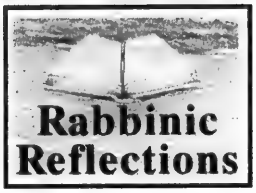

Rabbinic Reflections

By RABBI LEIGH LERNER

What's wrong with being many and mighty

Rav ve-atsum mimennu, Too mighty and too great for us.

"There arose a new Pharaoh over Egypt who didn't know Joseph, and he said ..., behold the Children of Israel are too many and too mighty for us."

What a remarkable exaggeration, for Egyptians by far outnumbered Hebrews and certainly out-muscled them. What could have been going through the mind of this pharaoh? He uses the argument of the classic anti-Semite, an argument we know all too well.

One commentator, Rabbi Avraham Abish of Frankfurt, urges us to understand the word *mimennu* differently. *Mimennu* can mean *than* us or *from* us. So Rabbi Abish translates the text, "The Children of Israel have grown many and mighty from us;" that is, he accuses our ancestors of growing strong and rich by preying off the very land and people who were their hosts, the Egyptians.

How often must we hear such nonsense? Only a few years ago, a Quebec industrialist said, "The Jews take up too much space." His words echo those of the pharaoh, who sees the Jews as growing so numerous that they consume the land that "belongs" to him, growing rich on the fat of his land, leaving the average Egyptian in poverty.

It's all nonsense, of course, for the Hebrews could easily respond that they occupied an outlying district, Goshen, far from the centre of Egyptian life, far from its power and its wealth. The Jews of Quebec could respond in the same way, saying that 20 to 25 per cent of our population live below the poverty line.

But should this be our response? Must we fly this fact like a flag of surrender to anti-Semites to prove we don't occupy too much of their land or consume too much of their wealth? If the world's Jew-haters added up the societal losses in productive power and culture when Jews moved away from them, then they would truly feel impoverished. Nevertheless, we have a human right to exist, rich or poor.

This week's Torah portion reminds us that groundless hatred has been with us throughout time, and we Jews must struggle to keep our minds from submitting to its lies about us.

Another commentator, Rabbi Hertz, asks, what is the crime of being *rav ve-atsum*? Is there something wrong with being many and strong, in and of itself?

We've just passed through the season when so much outside pressure calls Jews to participate in non-Jewish holiday joy. The Christians are many and strong, but the season calls them to goodwill and amity. What complaint can we make against them for that?

Just as pharaoh imagined the threat of the Hebrews, so some Jews imagine that Christian holidays threaten Jewish identity. The Christians' decorations are coming down. We're still Jews, and if we're strong Jews each Shabbat, 52 Shabbats a year, and on High Holy Days, three major festivals, and a few minor ones, no amount of decorations or festivities will move us from our Jewish roots, nor our children.

Rabbi Lerner is the spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom in Montreal.

A few words of the wise

Books

By Bernard Baskin

By BERNARD BASKIN

The Word: Jewish Wisdom Through Time by Noah Ben Shea Random House $35.00

This rich composite of epigrams, quotations, memorable ideas and pithy sayings spans 3,000 years of Jewish wisdom, inspiration and experience.

The author — philosopher, poet and scholar — well known for his best-selling book of tales, *Jacob the Baker,* has drawn his material from 500 sources including the Bible, rabbinic literature, the Kabbalah, the medieval period, Yiddish folklore, the world of Chassidism and a surprising range of modern writers and thinkers.

Valuable additions to the volume include a biographical index, a time chart of Jewish history and surrounding events (from 2000 BCE to mid 20th century CE) and the selected bibliography of basic texts.

The following selections are typical of the style and variety of this vast resource.

• A king asked a rabbi: "Why is God's name mentioned only in the first five commandments and not in the last five?" The rabbi responded: "Your statue is placed only in places which are clean and not where there is dirt. In this same way, God does not allow His Name to be placed in the commandments that deal with thieves, adulterers, false witnesses and those who covet their neighbor's goods." (Pesikta Rabbati)

• If a Jew breaks his leg, he thanks God he didn't break both legs; if he breaks both legs, he thanks God he didn't break his neck. (Yiddish folk saying)

• There are no atheists on turbulent airplanes. (Erica Jong)

Wisdom, inspiration, experience

• To cheat a gentile is even worse than to cheat a Jew; for in addition to being in violation of moral law, this act brings the religion of Israel into contempt and degrades the name of Israel's God. (Talmud)

• When a poor man eats a chicken, one of them is sick. (Yiddish folk saying)

• Nationalism is an infantile disease. It is the measles of mankind. (Albert Einstein)

• They tried their best to find a place where I was isolated. But all the resources of a superpower cannot isolate a man who hears the voice of freedom, a voice I heard from the very chamber of my soul. (Anatoly B. Scharansky)

• If my theory of relativity is proven successful, Germany will claim me as a German and France will declare that I am a citizen of the world. If my theory should prove to be untrue, then France will say that I am a German and Germany will say that I am a Jew. (Albert Einstein)

• You can tell what God thinks of money by looking at some of the people he gives it to. (Yiddish folk saying)

• Two farmers each claimed to own a particular cow. While one of the farmers pulled at the cow's head and the other yanked at the tail, the cow was milked by a lawyer. (Yiddish folk saying)

• To know the taste of the wine, it is not necessary to drink the whole barrel. (Chaim Nachman Bialik)

• A wise word is not a substitute for a piece of herring. (Sholem Aleichem)

• Do not judge something proved because you have found it written in a book; as a liar will lie with spoken words, a liar will not hesitate to do similarly with the written words. There are many fools who accept a truth as proved only because it is written. (Maimonides)

• Humanity is in the highest degree irrational; so there is no prospect of influencing it by reasonable arguments. (Sigmund Freud)

• When I am finishing a picture, I hold some God-made object up to it — a rock, a flower, the branch of a tree or my hand — as a kind of final test. If the painting stands up beside a thing man cannot make, the painting is authentic. If there's a clash between the two, it is bad art. (Marc Chagall)

• Interpretation is the revenge of the intellect upon art. (Susan Sontag)

Jewish Life

Rabbi Menahem ben Solomon ha-Meiri of Perpignan

This is the first of a two-part essay about the life and work of the great scholar ha-Meiri. Next week we shall publish part 2.

By GREGG STERN

Who was Rabbi Menahem ben Solomon ha-Meiri of Perpignan? And why is it commonly thought that his works were lost in the Middle Ages only to be rediscovered in our day?

Guest Voices

Meiri was the pre-eminent scholar of Jewish law in the South of France at the turn of the 13th century. He composed a monumental Talmud commentary, *Bet ha-Behirah*, as well as other works on Jewish law and custom, and commentaries upon scripture. Around 1300, southern French Jewry — the larger community of which Meiri considered himself a part — could look back on more than 100 years of diversified cultural achievement in Jewish legal scholarship, in the study of Hebrew language and biblical interpretation, in preaching, in polemics and in poetry.

The growth of Jewish philosophic culture in southern France during this period — from a sapling into a great tree — affected all of these fields and contributed to the self-perception of the community. A number of local philosophers had helped to define Jewish culture and to provide it with meaning as a whole. But, more significantly, rabbinic scholars — like Meiri — adopted a philosophic understanding of Judaism and contributed to its elaboration.

Here is how Meiri envisioned his own culture: The great talmudists of the south of France — with its elite group of astronomers, mathematicians, physicians and philosophers — formed a generations-old community that felicitously integrated Jewish and Greco-Arabic learning for a greater understanding and more profound worship of God and the glorification of the Jewish people in the eyes of the nations. Meiri records this commitment to the sciences as a change in orientation that came about as a result of Maimonides' intellectual influence.

"Ever since the Spirit of the Lord spoke with us — with the arrival in [our] land of the books of the master, the *Guide of Righteousness* [Maimonides] — great and renown scholars of the Torah and all other disciplines have been within our borders, expert in all the orders of the Talmud and the Mishnah, while, at the same time, succeeding with philosophy and its books, investigating its wisdom and its secrets." *(Hoshen Mishpat,* p. 162)

Maimonides had enlightened southern French Jewry and had invited them to integrate Greco-Arabic learning into their curriculum, which they had done admirably without harm to their talmudic studies. By Meiri's day, four or five generations after the arrival of the *Guide of Righteousness*, many of the Jews of the south of France had established this broader curriculum as a cultural ideal.

In Meiri's mind, Maimonides' philosophic interpretation of Judaism provided the cultural ideal for southern French Jewry, and Maimonides' codification of Jewish law, *Mishneh Torah*, provided the literary ideal for Jewish legal writing.

Joseph ibn Kaspi, a southern French biblical commentator a generation younger than Meiri, argued that Talmud study — as practised in his day — was a morass of intellectually unproductive discussions and senseless technical details.

Meiri rejected this extreme contention, but was himself aware that at times, talmudists had strayed from fruitful analyses. In a masterfully innovative fashion, Meiri integrates the sensibilities found in *Mishneh Torah* into interpretive essays running parallel to the Talmud. Meiri strives to move away from the protracted harmonization and unabridged analysis characteristic of talmudic commentary towards a simplified and systematized reformulation of the major interpretive issues of the talmudic discussion. This goal inspires the name of his work, *Bet ha-Behirah*, by which he means, "The Collection of Testimonies" — a presentation of talmudic interpretation from which "all types of confusion, discord and dialectic" have been removed.

In the massive work, Meiri harvests medieval interpretation on a talmudic passage and presents it to the reader in a discursive fashion. From its pages one gets a sense of the full range of European talmudic activity over the centuries: in Andalusia, Castile and Catalonia, northern France and Germany, as well as the south of France. *Bet ha-Behirah* is a monument in the history of medieval Jewish law, whose execution — with great consistency over so many tractates — testifies to the breadth of its author's learning and the strength of his convictions.

Historian Gregg Stern is the 1995-96 Ray D. Wolfe Fellow at University of Toronto.

'K' is not kosher

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A *CJN* reader called recently in a panic.

For years, she and her mother had bought and used a dessert mix. It was tasty, easy to make and inexpensive.

Because it was marked with a "K" she believed that it was kosher.

It was not until she read the ingredients that she realized she had been taken in — the mix was made with beef by-products.

Rabbi Mordechai Levin, executive director of the Kashruth Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, is not surprised.

K, he told *The CJN* in an interview, is "just a letter of the alphabet, with no significance at all. Anyone can put any symbol on their products, and it doesn't hold them to any obligation."

The only way to be sure that what you are buying is actually kosher, is to buy a product with a recognized symbol of rabbinic supervision, such as COR, MK, Star-K, Chof-K or O-U.

Food and household products are no longer just a collection of simple ingredients, Rabbi Levin said.

Even simple products like flour now have additives, such as vitamins and mould inhibitors. There may be anti-oxidants, softeners or free-flow agents that are not required to be listed on the package.

Many products list artificial flavors or colors, without specifying what they are. (The red used in cocktail cherries, for instance, may be made from beetles).

All these additives, while they may be benign, may also be non-kosher. Glycerin, for instance, which is frequently used as a sweetener, emulsifier or preservative, may come from either plant or animal sources.

As well, the rabbi explained, even if a company uses perfectly acceptable ingredients, the products may be made in a refinery that manufacturers both kosher and non-kosher items.

"If kosher meat is cooked in a *treif* pot, the meat becomes *treif*," he said.

While the Canadian government has strict labelling laws, Rabbi Levin said, "our concern is for miniscule amounts of non-kosher material, too small to be included on the label, but which may be absorbed into the food."

Manufacturers have realized that kosher certification is a good marketing tool, the rabbi said, so it is to their advantage to apply for and maintain a *hechsher*.

After applying to the Kashruth Council for certification, a company is required to disclose all ingredients used in the production, including processing aids.

"An investigating rabbi has to be familiar with [manufacturing] techniques. He has to know what to look for and what questions to ask. A company may not necessarily be hiding information — they may not realize that something is important."

As well, the rabbi must be aware of changing technologies and of food laws of different countries, Rabbi Levin says, as he remembers with some humor a trip he made to Bangkok to supervise tuna certification.

Rabbi Levin's message to the concerned reader? Don't take kashruth for granted — pay attention, read labels, always check the *hechsher*.

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U.S. study finds women disaffected from community

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — American Jewish women have become removed from the Jewish world, according to a recent study.

The comprehensive report by the National Commission on American Jewish Women, co-sponsored by Hadassah and Brandeis University's Cohen Centre for Modern Jewish Studies, pinpoints causes of disaffection and includes recommendations for reversing the trend, based on a decade of collected research and a 1994 study of 14 focus groups (a total of 152 women in their 20s, 30s and 40s from a dozen different states).

The study, released in November, concludes that unmarried women are the most negative toward the organized Jewish community, which "does not make them feel comfortable as singles or help them find mates."

For married women, an increasing number of whom continue to work after they have children, the situation is only slightly better. Fifty-five per cent of women said the Jewish community was "either neutral or unsupportive" toward women combining marriage, childbearing and careers.

Because Jewish women lead busy lives, Jewish practices and organizations may appear as burdens rather than factors which can enhance life or make it more meaningful. Providing Jewish settings for everyday activities (such as child care) is a possible solution, the report noted.

Community organizations need to create opportunities for involvement and participation for women with limited time and energy, and to show appreciation for whatever is contributed. Volunteerism in the Jewish community isn't threatened by career involvement, but by "weak Jewish life in all other domains."

Research has shown that "people often do not participate or contribute merely because they are not asked."

The report revealed tremendous ambivalence toward Judaism, particularly among single women. One unmarried entrepreneur said that Jewish women are "superior" to other women but also "garishly materialistic and unappealing."

Another woman said she was turned off by the "fashion show" at Rosh Hashanah services.

A number of women said they were wary of mentioning their religion to new acquaintances. Almost all said they were proud of being Jewish and felt drawn to other Jewish women, but some said they found the organized Jewish community boring or alienating.

Many traced their disaffection to "tedious and uninspiring" Jewish educational experiences. Others were alienated by perceived hostility to interfaith or interracial relationships.

More than a fourth of young American Jewish women are intermarried, a lifestyle associated with minimal formal Jewish affiliation. In Canada, intermarriage statistics from 1991 indicate that 14.8 per cent of all Jews were living in intermarried families.

One can infer that Canadian Jews affiliate more strongly than Americans with the Jewish community, as evidenced also by the higher proportion of households having synagogue membership. According to a 1995 report on the Jewish community of Greater Toronto, 48 per cent of Toronto Jewish households were synagogue members. Other large North American Jewish centres had lower levels of affiliation (Los Angeles, 26 per cent; Chicago, 44 per cent).

Although the issues covered in the American report may differ in degree from Canadian Jewish issues, they differ little, if at all, in kind.

The report included the thoughts of a diverse spectrum of Jewish women — Reform (representing 39 per cent of the American Jewish population), Conservative (35 per cent), Orthodox (six per cent), Jews by choice, secular, single career women, working mothers, stay-at-home mothers and women born outside the United States.

To respond to the diversity, the Jewish community needs to offer "many points of entry for women," the report concluded.

—*Excerpts*—

Following are condensed excerpts from Voices for Change: Future Directions for American Jewish Women, the report of the National Commission on American Jewish Women.

Current research shows that American Jewish women are best characterized by their diversity. They differ in terms of their Jewish backgrounds and experiences, their lifestyles, family compositions and occupations. They live in different parts of the country. They are young and old; rich and poor; single, divorced, married and widowed. They are homosexual and heterosexual. They are religiously observant, liberal and secular. And on and on.

Research should study the disaffected. What happened that drove individual women from Judaism? What were their negative experiences and how did they interpret them? Do any Jewish religious or cultural longings remain? Answers to such questions may help Jewish leaders design initiatives to draw women back to Judaism, and they may help Jewish organizations find ways to prevent others from dropping out.

Most single Jewish women are not affiliated with synagogues or other Jewish institutions or organizations.

• Jewish women experience ... frustration over their limited time and energy. The vast majority of the women who participated in our study are employed outside the home.

• Many women ... yearn for a sense of warmth and community in Jewish organizational settings.

• They often feel disaffected from the organized Jewish community. Some believe that Jewish organizations are not welcoming of newcomers or "outsiders." Others perceive that Jewish organizations are overly preoccupied with fundraising and insufficiently concerned with community building.

• Jewish women want to make a difference in their home communities. They want their involvement to be immediate and productive.

NEW OFFICE

Ab Flatt of Beth Tzedec Congregation and chair of the Camp Ramah in Canada board of directors together with camp director, Rabbi Mitchell Cohen and business manager Dennis Maister are shown at the dedication of their new offices at 491 Lawrence Ave. W. in Toronto.

From coast to coast

Documentary to explore life of Sam Bronfman

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — An hour-long television documentary on the life and times of the late Sam Bronfman, head of the Seagram company and longtime national president of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) is nearing completion.

It is scheduled to be shown on the CBC's *Witness* series, probably in April.

Produced by Vancouver's David Paperny, a former CBC producer who branched out on his own a few years ago — winning an Academy Award nomination along the way — the story takes the viewer from Odessa, where Bronfman was born, to farm life in Wapella, Sask., to Montreal and his amazing business success.

The documentary takes us back to the family's departure from Odessa, with the parents, Yechiel and Mindel, and their four children travelling in steerage.

Among other things, in tracing Bronfman's success, the documentary talks frankly about the prohibition years in the United States.

Paperny wraps up his story with an interview with Israel Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who in 1951 sought Bronfman's help to negotiate an arms deal for Israel.

Peres had heard that Canada wanted $2 million for a supply of surplus arms, but Bronfman got the price knocked down to $1 million.

Israel, of course, didn't have the money. Bronfman, with another former CJC president, Sol Kanee, called a dinner meeting at the Bronfman home in Montreal, and the $1 million was raised.

Paperny's research shows that this was Israel's first attempt as an independent state to buy arms from a foreign country, and Canada was the first country to agree to sell arms to Israel.

Paperny said he got background information from the Michael Marrus book, *Mr. Sam*, published in 1991. And the Bronfman family, especially Charles and his sister Phyllis Lambert, "were very cooperative," Paperny told *The CJN*. Many of the photos were supplied by the Jewish Historical Society of Saskatchewan.

On-camera interviews with Charles, Edgar and Edgar Bronfman Jr. are a highlight of the production.

Lubavitch set to open new school

VANCOUVER — Lubavitch B.C. is opening a new supplementary school later this month, according to an announcement from the director of the school, Rabbi Yechiel Baitelman.

The school principal will be Estarisa Laye, who was formerly on the staff of the Department of Vancouver Hebrew Academy.

The new program is intended for school age children from grades 1 to 7, who are not presently getting any formal Jewish education, Rabbi Baitelman says.

The curriculum is planned, he says, "to guide students in basic subject areas and to foster a positive Jewish self-identity," with an emphasis on reading, writing and speaking Hebrew; prayers; Jewish history; Israel; Torah; and Shabbat and holiday customs and traditions.

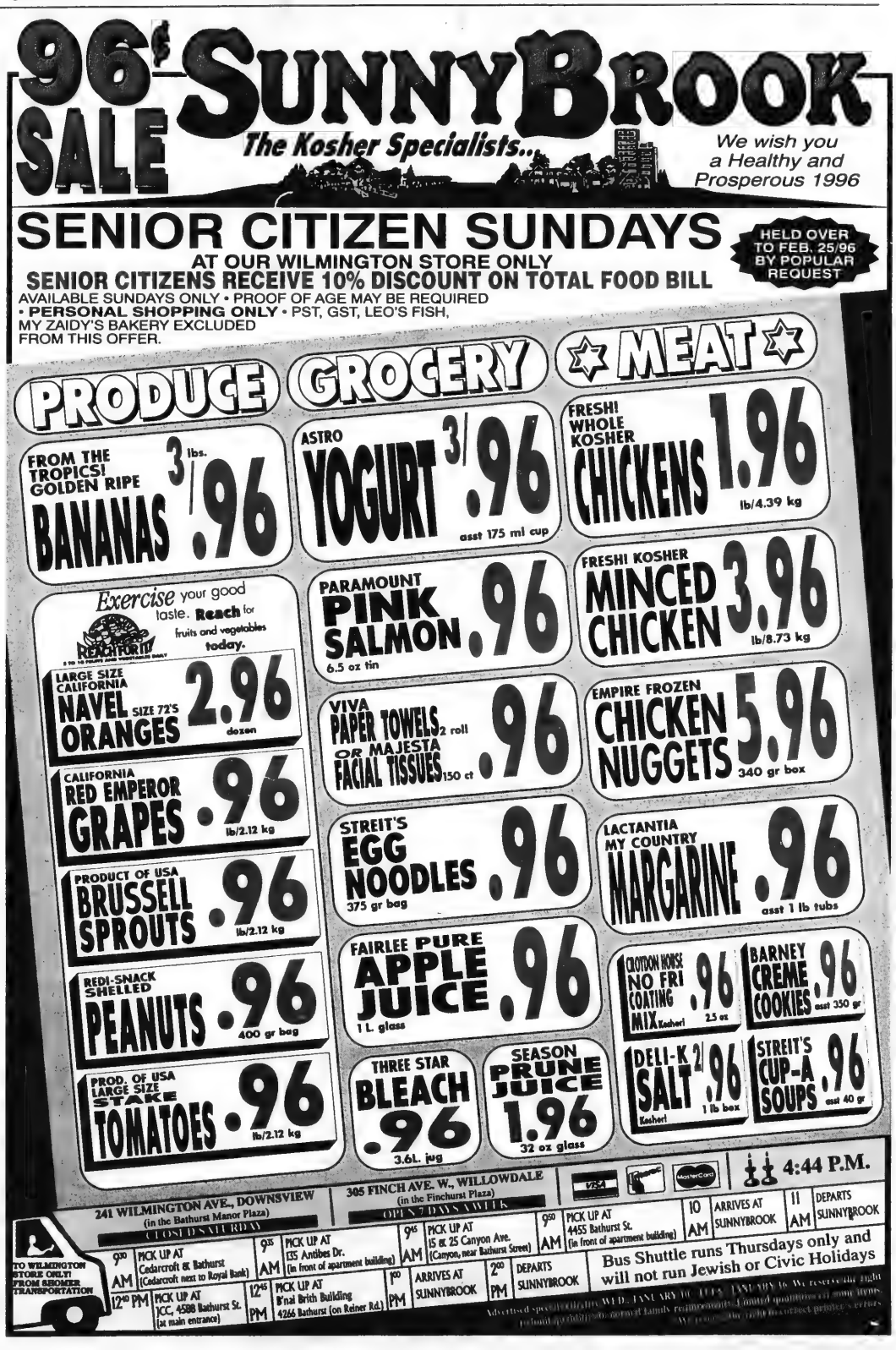
Classes will be held on Sunday mornings from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and on Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m., at Lubavitch headquarters at 41st and Oak streets.

Yahrzeit board unveiled

KELOWNA, B.C. — A yahrzeit board was unveiled recently at the Okanagan Jewish Community centre (OJC), in memory of Ida and Saul Kotler, parents of Mel Kotler, a past president and one of the founders of the OJC.

Funds were raised for the board through a memorial fund set up in memory of Saul Kotler.

In other OJC news, close to 100 people attended the annual Chanukah party, which featured games, songs, a community candlelighting service and other activities, including a potluck dinner.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9:50 AM PICK UP AT 4455 Bathurst St. (In front of apartment building)
10 AM ARRIVES AT SUNNYBROOK
11 AM DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK
12:40 PM PICK UP AT JCC, 4588 Bathurst St. (at main entrance)
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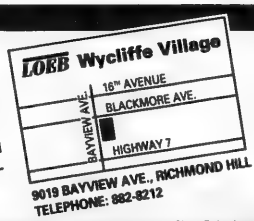

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(געווידמעט די מאַרטירער און קדושים פון קאָזשעניץ)

פון חיים מ. זאַלצבערג

מיט חיה׳שער הנאה פלעגן די דייטשע רוצחים דורכפירן מאַסן-שחיטות פון יידן, דווקא אין די טעג פון יידישע ימים-טובים.

דעם 21-טן סעפּטעמבער, 1942, סוכות, איז אין קאָזשעניץ דורכגעפירט געוואָרן די פאַרניכטונג-אַקציע. איך נרץ נישט דאָס וואָרט אויסזידלונג, וואָס איז שוין כמעט אַריין אין יידישן לעקסיקאָן, ווייל לויט מיין מיינונג איז דאָס אַ נישט-ריכטיקע פאַרצייכענונג. מענטשן, וואָס מען „זידלט אויס", האָבן נאָך אַ שטיקל האָפענונג, אַז ווען דער שטורם וועט אַריבער, וועלן זיי נאָך האָבן געבליבן ביים לעבן און וועלן קענען ווידער אָנהויבן אַ נאָרמאַל לעבן. אָבער אין דעם פאַל איז נישט געבליבן קיין האָפענונג.

פאַרטאָג, ווען עס איז נאָך געווען פינצטער, האָבן זיך די מערדער באַוויזן אין אויטאָס. מיט הילכערס און אויף אַ וויילדן אופן אויסגעשריגן דעם באַפעל, אַז אַלע יידן זאָלן אַרויס אין די גאַסן. ווער עס וועט נישט אויספאָלגן און בלייבן אין דער היים, וועט דערשאָסן ווערן. יידן האָבן זיך מאַסנווייז אַרויסגעלאָזט אויף די פאַרשיידענע גאַסן. די באַוואָפנטע דייטשן האָבן אַלעמען געטריבן צו דער לובלינער גאַס, וואָס איז געווען פולשטענדיק אָפּגעשלאָסן פאַר לאָקאַלן פאַרקער. דער וועג האָט געפירט צו דער באַן-סטאַנציע. איבער דער גאַנצער ברייט פון דער גאַס האָט מען די קרבנות געטריבן אַרום צוויי קילאָמעטער. דאָס זיינען געווען יידן פון קאָזשעניץ, גלאָוואַטשעוו, מאָגנישעוו, טשעטשעכעוו א.אַ. איבערגעשראָקן, דערנידערקט האָבן זיי מאַרשירט אויף זייער לעצטן וועג, אויף זייערע אייגענע לוויות. דרייצן טויזנט אומשולדיקע מענער, פרויען און קינדער האָבן די רוצחים אַריינגעשטופּט אין אָפענע באַן-וואַגאָנען. אַ גרויסער לאָקאָמאָטיוו האָט זיי אַוועקגעפירט צום טרעבלינקא טויטן-לאַגער, וואו זיי זיינען פאַרגאַזט און פאַרברענט געוואָרן. כבוד זייער אָנדענק!

אַ פּאָר הונדערט יונגע יידן האָבן באַוויזן זיך צו ראַטעווען. זיי זיינען געווען באַשעפטיקט ביי מעלעראַציע-אַרבעט, אָנגעפירט פון צוויי פּוילישע אינזשינערן, און וואָס האָט נאָך עקזיסטירט פון פאַר דער מלחמה. קאָזשעניץ איז געווען באַוואוסט אין דער חסידישער וועלט, ווייל אין אָנפאַנג פון ניינצנטן יאָרהונדערט האָט דאָרט געלעבט דער מגיד ישראל האָפשטיין. זיין דינאַסטיע פון רביים איז געווען טעטיק ביז צום סוף.

קאָזשעניץ איז געווען אַ טיפּיש יידיש שטעטל, מיט פאַבריקלעך, וואָס האָבן פּראָדוצירט שיך פאַר עקספּאָרט קיין גאַליציע און זיינען מערסטנטייל איינגעשטאַנען אין יידישע הענט. קלענערע סוחרים האָבן פאַרנומען די הויפּט גאַסן, ווי די ראַדאָמער און לובלינער. די אָרעמקייט איז געווען גרויס. דאָך האָבן עקזיסטירט פאַרשיידענע אינסטיטוציעס און פאַרטייען פון עקסטרעם רעכטס ביז עקסטרעם לינקס. די יוגנט פון שטאָט איז געווען באַוואוסטזיניק און טעטיק, און האָבן גע׳חלומ׳ט און געקעמפט פאַר אַ בעסערן מאָרגן. ליידער איז דער מאָרגן קיינמאָל נישט פאַרווירקלעכט געוואָרן. די דייטשישע רוצחים האָבן פאַרניכטעט דאָס קאָזשעניצער יידנטום — אַ בכבוד׳יקער רינג אין דער גאָלדענער קייט, וואָס האָט געהייסן דאָס פּוילישע יידנטום.

גאָט האָט געבענטשט אויף יידיש . . .

דער באַרימטער שרייבער און נאָבעל-פּריז געווינער, עלי וויזעל האַלט, אַז דער רבונו של עולם שרייבט אוודאי אויף העברייאיש. נאָר רעדן רעדט ער אויף יידיש. פּראָפ. י. העשל דערמאָנט אונדז, אַז [illegible] ב העברייאיש איז געווען די שפּראַך, אויף וועלכער דער ייד האָט געבעטן גאָט, איז יידיש די שפּראַך, אויף וועלכער גאָט האָט געבענטשט דעם בשר-ודם אין זיין שטרעבונג צו זיין אַ מענטש. הרב יוסף סאָלאָווייטשיק, דער וועלט-באַרימטער בקי אין תלמוד, האָט געזאָגט, אַז יידיש און די יידישע קולטור געהערן צו דער קאָטעגאָריע הייליקע מכשירים, און ס׳איז אַ גרויסער זכות זיי אויסצוהיטן.

אַ מעשה מיט אַ באָרד

די סאָבוועי אין ניו-יאָרק איז געווען אָנגעשטאָפּט מיט מענטשן, דער עיקר יידן, ווייל ס׳איז געווען אַ סאָבוועי פון באָראָ-פּאַרק (אַ שטאָרק אָרטאָדאָקסישע געגנט). אַ קורצער ייד האָט זיך אָנגעהאַלטן ביי דער באָרד פון אַ הויכן ייד.

— לאָזט מיד אָפּ די באָרד! — האָט דער הויכער ייד געשויגן.

— וואָס איז? איר שטייגט שוין אויס?

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א אדר תרפב - יא חשרן, תשנו
YITZHAK RABIN Z"L
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AGAINST YOU, THE PALESTINIANS,
WE SAY TO YOU TODAY
IN A LOUD AND CLEAR VOICE,
ENOUGH OF BLOOD AND TEARS,
ENOUGH..."
YITZHAK RABIN יצחק רבין ז"ל
SEPTEMBER 13, 1993 שח אלול חשנג
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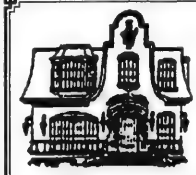

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From coast to coast

Tougher police response to hate crimes urged by CJC Pacific region

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Police departments across British Columbia should be able to take steps to ensure universal and comprehensive investigation of hate crimes, according to Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region.

Policies and procedures must be established to allow police services to provide a strong response to hate/bias crimes and hate propaganda offences in the province.

Congress says there has also been reluctance to establish separate hate crime reporting forms or to modify existing crime reports.

A statement delivered by Congress regional chair Dr. Michael Elterman at a recent conference on hate/bias crimes, points out that there are 12 municipalities in the province with their own police departments and 55 municipalities with RCMP detachments, "each of which varies significantly in terms of methods for directly handling incidents of hate violence."

Besides participating in the conference, which was sponsored by *Concord*, a newspaper that covers cultural issues, Congress also met with Inspector Al Grandia of the Vancouver police and Constable Chantal Mills to discuss the issue, and a copy of Elterman's statement was sent to Vancouver police chief Ray Canuel.

Elterman said there is a need to adopt a single, agreed-on model procedures to investigate reports of hate-related incidents. Police chiefs and RCMP commanding officers should adopt "unequivocal policy statements" to provide for effective response to bias crimes, he said.

Elterman said the most effective response requires ongoing input from the community.

Because there is no organized data available to police forces to define or recognize bias crime, a central depository should be established by the B.C. attorney general's department. Information would be analyzed and provided to the law enforcement agencies about crimes where the victims are intentionally selected "by reason of their actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin or sexual orientation."

Congress wants the attorney general to provide an annual report on this information to "an appropriate legislative committee."

Every police department, said Elterman, should adopt a written policy signed by the chief, "to be able to respond to crime motivated by prejudice."

Further, municipalities should establish an integrated hate crime response network, including liaison with local prosecutors and provincial and federal human rights organizations. Special units should be set up in each community to investigate bias crime.

Elterman said hate or bias crimes can have a more devastating effect on a community than other crimes and exacerbate racial, religious or ethnic tensions, "creating potential for escalating violence and turmoil."

A suitable definition of bias crime is needed, CJC said, but only Vancouver has one.

Elterman said he hopes to meet with the B.C. attorney general to discuss the situation further.

SCHOOL'S BENEFACTORS THANKED

A concert was held recently in Kitchener-Waterloo's Jewish community to help raise funds for the area's Jewish day school. At the event the day school unveiled a plaque honoring some of its benefactors who were presented with individual awards. Seen here (from left) Simon Adler presents awards to Stan Budd, Howie Budd, Pamela and Don Bierstock, Violet Brown and Max Norris from Joseph and Company.

"The obligation to gather information is a mission that victims have assigned to us: to collect memories and tears, fragments of fire and sorrow, tales of despair and defiance, and names - above all, names."
~ Elie Wiesel

REMEMBRANCE IS A LINK BETWEEN THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

THE HALL OF MEMORIES of the Holocaust Education & Memorial Centre of Toronto will now be completed with the generous contribution of a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

In this quiet reflective area, lined with the names of those who perished in the Holocaust, visitors find a place for remembrance, meditation and prayer.

With a limited number of tiles still available, the Centre is offering this opportunity to dedicate a tile in memory of a loved one. Names are inscribed in English, Yiddish or Hebrew.

For more information please call the Centre at (416) 635-2883 ext. 153.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan. 11, is deadline for Jan. 25 issue, and Thursday, Jan. 18, is deadline for Feb. 1 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Friday, Jan. 12

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan Shabbat service, 7:15 p.m., Bloor JCC, Room 204. 928-1784.

Saturday, Jan. 13

THE JEW IN THE LOTUS

Rodger Kamenetz, author of *The Jew in the Lotus*, discusses the meeting of the Dalai Lama and Jewish leaders, 7:30 p.m., North York Central Library, $15 at the door. Sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. 905-709-1900.

SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue sponsors Women's League sisterhood Shabbat, 9 a.m. Guest sermon by **Judy Feld Carr** on Now It Can Be Told: The Final Exodus of Syrian Jewry.

Sunday, Jan. 14

BURIAL & MOURNING

Michael Benjamin, third generation president of Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel, speaks on Jewish Burial Practices and Mourning Customs, Temple Sinai. Services 9:30 a.m., breakfast following, program 10 a.m. $3.

AUDITION FOR ANNIE

Adath Israel Synagogue invites children ages 10-13 to audition for *Annie*, 12:15 p.m., Alex Tobias Hall. **Shawna** 733-0842.

JERUSALEM 3000

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am's Jerusalem 3000 series with **Aaron Nussbaum** speaking on Jerusalem — Old to Modern, 8 p.m.

ELIE WIESEL'S BOOK

At Holy Blossom Temple brotherhood's breakfast program, **Rabbi John Moscowitz** reviews **Elie Wiesel's** latest book, his autobiography, **All Rivers Run Into the Sea**. Services 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, program 10.

AROUND THE WORLD

Around the World in 49 Days, a slide tour of the Middle and Far East by **Joel Miller**, presented by Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim brotherhood, 8 p.m., synagogue. Guests $2. Coordinators **Jerry and Sandra Genesove**.

TRIAL OF JACOB'S SONS

Shaar Shalom Synagogue presents the trial of Jacob's sons, Shimon and Levy, for the murder of Shechem, Hamor and the entire adult male population of the city of Shechem. **Justice Michael Moldaver** presides. Eminent legal counsel represents prosecution and defence. 7:30 p.m. 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill. 905-889-4975.

SJA ADULT EDUCATION

Secular Jewish Association presents Two Forks in the Road: The Origins of Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism, by **Peter Gilbert**, 10 a.m., Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. Non-members $8. 364-7002.

Monday, Jan. 15

SUPPORT GROUP

Support Group for Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Phone, in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, Jan. 16

LOOKING GOOD IN '96

At the Shira chapter Jewish Women International meeting, image consultant **Lori Levine** talks about Looking Good in '96, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Susan 483-7531.**

THE JEWISH WOMAN

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am sisterhood general meeting guest

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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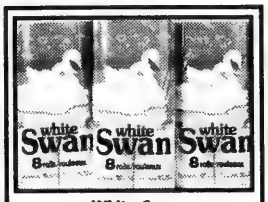

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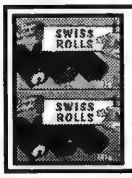

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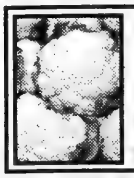

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KOSHER AREA CLOSED FRI. 2:30 P.M. & SATURDAY We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

speaker **Rabbi Benjamin Hecht's** topic is The Jewish Woman Wrestling with a New Society, 8 p.m. Guests $3.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT

Toronto ORT and State of Israel Bonds Women's Division five-part series begins with lecture by **Elaine Todres**, deputy solicitor general and deputy minister of Correctional Services, 7:30 p.m. at the home of **Karen Berkow**; $75 for series, $54 three lectures, $20 one lecture. Reserve, 787-0297.

And What Else Is New...

APPEAL FOR ARTIFACTS

The Canadian War Museum is seeking artifacts for a Holocaust/Jewish War Veterans Gallery. If you have any items, contact **Fred Gaffen**, Canadian War Museum, 330 Sussex Dr., Ottawa, K1A 0M8, phone 819-776-8614, fax 819-776-8614.

PARTICIPANTS FOR STUDY

Certain thought patterns may affect the course of treatment of major depression. Researchers at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry are seeking adult (over 18) participants who are currently suffering from major depression. They may be taking medication. Participants will receive $40 for completeing a set of questionaires and monitoring their thoughts about themselves in relation to others over a two-week period. **Jan Neuman** 979-4747, ext. 2311.

ISRAEL WEEK AT U OF T

The week of Jan. 15 is Israel Week at the University of Toronto.

Monday, Jan. 15 — Israel Day, Sidney Smith lobby, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., celebration of Israeli culture, information on Israel and program opportunities.

Tuesday, Jan. 16 — photo exhibit on Israel, Sidney Smith lobby.

Wednesday, Jan. 17 — Israeli economic trade commissioner for Canada, **Yael Versano**, speaks on the Dividends of Peace, noon, Room 133, School of Management, 105 St. George St.

Thursday, Jan. 18 — In celebration of Jerusalem 3000, archeologist **Alex Gropper** shows slides and speaks about the City of David excavations in Jerusalem, 3:30 p.m., Room 1070, Sidney Smith.

AT BETH TZEDEC

Saturday, Jan. 20, **Rabbi Reuven Hammer** of Jerusalem, consultant to Ministry of Education of Israel, speaks from the pulpit on Judaism in Danger: Reactions to the Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. Shabbat services begin 8:45 a.m., lecture 11 a.m. Following services at 12:30 p.m., Rabbi Hammer lectures on A Love Affair with Jerusalem: Writers from Agnon to Amichai.

On Sunday, Jan. 21, at 10 a.m. Rabbi Hammer speaks on Jerusalem: History, Mystery and Meaning at a meeting sponsored by the Men's Club.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Sunday, Jan. 21, the Discovery Seminar, a presentation of The case for Judaism, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre, Room 206. Registration 10:30 a.m. $10 includes lunch. **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, Hillel/Jewish Campus Services, 512-0814.

Study with a Buddy Program resumes Tuesday, Jan. 16, 7:30-9 p.m., Albert J. Latner Jewish Public Library, 4600 Bathurst St. fourth floor. Learn any topic, from reading Hebrew to Talmud. Study partner arranged. For all backgrounds, beginner to advanced. Information/registration, **Rabbi Michael Skobac**.

JEWISH WOMEN'S VOICES

Jewish feminist conference, From Memory to Transformation, weekend with keynotes by **Norman Baumel Joseph** and **Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz**, workshops, panels, readings, performances, art exhibition, music, dance. Jan. 19-22, Toronto Colony Hotel (Downtown City Hall). Registration/information 410-7944, fax 392-3136.

BIDS FOR THE KIDS!

A North American-wide celebrity autograph and memorabilia charity auction with entertainers, athletes, astronauts, politicians and authors all helping Jewish Children's Adoption Network raise money to find homes for children with special needs. For bid sheets call 403-934-4017, fax 403-934-4962, or write JCAN, Box 4, Site 8, RR 1, Strathmore, Alberta, T1P 1J6. Auction closes Feb 5.

WOMEN WITH CANCER

Women Living with Cancer, a mutual aid group organized and facilitated by the Jewish Hospice, begins daytime, Jan. 31 **Sheila Walker**, 638-7800, ext. 260.

JRC EXPANSION

Jewish Russian Community Centre (JRC) expansion and renovations are now completed at the JRC's preschool and Mindel Gelfand Daycare. Spaces for ages 2½-5 are available. Fully qualified staff. **Bella Abramovich**, 736-0781 or 222-7105.

AISH HATORAH

Medical Ethics series, Choosing the Right Doctor and Ethics That Doctors Should Live By, family practitioner **Dr. Michael Kirzner**, Monday, Jan. 15, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W.

Are Women Second Class Citizens? Women's Issues in Judaism, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamensky**, Jan. 16, 8 p.m., Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W.

For information, 905-764-1818.

DAVENING 101

Holy Blossom Temple offers a course on three consecutive Tuesdays, 8 p.m.: Jan. 23. The Order of the Friday Night Service, **Rabbi John Moskowitz**; Jan. 30, The Hebrew Prayers of the Friday Night Service, **Atida Pene**; Feb. 6, The Songs of the Friday Night Service, **Judy Gershon**. Sisterhood members no charge, nonmembers $10 at the door. **Kathy Green**, 782-5051.

TEACH IN ISRAEL

Looking for a unique and enriching volunteer experience in Israel this summer? Teach conversational English to *olim* (recent immigrants) by joining the Yad BeYad program run under the auspices of Canada-Israel Forum. You don't have to be a teacher — training is provided. Two- or three-week sessions in July. Program includes contact with Israeli families, social events. Information evening Wednesday, Jan. 24. For details and cost, 221-7384 or 445-4554.

TALMUD FOR WOMEN

Talmud for Women, a course geared to giving women an opportunity to partake in the vast storehouse of Talmudic wisdom, Mondays, 8:30-9:30 p.m., starting Jan. 15, Chabad Lubavitch, 770 Chabad Gate. Lecturer is **Rabbi Moshe Spalter**. 905-731-7000.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., winter courses for adults, teenagers and preteens, in conversational Hebrew, all levels, Monday mornings Jan. 22-April 22, and Tuesday evenings Jan. 23-April 23. 787-0197.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups — Successful Step-Parenting: Learning to Step Together begins Feb. 13; Parenting the Young Child begins Jan 24; Living with Teens begins Jan. 24; Single Parent Challenge begins Jan. 25. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

ONE WAY

One Way, a program for Jewish deaf and hard of hearing is re-establishing itself in Toronto under the direction of **Sara Blum** to provide social, educational and religious activities for students in elementary to high school. The Jewish Deaf Singles registry and National Convention for Jewish Deaf can also be accessed through the new office. Programs include education classes and group discussions, special publications, holiday events and Shabbatonim-weekend conventions. Our Way is sponsored by National Conference of Synagogue Youth. 782-4426.

EDUCATORS GATHER FOR SEMINAR

Pictured with Nechama Leibowitz (seated), professor emeritus of Bible at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University, are educators from Finland, California and Toronto, including Rabbi Y. Balter (right) and Hana Werner (kneeling) of United Synagogue Day School, who participated in the Toshba Seminar in Jerusalem. The world seminar focused on the study of Oral Law.

HONORED FOR BAT MITZVAH DONATION

At a special presentation to Alyssa Waks, 13, honoring her for her generous contribution to Toronto Hadassah-WIZO's Hadassim Children and Youth Village on the occasion of her bat mitzvah are (from left) Debbie Waks, Rachel Waks, Joshua Waks, Alyssa Waks, Jay Waks and Vivien Sharon, president, Toronto-Hadassah-WIZO.

For Seniors

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). On Jan. 18, **Richard Mathews** speaks on Arthritis Problems, followed by a movie on the subject.661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club tulip time in Ottawa trip (kosher) May 13-15, reservations now being taken. In the planning is a trip to Homowack Hotel in the Catskills Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Bloor JCC Good Age Club invites you to join in the January meetings where you can have fun and meet people. **Judy** 924-6211.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

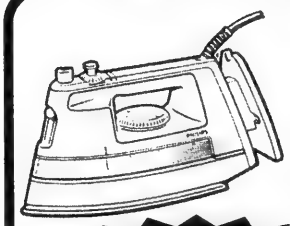
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

January is Alzheimer's Awareness Month. La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents the Alzheimer's Society in a discussion on visiting skills and the impact of the the disease on the family, Thursday, Jan. 18, 1:30 p.m.

The movie *All That Jazz* Sunday, Jan. 14, 2:30 p.m.

An afternoon of music with **Mikhail Zuskin**, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs. **Anna**.



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From coast to coast

What happened to the goodwill towards Quebec?

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA — The mood in the rest of the country towards Quebec has suddenly turned nasty. The latest public opinion poll conducted across Canada in early December by Angus Reid Inc. for Southam News and CTV revealed some shocking findings.

Anger has replaced apathy towards Quebec.

The feelings of Canadians changed during the two months after the Oct. 30 referendum. This is as important as it is frightening. The rest of Canada apparently went from "We love you Quebec" to "We don't give a damn anymore, Quebec."

This is just about the worst sort of news from Canadian unity since Lucien Bouchard was brought in to lead the separatist forces midway through the referendum.

Of the 1,506 adult Canadians polled between Dec. 6 and Dec. 13, fully 46 per cent want a tougher stand on Quebec. Only 17 per cent want Canada to try harder. That compares unfavorably with 61 per cent who said immediately after the referendum vote they wanted to try harder — even going as far as making "concessions" to Quebec — to hold Canada together.

Where is the goodwill? Where is the willingness that was so evident among federalists in the final week of the referendum to try one more time to make it work?

On that basis, Ottawa went ahead last month and recognized by law Quebec's distinctiveness, gave the province a veto over future constitutional changes and announced it would transfer control over employment and work training to the provinces.

Not that any of this pleased Lucien Bouchard. Nor was it intended to. Bouchard has his own agenda, and being grateful and agreeable to Ottawa is not part of it.

Separatists don't elect their leaders to cave in to Ottawa and become overnight federalists the first time they are handed a few crumbs by the federal government.

Ottawa's move was aimed at helping the 20 per cent of Quebecers identified as soft federalists, who will need fresh ammunition in 1996 to counter the widespread notion in Quebec that the province always gets short-changed at constitutional talks, that Quebec's true distinct identity is never recognized, let alone appreciated, by the rest of Canada, and that Ottawa forces Quebec workers to submit to so-called national job-training programs that are neither useful nor even respectful of Quebec's particular needs.

The supreme irony revealed in this latest poll is that while the rest of Canada seems to be turning on Quebec, Quebecers still want to keep on trying. Fully 49 per cent of Quebecers said the province should try harder to get along with the rest of Canada and only 28 per cent want a tougher stand.

This dichotomy is reflected in partisan voting intentions as well.

In Quebec, the Liberals and Bloc Québécois remained as they were before the referendum — 42 per cent to 41 per cent respectively — effectively tied if you take into account the poll's margin of error of 2.5 per cent either way.

But in the rest of Canada the Liberals are down to 49 per cent, from the 56 per cent they had just before the referendum. The big winners have been the Reform party with Preston Manning's get-tough on Quebec stand.

The Reform party, which was in free-fall before the referendum, has soared from 11 per cent to 16 per cent in popularity, based largely on impressive gains in Alberta and British Columbia where sock-it-to-Quebec feelings are strongest.

And Jean Charest, who did so much for Canada during the referendum campaign, convincing thousands of French-speaking Quebecers to vote for Canada, has dropped three points in popularity from 14 per cent to 11 per cent.

A grateful nation looks the other way!

It takes both partners to make the Canadian political marriage work. It would be a shame if the great nation came apart because the rest of Canada rejected Quebec at a time when Quebec, having come so close to leaving, was trying to get back in. Now is not the time to turn our backs on Quebec.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Adath Israel Synagogue Singles Group, 35-55, (Bathurst & Wilson), presents a Sunday Brunch, Jan. 14th, 1996 at 11:30 a.m. with guest speaker Mervyn Rosenstein, B.A., BCL. Member of The Ontario Association for Family Mediation and Arbitration and Mediation Institute of Ontario. Topic: Alternative Dispute Resolution: Family Mediation, Intergenerational Conflicts, Employment Arbitration, and much more. $8. prepaid reservations at the synagogue office (416) 635-5340. Deadline is Fri., Jan. 12 - 2:30 p.m. $10 at the door. Visa accepted. For reservations call the synagogue office. For further information contact Rabbi Sheldon Korn, 416-635-5340.

COED VOLLEYBALL!!
Great way to have fun and keep fit. 9 week session beginning Feb/96. Registration evenings Jan. 11, 6:30-9:30 pm & Jan 14, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. at Bloor JCC. See you there! For more info: **416-484-6137.**

Jewish Contemporary Singles is now offering personal service. Let us introduce you to someone special. Call today! (416) 484-9733

Made In Heaven Introduction for Jewish singles. 30 and up. Free consultations in your home or office. Duane or Ronda 416-512-2994.

Sunday Evenings for Singles at the Koffler Gallery, Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m. Bathurst Jewish Centre. View *Isaac Applebaum: Recent Photo Works*, elegant desserts & coffee, Call 416-636-1880, ext 352.

Young members of Beth Tzedec invite singles, 20s & 30s, to an interactive evening with Rabbi Mark Dratch on AIDS & the right to privacy. Jan. 16, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Allan A. Small lounge. $10. Marlene, 781-3511, #34; Sheryl, 787-3098.

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Letter shocks survivor

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — Whenever Jack Gardner gets up to speak at a meeting — which is frequently — he never fails to remind his audience about the horrors of the Holocaust, which he survived, and how the Nazis wiped out his shtetl on the border of the old Soviet Union and Poland.

So it was with some shock that he heard recently from several people who had received Holocaust denial literature in the mail, in an envelope bearing his name and address in the corner — as if he had sent it.

Inside, with the sheaf of photocopied pages, was a handwritten, unsigned note stating: "After reading this book, which was banned in Canada, I changed my mind. Read it and think!"

The note continues: "In the enclosed writings we bring you irrefutable evidence that the allegations that six million Jews died during World War II as a result of a German policy of extermination is utterly unfounded."

"I don't know who is doing this, using my name," said 80-year-old Gardner, who has often written letters to the editor of the *Times-Colonist* newspaper on the subject of the Holocaust.

Gardner lives in Oak Bay, a Victoria suburb, and asked the Oak Bay police to investigate, but he was told there was little they could do since no laws were broken and mail is hard to trace.

Gardner said postal regulations do not appear to forbid anyone from using somebody else's name and address, but if it was hate literature, it would be illegal to use the mail to distribute it.

Polish-born Gardner said he finds the whole thing revolting. He was in the Polish army in September 1939, when the Germans and then the Soviet Union invaded. His village was on the Soviet side of his partitioned area and he ended up in the Soviet army when the Germans invaded Russia in 1941. He was wounded near Stalingrad but managed to survive. As the Soviet army began rolling into Germany, Gardner followed until he got to his home village.

His entire family, along with 3,000 other Jews in the village, were dead. "I came back and found everybody killed ... everybody murdered and dumped in mass graves," he said.

Nazi scientist dies

TORONTO — Former Nazi rocket scientist Arthur Rudolph, whose 1990 bid to enter Canada was denied due to his involvement in war crimes, died last week in Germany at age 89.

Rudolph was part of a group of Nazi scientists recruited by the United States in Operation Paperclip to develop military, and later space rockets.

During World War II, he was involved in Nazi rocket programs that used massive numbers of slave laborers, thousands of whom came from the Dora concentration camp and died under his supervision.

In 1982, he signed an agreement renouncing his U.S. citizenship and he later left the country.

In 1990, he entered Canada in what was seen as a first step in a bid to return to the United States. However, an Immigration adjudicator ordered him removed because of his complicity in war crimes and crimes against humanity.

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Gymnast runs rings around international opposition

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Justin Gerson is back home now, feeling justifiably proud after more than holding his own in a competition against some of the best young gymnasts the world has to offer.

Gerson, 17, parlayed a first in rings and a third in vault to finish third overall in the Union of West Vienna Cup in Austria.

Athletes from Russia and Hungary snagged the top two places, but Gerson, a member of Vaughan Gymnastics Club, was *kvelling* at his own showing.

"This was the toughest competition I've ever come against as a junior ... I was really pumped up for it. Everything keyed in on that day," he said.

Gerson excelled in his best event, rings, and his vault result is all the more remarkable considering he broke a bone in his foot one week before the competition.

With his ankle iced down and taped up, and with the benefit of officially-approved painkillers, Gerson managed a third in vault after changing his routine to allow for a slower run-up to the pommel horse.

Justin Gerson

The foot injury seemed to affect him more in the floor exercises, where he finished seventh. His fourth in parallel bars, fifth in high bar and seventh in pommel horse made for a third place finish overall.

Gerson, who was accompanied by his Vaughan coach Bob Carisse, was the only gymnast selected to represent the Great White North by the Canadian Gymnastics Federation. The competition attracted athletes from 30 countries.

Gerson expects his strong showing will improve his standing among junior (under 18) Canadian gymnasts and might earn him a spot on the national team at next summer's Pan American Games in Guatemala.

His showing last May at the Canadian nationals in Vancouver — he finished 10th overall — was a bit of a disappointment. Still, it was good enough to get him on the Canadian national team and earn him consideration for the Vienna meet.

In March, Gerson will pack his bags and head for Montreal for Elite Canada, a top level national competition, while in May, it's over to Sault Ste. Marie for the 1996 nationals.

Gerson said that if all goes well, he hopes to represent Canada at the Maccabiah Games in Israel in 1997 and eventually, wear Canada's colors at the 2000 Olympics.

Young athletes do well at provincial qualifying event

TORONTO — Provincial calibre gymnasts have circled several dates on their calendars in April and May as the time when they'll compete in the Ontario championships.

Several young athletes who train at the Vaughan Gymnastics Club recently took part in qualifying events leading up to those provincial championships, the club reported.

Vaughan Gymnastics hosted the Metro West Region First Provincial Qualifier for girls, where several Jewish athletes acquitted themselves well.

In the Pre-novice 1 category for 9-year-olds, Emily Iseman finished fifth overall, while Danielle Wronzberg was 10th in the Pre-novice Regional category.

Among the 12- and 13-year-old Junior 1 athletes, Rebekah Flom, 12, was first in parallel bars but finished in seventh place overall.

In the Senior 3 category, Randi Mintz, 16, finished fourth, while Haley Kerbel, 13, was fifth on uneven bars in the Junior Regional class.

The boys' competition was held at the Shenderey Gymnastics Institute in Newmarket, Ont.

In the Cadet class, Ron Zahavi, 9, was tops in horse, rings and vault, and second in floor, parallel bars and high bar to finish first overall in the Metro West region.

Tamir Silberman, 10, was first in floor exercises and first in rings, but finished third overall in the Argo A division, while Ben Iseman, 12, was fifth overall in the Tyro B category.

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Campus news & views

'Healing of the Jews is now our major priority'

By STEVE MOCK
Special to The CJN

Anyone who has travelled in Israel will know it as a land of coincidences. To Esther Wachsman, one recent coincidence has been particularly unnerving. Exactly one year before Yitzhak Rabin was shot, "on that very hour, on that very day," the Wachsmans were burying their son, Nachshon, who had been killed by terrorists.

OPINION

While noting the coincidence, Wachsman resists any temptation to draw a swift moral judgment. She sees in it neither cruel irony nor poetic justice. As one who has had to face the greatest horror a parent can imagine, her ability to retain such balance is, I believe, impressive.

She, like anyone, has her own political opinions. But her goal is not to endorse a political ideology. Her message is one that still resonates with all Jews around the world, not simply those on one or another side of a political fence. Her message is one of Jewish unity.

And as far as Jewish unity is concerned, timing is the only coincidence between the national tragedy Israel experienced in 1994 and the one experienced on Nov. 4, 1995.

Wachsman recalls the reaction of Israelis and of world Jewry to her son Nachshon's kidnapping and murder: "Such unity had been unprecedented in modern Jewish history. Nothing remotely like it had happened to the Jewish people since the Six Day War."

The reaction came immediately, as soon as the news of Nachshon's capture had reached the family by way of Israel TV.

"What was going on in our home was incredible. Restaurants were sending us food around the clock ... Anyone who could possibly think of anything to do to show identity with our family did it."

Israel radio began every broadcast day with the words, "Good morning Israel; we are all the Wachsman family." Seventy thousand people went to the Kotel and there were prayer vigils around the world. To date, the Wachsmans have received 16,000 letters of support, and over 100,000 people attended Nachshon's funeral at Mount Herzl.

Wachsman went on television, telling Jewish women around the world to light a third candle at their Shabbat table.

"Many women wrote that they had never lit a candle on Friday night, but they lit one that night for our son," she says.

The chief rabbi of Israel asked people to read three specific Psalms. These were read by every schoolchild, even in the secular school system.

Today, however, she notes that the reaction of Israelis to the murder of Rabin has been very different. "It saddens me to see what has happened since our latest tragedy. To see not solidarity and unity ... but fragmentation, delegitimization of groups, stereotypes of groups within our society, which I find tragic."

Before the assassination, one did not have to look very far to see posters with slogans denouncing Rabin as a traitor and blaming him personally for every fatality since the Oslo accords. Nor did one have to listen carefully to hear religious Jews blamed *en masse*, often by Israel's political leaders, for right-wing extremism.

Since the murder of Rabin, divisions have become even sharper. Ears and minds have closed more tightly as everyone has searched for someone else to blame. When she was a guest on a special episode of *Nightline*, Wachsman watched as accusations were traded across political poles and broadcast live around the world.

"Unity does not mean that everyone is the same or that everyone is together on a rational or ideological plane," she says. "Unity does not mean that we all have the same views, opinions or ideologies. Unity of the Jewish people is more of an emotional unity, where we care about each other ... where we respect, legitimize and tolerate each other's differences. We communicate, tolerate and love our fellow Jew."

She feels the slogan "Yes to peace, No to violence" that has emerged since Rabin's assassination implies that those who oppose the current peace process are violent, and now even an accessory to murder. Wachsman says she has heard of people being interrogated by the authorities on suspicion of having said something inciteful.

This state of affairs, in which Israeli society has polarized between often false stereotypes of a religious right and a secular left, is in sharp contrast to the Israel that offered support and comfort to her family one year ago.

"The people who were with us were of all strains of the Jewish people ... religious and secular, Sephardi and Ashkenazi ... Members of Knesset sat next to truck drivers in our living room. [They came] from Metulla to Eilat," Wachsman says.

After the tragedy, her husband shocked the world when he met with the father of the terrorist who killed his son. "My husband did that as a bridge to peace," she says, "to show that a Jewish father and an Arab father could reach a consensus, could communicate and could agree on denouncing terrorism.

"But bridges to peace with our enemies are almost a farce when there is so much enmity amongst ourselves ... The healing of the Jews is now our major priority.

"Nachshon has been called a victim of peace. I don't like that definition. He was a victim of terror. If [Nachshon] was a victim of peace, so were 162 before and after him, up to [Rabin] — he was also a victim of peace."

Steve Mock is a student at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

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The program will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with registration beginning at 10:30 a.m. Cost of $10 includes lunch.

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Palestinian elections a test for democracy

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — It is going to be the best show of democracy the Arab world has ever known.

COMMENTARY

But in the best tradition of the Arab Middle East, there will be few surprises in the voting: The results are more or less already known.

On Jan. 20, as many as 1.2 million Palestinians will elect leaders for the first time in their troubled history.

Although the official campaigning began only this week, the political competition has been in the air for the past few weeks.

Contrary to earlier fears, the campaigning has so far proceeded without bloodshed or bitter clashes, as if democracy has always been the name of the Palestinian political game.

In recent weeks, candidates for the Palestinian Council have filled the newspapers with their photos, seeking the support of the voters.

Suddenly, faces from the intifada — the 1987 to 1993 uprising against Israeli administration of the territories — have surfaced from deep underground to announce that they are part of the legitimate political scene.

Some 3,000 international supervisors, led by former U.S. president Jimmy Carter, are likely to encounter an election in which the rules of the game are generally played fairly — right down to the computerized ballots that were provided with the compliments of the government of Japan.

But "generally" is a key qualifier, given the fact that international observers to the elections have already criticized PLO leader Yasser Arafat for making moves aimed at stacking the voting in his favor.

Palestinian voters will make two choices on election day.

They will elect candidates to serve on the 88-member Palestinian Council, the legislative body that will represent 16 electoral districts in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

They will also elect the president of the Palestinian Authority, who, in addition to being the 89th member of the council, will have executive authority over the body.

The only challenger to Arafat for the presidency is Samiha Khalil, 72, a social activist from Ramallah who is expected to receive at best several thousand votes in her West Bank hometown.

Unlike elections in the West, the candidates for the Palestinian Council will only nominally run on their own personal merits.

Instead, support for their candidacies will be based largely on backing by Arafat's mainstream Al Fatah establishment or from the support of the large clans — known as *hamulas* — in each of the 16 districts.

While the candidates for the council will appear on the ballot as individuals, with no party affiliation, Fatah is circulating its own list of recommendations of who should be elected. The list was created as a result of primaries already held.

But Arafat is maintaining strict control over Fatah's lists, down to the last candidate. And in some cases, he has intervened to remove some candidates from the recommended list.

Some candidates who were out of favor declared last week that they would run independently.

But Fatah immediately countered that anyone who did so would no longer be allowed to return to the Fatah ranks.

Meanwhile, Fatah's main opponent, the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement, has decided to stay out of the elections, though it announced that it would not boycott them.

Fatah and Hamas representatives met last week in Cairo in an attempt to reach an agreement on the elections. Although no agreement was reached at the time, the very fact that Hamas said it would not boycott the elections was regarded as yet another victory for Arafat, because it reflected a recognition by his strongest opposition that the elections were legitimate.

In addition, several Hamas members announced in the past few days that they would run as independents.

Those announcements prompted some Hamas leaders to brand them as traitors to the cause. In an apparent bow to those pressures, three of the candidates withdrew their names during the week.

Other Palestinian groups opposed to the peace process have also opted out of the elections, leaving a situation in which the only competition to Fatah will come from Communists and eight other insignificant splinter groups — none of whom are expected to gather a significant portion of the vote.

Arafat's critics say that he and the Fatah leadership are using strong-arm tactics to rule the streets and the polls.

"In Tulkarm, there is no political competition," said candidate Dr. Thabet Thabet. "There are 40 candidates — all Fatah candidates."

One of the more striking phenomena in Fatah's pre-election strategy is the absence of the young leaders of the intifada from the candidate lists.

The youths who had carried the uprising on their shoulders, organizing mass demonstrations and waging stone-throwing wars against the Israelis — and serving prison sentences for their efforts — have suddenly found themselves displaced by older Fatah activists known for their close ties with Arafat's governing establishment.

These frustrated activists will remain in the autonomous areas after the elections — and they may pose a potential threat to the new Palestinian leaders.

Some intifada leaders, such as Hatem Id of the Shuafat refugee camp in Jerusalem, have decided to run as independents.

Id, who served long prison sentences for his involvement in the intifada, won most of the votes in one of the Fatah primaries in eastern Jerusalem.

Israel is well aware that if the Palestinian Council does not give the people a sense of true representation, it will ultimately work against the very interests of the Palestinian autonomy — and of Israel as well.

But Israel has no choice. It must be a bystander as the Palestinian elections proceed.

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Israel cracking down on Jewish extremists

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

Later this month, Yigal Amir — the confessed killer of Yitzhak Rabin — will go on trial, charged with premeditated murder, illegal possession of arms and conspiracy to establish an underground organization to carry out attacks against Arabs.

In all likelihood, Amir will use the courtroom as a pulpit for his radical right-wing views, which embody an explosive mixture of nationalism and religion.

Amir's trial, which may last as long as several months, coincides with an effort by the Israeli government to crack down on the Jewish extremist movement in the country.

Until now, the government has been preoccupied with Arab terrorism. Scores of Israelis have been killed by Arabs, mainly Islamic fundamentalists, since Israel and the PLO signed the 1993 Declaration of Principles, the framework for Palestinian autonomy in the territories.

Arab terror still remains a threat, despite Israel's withdrawal from six Palestinian towns and 450 villages in the West Bank. But in the wake of Rabin's assassination, Israel has begun to focus more attention on the Jewish radical right, which has repeatedly reared its ugly head since the early 1980s:

•In 1994, Baruch Goldstein massacred 29 Arab worshippers in Hebron. It was the spark that ignited a wave of Arab suicide bombings within Israel.

•In 1982, the government produced a study — the Karp Report — which documented the unlawful activities of Jewish vigilantes in the West Bank. Composed of ultra right-wing settlers, the vigilante groups perpetrated a reign of terror against Palestinian Arabs, largely in response to acts of Arab terrorism.

•In 1983, a Jewish extremist, Yonah Avrushmi, lobbed a grenade into a Peace Now demonstration in Jerusalem, killing Emil Grunzweig.

•In 1984, the Shin Bet — Israel's internal security organization — arrested members of a Jewish underground movement. They had launched a violent attack against a Muslim college in Hebron, had tried to kill three West Bank Arab mayors and had attempted to blow up the Dome of the Rock mosque in East Jerusalem.

Having closed down the Jewish underground, the government turned its gaze once again to the recurring phenomenon of Arab terrorism.

But as internal opposition to the Oslo peace process grew, the problem of Jewish radicalism mushroomed. Jewish extremists and their sympathizers, part of the broader Land of Israel movement, could not reconcile themselves to the prospect of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip being given up to the Palestinians, even in exchange for peace.

Israelis who share this idea fervently believe that the territories, particularly the West Bank, are an inalienable Jewish birthright. As Rabbi Zvi Yehuda Kook of the Mercaz Harav yeshivah put it during the Six Day War: "The Torah forbids us to surrender even one inch of our liberated land."

This philosophy, which transcends religion, was embraced by such Israeli prominent right-wing figures as Israel Eldad, Uri Greenberg, Moshe Shamir, Geula Cohen, Yuval Ne'man, Rehavam Ze'evi, Rafael Eitan and, last but not least, Ariel Sharon.

All of the above, not to mention Rabbi Meir Kahane, were profoundly influenced by Vladimir Jabotinsky, the father of the Zionist Revisionist movement, who called for a Jewish state on *both* sides of the Jordan River.

Few would disagree with the thesis that Yigal Amir, an unrepentant extremist, was a child of this ideological ferment.

Indeed, according to scholar Ehud Sprinzak of the Hebrew University, radicals like Amir pushed mainstream nationalists even further to the right of the political spectrum.

In a bid to clamp down on radicals of Amir's ilk, the government has taken a number of steps of late.

•Israel has filed indictments against three leaders of the Zo Artzenu movement, which is charged with making rebellious statements against the government during a campaign of civil disobedience last summer. Moshe Feiglin, its chief spokesperson, continues to claim that the government is illegitimate.

•Israel has declared the nation off-limits to seven American Jews who are associated with the Jewish Defence League and who are considered security risks.

•Israel has issued administrative orders restricting the movements of 13 yeshivah students and their headmasters in the West Bank.

Further measures are expected, running the gamut from detention and surveillance to electronic bugging.

Meanwhile, the courts are sending unmistakable signals that unlawful, seditious behavior will not be tolerated.

Last month, Binyamin Kahane, the leader of the extremist Kahane Chai group, was convicted of sedition after calling for the bombing of an Israeli Arab town. Shortly afterward, Miriam Levinger, the wife of Rabbi Moshe Levinger — an apostle of the far right who himself is in prison — was sentenced to three months in jail for attacking a police officer in Hebron.

Clearly, Israel is getting tough with Jewish extremists.

Calculator helps count calories

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — It is a dieter's blessing — or nightmare: a specially programmed calculator that keeps track of the calories you eat.

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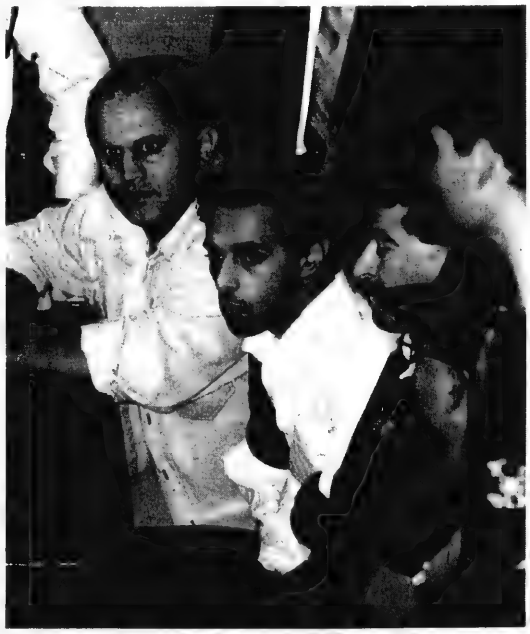

THE ACCUSED STANDS TRIAL

Yigal Amir sits in the accused's docket in the Tel Aviv District Court, surrounded by guards. The trial reconvened after an adjournment of nearly one month. **[Israel photo]**

The Week in Israel

Jan. 1

• King Hussein of Jordan will visit Tel Aviv during the week of Jan. 8 to attend a ceremony at the Beit Gavriel Conference Centre near Tiberias honoring Elyakim Rubenstein and Faez Trawanah, the chief negotiators of the peace treaty between the two countries.

• Jordanian Foreign Minister Abed Kabriti told the *Yediot Achronot* that the peace between Jordan and Israel "is a warm peace that I see as an example for a real peace in the region."

Jan. 2

• Israel Television's news program *Mabat* reported that as part of Operation Quiet on the Roads, 18,864 empty chairs have been placed along the Tel Aviv-Haifa highway to symbolize the number of fatalities in traffic accidents since the founding of the state.

• IDF Maj. Gen. Alex Tal has been appointed to replace Gen. Ami Ayalon as commander of the Navy.

Jan. 3

• *Davar Rishon* reported that the government has decided to prevent further visits by foreign dignitaries, including foreign minsters, to Orient House in eastern Jerusalem.

Jan. 4

• *Ma'ariv* reported that almost half the government ministers support holding the general elections before the scheduled Oct. 20 date. Prime Minister Shimon Peres however, remains opposed. "Very weighty reasons are needed in order to move up elections, and as long as there are no such grounds, I do not think there is a need to make such a decision."

• *Kol Yisrael* reported that IDF soldier Alice Miller failed her entrance examinations for the Air Force pilot course. Miller was allowed to take the examinations after a ruling by the High Court. Since the court's ruling, other female officers have been invited to take the test.

Jan. 5

• The winners of the Israel Prize for the social sciences were announced: They are professors Shlomo Avineri, Moshe Brosh and Meir Sternberg.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• More than 800 people were expected in Jerusalem to attend two conferences sponsored by the Ministry of Education on science and technology.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Security forces go on alert in wake of terrorist's death

Jewish Telegraph Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli security forces went on high alert this week for possible revenge attacks after the killing in Gaza of a Palestinian terrorist long sought by Israel.

Yehiya Ayash, a Hamas activist who topped Israel's most-wanted list for allegedly masterminding a series of suicide bombings that killed scores of Israelis, was killed in an explosion last Friday after he picked up a booby-trapped cellular phone.

To prevent acts of retaliation, Israel imposed an indefinite closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

No group claimed responsibility for the assassination.

Israeli officials would neither confirm nor deny Israel's involvement in Ayash's death.

But Islamic fundamentalist groups put the blame squarely on Israel and vowed to avenge Ayash's murder with attacks against the Jewish state.

Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat also blamed Israel for the assassination, which he called a clear violation of the Israeli-Palestinian accords.

In a speech to thousands of Palestinians Sunday at a village near the West Bank town of Hebron, Arafat referred to Ayash as a martyr who had "died for the cause."

He also said Israel had no right to carry out operations inside Palestinian autonomous areas.

Israel "should not kill and assassinate on Palestinian land the struggler, the martyr Yehiya Ayash," Arafat told the crowd.

Likud opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu said he was worried by the reaction of Palestinian officials to the killing, adding that it provided proof that Arafat was not interested in reconciliation with Israel, nor in taking any measures against Hamas.

The killing came two weeks before Palestinian elections were scheduled to be held and a week after the Palestinian Authority and Hamas had reached a tacit understanding that Hamas would halt terrorist attacks during the campaign period.

"I think that this came at a very delicate time," Ziad Abu Ziad, who is running as in independent candidate in eastern Jerusalem, told Israel Radio. "It will incite people against the peace process and against those who support the peace process."

A number of Israeli Cabinet ministers refused to comment publicly on the killing.

One of those who did, Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, was quoted by the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* as saying, "I'm happy he's no longer alive."

Sneh added that he did not think the killing would undermine the peace process with the Palestinians.

Knesset member Hagai Meirom, chair of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, said the timing was right, regardless of who was responsible.

He also stressed that Ayash's murder had not crippled the Hamas movement, adding that Ayash had left behind "a young generation that learned the fundamentals of bomb-making from him."

In the wake of Ayash's death, Mohammed Dif became the most-wanted Hamas activist still at large, according to *Ha'aretz*.

Dif was said to be responsible for the October 1994 kidnapping and murder of Israeli soldier Cpl. Nachshon Waxman, and for the murder of two other Israeli soldiers.

Ayash, 30, was known as "The Engineer" because of his expertise with explosives.

A graduate of Bir Zeit University in the West Bank town of Ramallah, Ayash was believed to have supplied the explosives used by suicide bombers who killed more than 60 Israelis, mostly civilians, and wounded more than 300 others in a series of attacks during the past two years.

Ayash was also considered highly adept at recruiting people who were willing to carry out the suicide attacks.

Born in the West Bank, Ayash went into hiding after the October 1994 suicide bombing of a bus in Tel Aviv that killed 22 Israelis and wounded 42 others.

Israeli forces believed that he was hiding in the Gaza self-rule area, but Palestinian officials said they did not have any information to back this up.

Ayash successfully eluded Israeli security forces, who for months attempted to locate him.

In September, Yitzhak Rabin reportedly told security officials that Ayash was an obstacle to the peace process and that the activities of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad fundamentalist movements must be stopped.

Hamas sources reportedly said Sunday that Ayash was killed in an apartment hideout located in the Gaza town of Beit Lahiya.

The apartment was owned by Osama Hamad, 27, a Hamas activist who was reportedly Ayash's former college roommate.

When the booby-trapped cellular phone rang last Friday afternoon, Hamad answered and handed the call to Ayash, saying that it was his father.

Hamad said the phone exploded when Ayash told the caller, "I hear you, father."

Palestinian residents in the area reportedly said an Israeli helicopter was flying overhead – which prompted speculation that the phone was detonated from the air.

The cellular phone was reportedly given to Hamad by his uncle, Kamal, who was a suspected collaborator with Israel.

LEADERS CALL FOR MODERATION

At a recent rally in Yitzhak Rabin Square in Tel Aviv, approximately 100,000 people assembled to show their support for religious Zionism. The leaders shown in this photo, (left to right) Zevulun Hammer, head of the National Religious Party, Rabbi Chaim Druckman and Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, urged the crowd "to listen to each other and not resort to violence." [Israpet photo]

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Court tells religious councils they cannot bar non-Orthodox

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel's High Court of Justice this week reaffirmed an earlier ruling that local religious councils cannot bar candidates from non-Orthodox denominations solely on the basis of their religious affiliation.

The court ordered last Monday that a Reform and a Conservative Jew must be two of the Haifa City Council's candidates for the city's religious council.

The court also ruled that the city councils of Jerusalem and of the northern community of Kiryat Tivon must reconsider their lists of religious council candidates because of their refusal to approve Reform and Conservative candidates. Rabbi Uri Regev, the director of the Reform Movement's Religious Action Centre who represented the petitioners before the court, said the decision was "another significant defeat" to the "Orthodox monopoly" over religious life in Israel.

In January 1994, the court ruled that candidates for religious councils may not be barred on the basis of their affiliation with non-Orthodox Jewish movements.

The local religious councils, supervised by the Religious Affairs Ministry, have exclusive jurisdiction over marriage, kashrut, burial and other religious matters for all Jews living in Israel. The services provided by the councils are rendered according to Orthodox practice regardless of the affiliation or religious customs of the individual receiving the service.

Forty-five per cent of each religious council is appointed by the local municipal council, with another 45 per cent appointed by the religious affairs minister and 10 per cent by the local rabbinate. The religious councils of Haifa, Kiryat Tivon and Jerusalem had rejected the Reform and Conservative candidates proposed by the Meretz party, prompting the left-wing, secularist movement to petition the court.

Meretz charged that its candidates had been disqualified solely because of their religious affiliation.

In the case of Haifa, the justices said that because all the council members had praised the Meretz candidates on a personal level, they had no choice but to conclude that the candidates were disqualified because of their religious affiliation. The court ordered that the two candidates be appointed to the council.

In the cases involving Jerusalem and Kiryat Tivon, the court ordered the city councils to discuss the qualifications of the Meretz candidates and to vote again on the candidates within two months.

Remarks condemned

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Despite his sharp criticism of Abu Medein, Libai met with other Palestinian officials for discussions about releasing Palestinian prisoners.

Among those meeting with Libai was Palestinian Authority planning official, Nabil Sha'ath, who also commented on Abu Medein's controversial remarks.

"The fact that he mentioned Germany in this case is, I know, very sensitive to Israel," Sha'ath told reporters. "In no way are we accusing the Israelis of being Nazis."

The two sides agreed to release some 1,200 Palestinian prisoners next week as a goodwill gesture prior to the Jan. 20 Palestinian elections.

Israel holds an estimated 4,000 Palestinian prisoners in its jails.

Libai said no Palestinians with Israeli blood on their hands would be freed.

Alleged mosque plot prompts move to deport U.S. citizen

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The General Security Service has requested that an American citizen living in Jerusalem be deported on grounds he was involved in a plot to blow up the Al-Aksa Mosque.

David Ben-Ariel, 35, of Ohio, was detained in Jerusalem's Old City last Thursday by the GSS and taken for interrogation. He was released after several hours but his passport was confiscated and he was ordered to report daily to police.

Ben-Ariel and several cohorts who remain at large allegedly planned to blow up Al-Aksa to pave the way for the building of the third temple, security sources said.

Ben-Ariel denied the allegations, and said he was being unfairly treated by the GSS and police.

Sources said they wanted Ben-Ariel deported, and not brought to trial, because they were concerned they lacked hard evidence to convict him.

"It is no secret, and I have written a book about it, that I want Al-Aksa removed and the temple rebuilt," Ben-Ariel said. "But I have no plans to remove it myself. That's the government's job."

Ben-Ariel, a member of the Temple Mount Faithful, which also calls for the removal of Al-Aksa, said he came here about nine months ago, and recently applied for citizenship.

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Rescue complete

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The agency's next mission in the area will be to "rescue the Jews" of Abkhazia, which declared independence from the Soviet republic of Georgia after a 1993 civil war, he said. Between 800 and 1,000 Jews live there in conditions as bad as those in Chechnya and the political situation "can explode any minute," Chesler added.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Burg tries to contain interview's damage

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Avraham Burg, chair of the Jewish Agency for Israel, is scrambling to undo damage caused by a published interview in which he said he is poised to leave his post and join the cabinet if Prime Minister Shimon Peres is re-elected in the fall.

Since the interview appeared Dec. 27 in the daily *Ha'aretz*, Burg has been dogged in the Israeli media by accusations of opportunism and bad faith in taking the Jewish Agency job as a stepping stone.

He assumed the post in June after a hard-fought contest.

His published remarks were said to have demoralized Agency employees already under strain from a budget crisis that has forced wholesale program cuts.

In a telephone interview from Israel last week, Burg said he had earlier in the day reaffirmed his commitment to the Agency in front of 200 senior employees at a seminar in the Negev Desert.

But Burg's language leaves little doubt that he is keeping his options open.

"I don't have any plan to leave the Agency for now. On the contrary," he said in the telephone interview, "I don't see any other alternative attractive enough to take me off the five years I promised" to give to "the Israel-Diaspora relationship."

This "is the single most important mission in my life today," he said. "I'm not going to give it up for political temptation."

The Agency is the principal Israeli recipient of funds raised by Diaspora local federations and the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) and is a symbol of the Israeli-Diaspora partnership.

Diaspora leaders of the Agency were clearly dismayed by the *Ha'aretz* interview, but several said they were not surprised. They sought to downplay the incident and insist that nothing has changed.

"I was not shocked at the substance" of the remarks, "only the way they were delivered," said Shoshana Cardin, chair of the United Israel Appeal, which funnels UJA money to the Agency.

Burg, who resigned from his Labor seat in the Knesset to take the job, made plain his long-term political aspirations when he was first interviewed to head the Agency.

Burg has expressed interest in becoming prime minister of Israel some day.

Indeed, his political stature was seen as an asset by those who supported his candidacy and who argued it would help upgrade the image of the Agency, which had been tarnished by scandals at the top and has been held in low esteem in Israel.

The last Agency chair, Simcha Dinitz, stepped down from his position after being indicted on charges of fraud and abuse of the public trust. A court decision in his trial is pending.

At the time, the job appeared ideal for Burg.

A stormy relationship with Yitzhak Rabin sharply limited his options in the government and made the Agency chair the most attractive quasi-political job he could get, observers agree.

But the Rabin's assassination in November abruptly changed Burg's political fortunes. With his mentor Shimon Peres at the helm of the new government, it was inevitable that Burg would seek to re-enter the political fray.

The Israeli media's response to the Burg interview was harsh.

"Burg launched a major campaign to be appointed chair of the Jewish Agency," wrote Nachum Barnea in the mass-circulation Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot*.

"He barely warmed up that seat and he already wants to desert," Barnea wrote, adding, "The lightness with which he hops from job to job does not add weight to his career."

Burg said he did not think the Agency was damaged by either the interview or the media reaction to it. "It's been a long time since the chairman of the Jewish Agency has been so debated," he said.

Most settlers would avoid violence: poll

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Eighty-three per cent of Jewish settlers would not consider using lethal weapons to fight a government-ordered evacuation, according to a recent survey.

The survey, sponsored by Bar-Ilan University's Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies and the Nablus-based Centre for Palestine Research and Studies, found that eight per cent of settlers answered positively when asked, "Would you consider resisting with force (i.e. use of firearms or other lethal weapons) a government-ordered evacuation of the settlements in Judea and Samaria?" Another nine per cent said they did not know.

According to the poll, two per cent of settlers said they would "justify active confrontation," such as "hitting, use of lethal weapons," against soldiers who came to evacuate settlements, while 14 per cent would justify "passive physical confrontation."

The poll of 511 Jews in 79 settlements was conducted by telephone late last month. The margin of error is 4.5 per cent.

Among the poll's other findings:

- Thirty per cent of respondents said they would be willing to consider leaving their homes in exchange for "reasonable compensation" from the government, while 58 per cent said they would refuse to consider the option.
- Twenty-two per cent believe that within five to 10 years, most settlements will be dismantled, while 20 per cent believe most settlements will be annexed to Israel.
- Thirty-nine per cent of respondents believe a Palestinian state will be established in Judea and Samaria within five to 10 years, while 26 per cent believe the peace process will fail and the IDF will return to exert control over Judea and Samaria.
- Sixteen per cent believe that if a Palestinian state emerges, they would "consider staying on the settlement as a citizen of Israel under Palestinian sovereignty," while 71 per cent said they would not consider this option.
- Seventy-two per cent said they would not consider a "fair business offer" from a Palestinian to buy their home or business, while 15 per cent said they would.

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JSR: an engagement every 7½ weeks, just ask Pamela and Alan

The Jewish Singles Registry (JSR) of Toronto celebrated a banner 1995. Couple after couple have been making wedding plans after meeting each other through this unique system which literally takes the "blind" out of "blind dating." The concept is so successful that the **JSR is now averaging an engagement everty 7½ weeks**. The immediate future looks even brighter! Membership has been rising steadily and with the inception of a new computer system the influx of new members is now being handled with ease.

Since its beginning a little more than 3 years ago the **JSR** has risen to the challenge of providing an easy opportunity for Jewish singles to meet. Members get to select for themselves who they wish to go out with by reviewing detailed and comprehensive biography profiles. These include photographs, providing members with a clear "picture" of what their potential partners are all about. This system enables members to make informed and quality dating choices, without relying on others to "guess" who might be right for them. Membership is fast approaching the 1,000 member mark in Toronto alone, making **JSR** the largest Jewish dating service in the city.

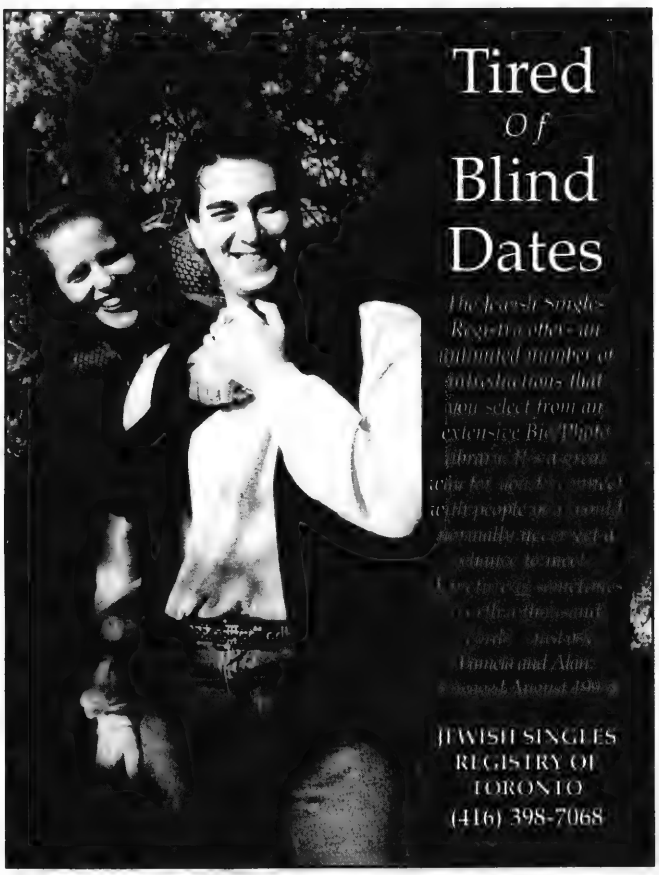
Another walk down the aisle on the way

When all is said and done the **JSR** concept goes even further. Statistics from 1995 show that hundreds of dates were arranged during the year. Since its inception, the **JSR** has been responsible for 11 marriages and/or engagements. One of the most recent couples to announce their intention to walk down the aisle are Pamela Shulman and Alan Hoffman. Pamela selected Alan from the **JSR** books back in January 1995. Within a couple of days they spoke on the phone. With Valentine's Day fast approaching they decided that Feb. 14th would be their first date. Alan decided to surprise Pamela with a rose and to his amazement, she had one for him as well. The "connection" was immediate, and the relationship has grown ever since. As their romance blossomed it was only a matter of time before he would propose. It had to be original, and he wanted to be sure she would not expect it until the very second that it happened. For their 6 month anniversary, dinner and the theatre were the evening plans. immediately following dinner, Alan and his family opened their fortune cookies. Unsuspecting Pamela, of course, didn't want hers, so after 25 minutes of procrastination, she finally "ripped" out the fortune without breaking the cookie in half. What awaited Alan's future fiancée was indeed a surprise. ***"Pamela, will you marry me? Forever yours, Alan"***, read the inscription. As shock was beginning to set in he got down on one knee and presented her with the ring. Wedding plans are underway

Valentine's Day: Catch the fever

With Valentine's Day around the corner there is no better time to take matters into your own hands and find that someone special to spend February 14th with as Pamela and Alan did a year ago. Most new **JSR** registrants are dating within **one week** of joining the service. **It is that fast, and that simple!**

The **JSR** office is open 6 days a week, including evening hours and Sundays for your convenience. Whether you're looking to meet someone for friendship, a relationship, or even marriage, the time is now to register with **The Jewish Singles Registry of Toronto**. Their phone number is **416-398-7068.**



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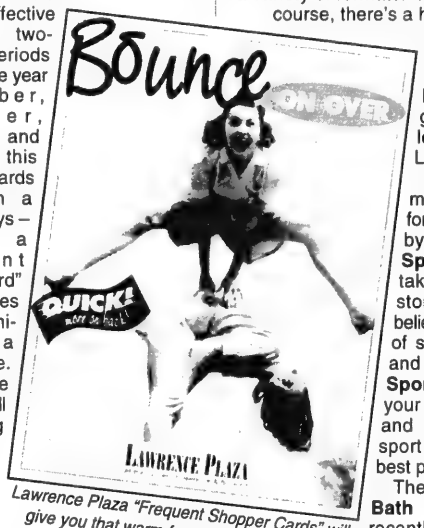
Lawrence Plaza rewards frequent shoppers

The spirit of the '50's is alive and well and living at Lawrence Plaza — an entirely fitting state of affairs for this friendly neighbourhood plaza that in 1954, anchored by Morgan's department store, became Canada's first shopping centre and changed forever the way we shop.

If you're one of the many people who've shopped there since day one or were taken there for a bagel or a *nosh* by your parents or grandparents — which should include just about everybody — you'll appreciate the Frequent Shopper Program introduced this fall by mall management. Effective during four two-week periods throughout the year (September, November, January, and March), this program rewards shoppers in a variety of ways – using a "Frequent Shopper card" featuring 'fifties scenes reminiscent of a simpler time. The cards are available at all participating retailers, onsite greeters and/or in your mail box Monday Jan. 15. We can't go back to the 'fifties, but, says property manager Sandy Pelletier-Severn, "hopefully our Frequent Shopper Program will give our customers the same warm fuzzy feeling."



Lawrence Plaza "Frequent Shopper Cards" will give you that warm fuzzy 'fifties feeling . . .

First, merely by being at the plaza Jan. 15 to Jan. 27 with your Frequent Shopper Card, you become eligible to win one of sixty prizes awarded at random. Second, with total purchases of $60 or more during this period, you become eligible for the Grand Prize to be awarded Jan. 29 (theatre tickets for two to *Sunset Boulevard*). And a $500 shopping spree will also be given away as a year-end Grand Prize in March. Merchants will stamp your card with every $20 purchased.

Third, you can look forward to wonderful values the like of which are not to be found elsewhere. The 1996 version of Lawrence Plaza is a mix of some fabulous "golden oldies" like **United Bakers Dairy Restaurant**, **Kleinberg Jewellery**, **Roland and Romaine Dance School** (where the who's who have trained) and the Regal Bridge Club (where the who's who have played and still do), and an exciting new "concept" store like **Prime Time Video**, which offers high-tech entertainment in a variety of formats. For clothing, of course, there's a host of choices headlined by **Winners**; smart shoppers know they can get the best for less at Lawrence Plaza.

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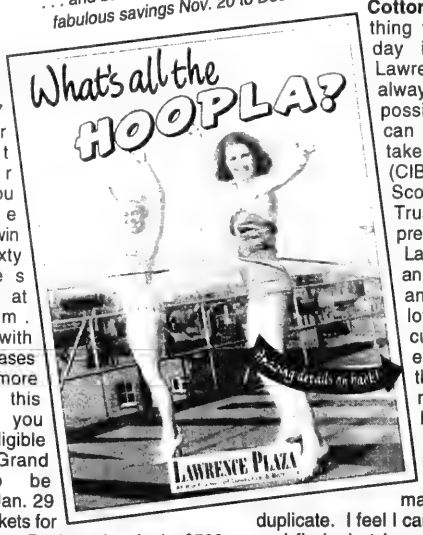

Anchoring the mall in the space formerly occupied by The Bay, **Sportmart** has taken Toronto by storm with its unbelievable selection of sporting goods and leisure wear. **Sportmart** has all your skiing, skating and other winter sport needs at the best prices in town.

The ever-popular **Bath 'N Bedtime**, recently doubled in size, now offers you an even greater selection of sheets, towels, and other bed and bath accessories. **Phantom Hosiery – Shoppers Drug Mart – Buckstop/Shoprite – Camp Connection – Cotton Ginny** – everything you need every day is available at Lawrence Plaza, and always at the lowest possible prices. You can count on it and take it to the bank (CIBC, Bank of Nova Scotia and Canada Trust right on the premises).

Lawrence Plaza has an ample parking lot, and many of its loyal, longtime customers still enjoy walking to the mall from their nearby homes. "It has that friendly neighbourhood feeling," says one, "that other malls just can't duplicate. I feel I can be myself here, and find what I need at my leisure. And the prices are unbeatable."

'Fifties, anyone?

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Health news

Program aids terminal patients live out lives at home

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Not so long ago in a less technological age, death, like birth, was a home-based event.

With the advent of respirators, complex medical apparatus and the attitude that professionals inherently know better than ordinary folk, the dying, like those giving birth, have moved to hospital settings.

Now, some are questioning that process, choosing to pass their last months, weeks or days at home, surrounded by the things and the people that matter to them.

The Jewish Hospice program was established two years ago to help these people. It is a joint effort of Baycrest Centre, Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, Mount Sinai Hospital and Senior Care.

Rabbi Ronald Weiss, director of chaplaincy services for JF&CS, calls the program a vehicle to help people "learn to live more meaningful lives after being diagnosed with a terminal illness."

People are happier and more comfortable at home surrounded by family and they have greater privacy than in a hospital, which they see as artificial and intrusive, he said.

Sheila Walker

Rabbi Weiss provides spiritual counselling for patients and their families.

What the dying fear, he told *The CJN*, is dying alone and dying in pain. "Jewish Hospice addresses both from a Jewish perspective," he said.

The program offers support and counselling not just to the patient, but to the care-givers as well.

Often what is needed is simply listening.

"If people can share their thoughts and feelings before death, they don't have the lingering guilt of things left unsaid," he said.

Requests for assistance come to Sheila Walker, coordinator of the program. She tries to respond immediately if there is a crisis, but she said there is often a great deal of phone contact, sometimes for months.

She assesses each situation and determines what help is needed — counselling, home care services, or just for a few hours away for the care-givers.

She told of dealing with sibling rivalry, of a dying woman being reunited with her estranged mother, of a 30-year-old man so resigned to dying from a brain tumor that he never went out alone until his death three years later.

Support may go on after death, Walker said, helping to plan the funeral and shiva and follow-up telephone calls or visits.

"We are dealing with improving the quality of life. We dwell on living, not on dying," she said.

Mount Sinai Hospital's Dr. Larry Librach offers medical care in the home or in Baycrest's Palliative Care Unit if it proves impossible to keep the patient at home when death is imminent, or medical consultation to a person's own physician.

This includes managing both pain and symptoms, he said. People need not fear dying in pain, as appropriate medication is prescribed and given either by the care-giver or by nursing personnel.

Similarly, assistance is offered with, for instance, changing dressings or tubes or catheters, as well as with such basic needs as bathing and feeding.

Jewish Hospice deals with about 90 cases a year. The ages of those requesting its services reflect what Walker called "the demographics of dying." About 75 per cent are over 50 and an astonishing one-quarter are under 40.

Funding for the program comes from Federation and donations, but community support is badly needed, said Librach.

Gene causes daring behavior

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — People who get a kick out of bungee jumping and skydiving are apparently genetically predisposed to such activities.

Israeli and American researchers have isolated a gene believed to be responsible for 10 per cent of people's adventurous and risk-taking behavior.

The finding was made by doctors at the Soroka Hospital in Beersheba, the Beersheba Mental Health Centre and the Herzog Memorial Ezrat-Nashim Hospital in Jerusalem.

Their research duplicated that of their colleagues at the U.S. National Cancer Institute.

The head of research at Herzog Hospital, Dr. Richard Ebstein, said the gene, called D4DR, was first discovered in the United States in 1991.

He added that it functions in the section of the brain which controls emotions.

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Clothing store Edna Schwartz soon to close doors

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — After 25 years at The Colonnade on Bloor Street, the name Edna Schwartz will be retired on Feb. 28, 1996.

But Options, an import shop which evolved from Edna Schwartz and is just a few doors away in the same building, continues under an extended lease.

Schwartz had worked for Harridges on Bloor in the '60s before opening her own business in 1970 at the prestigious new Colonnade location. She was something of an upstart. Along that Establishment row, there was no name like Schwartz and her approach was different.

She built up her own clientele by selling affordable, quality classics, like good suits and sportswear, mainly to young women.

In 1978, Sam Merson, a businessman from South Africa, where he had operated a fine ladies' wear import shop, bought a 50 per cent interest from Schwartz. A year later, when Schwartz was in failing health, he became sole owner, agreeing to retain the name.

She died shortly after.

Today, Merson, together with his son-in-law and daughter, David and Elana Seligman, are co-owners of Edna Schwartz and Options, which opened at the Park Plaza in 1983 and moved to The Colonnade in 1988.

"About three years ago, we began to notice a change in the buying habits of our clientele," notes Seligman. "Our customers were rising up the corporate ladder. The young law school graduate who had purchased her first suit from us at Edna Schwartz is now a CEO. She and others like her will select distinctive looking suits which can't be found in the malls.

"The time has come to move on. And Options is the future!"

In addition to the store on Bloor Street, there is an Options at First Canadian Place, convenient to the downtown office core.

Seligman stresses that Edna Schwartz has always been a family business and staff longevity, from eight to 25 years, assures friendliness and personal attention. The trend continues with Options, he says.

Customers have been loyal and are now bringing in a second generation. Some clients, former Torontonians or visitors, are scattered from the Northwest Territories to Newfoundland. Elana Seligman may fill an order for merchandise to be shipped to St. John's, Nfld., where the customer makes her selection and returns the rest.

Edna Schwartz will be open during regular business hours until the lease expires at the end of February.

Film critic discusses Hollywood's good, bad, ugly

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

VAUGHAN — Viewers of Hollywood films receive mixed messages with regards to Judaism, says the chief film critic for the *New York Post*.

At a recent talk entitled The Good, The Bad and The Ugly, sponsored by Aish HaTorah, Michael Medved, also co-host of *Sneak Previews* on PBS-TV, said movies send out all kinds of different messages about Judaism.

"The good message is that Hollywood is now allowing more Jewish characters to appear in movies and is also willing to treat Jewish issues. There used to be the fear that if Jews were portrayed on screen, non-Jews would not come to see the film.

"In old Hollywood, flavorful rye and pumpernickel bread were transformed to bland Wonderbread. In general today, Jewish flavor in films is retained. There is less allergy to the Jewish message."

He said the good message behind this is that Jews are part of the mainstream. It is OK to be Jewish and people can appear in films and television with Jewish names.

However, the bad message is that all Jewish television characters are either intermarried or have a non-Jewish love interest, says Medved.

"It is almost as if it is a rule. I find it peculiar, for instance, that in the television show *Brooklyn Bridge*, about a Jewish family, the young boy's love interest is a Catholic girl.

"This does not reflect real life. In the United States, 40 to 50 per cent of Jews marry non-Jews which is not good, but in Hollywood, it is virtually 100 per cent."

He said this conveys that there is something dramatic and romantic about a Jew being drawn to a non-Jew. If there is love interest between two Jews, it is not a story worth telling.

"The fact that the Jewish character is by and large the male, shows a consistent contempt and denigration of Jewish women. The dominance of men in the entertainment industry has led to the dominance of intermarriage in movies — these are men who think Jewish women are not good enough to date."

He added the only Jewish stars who seem to portray Jewish parts are Barbra Streisand and Bette Middler, whom he claimed are earthy but not glamorous. "There are a large number of glamorous Jewish stars but they never play Jews. In *Shadowlands*, Deborah Winger played a Jewish woman who converted to Christianity."

Medved said the general public thinks that the entertainment industry speaks for Jewish values and "that is the ugly message. It is difficult to separate Jewish identity with this industry.

"The entertainment industry is known for being detached from our people, yet we get blamed for it offending people's sensibilities. One of my worst moments as a film critic was attending a screening of a film entitled *The Pope Must Die*. The film was presented by Jews and was shown to a group of priests and nuns. These are the kinds of things for which we are blamed."

He stressed that we must deal with this ugly message by raising our voice. "When Jewish organizations are silent about the corruption of young people and women, it leads to the belief that we have nothing to say, and if we have nothing to say as a community, then we have nothing to say about the values that shape people's lives.

"We must tell people that Hollywood does not hold a mirror up to reality. It is a twisted mirror and it is particularly twisted with respect to Jewish issues. Hollywood has not touched the story of young Jews becoming more and more involved in Judaism."

Medved said that the best way to change what we see on the screen is to change the people behind the screen, and he praised Aish HaTorah for its attempt to do that. "The work done by Aish HaTorah is needed in order to raise a Jewish voice and reach out to the unaffiliated."

FLYING ACROSS THE GREEN LINE

As a result of the peace agreement between Israel, Jordan and the new Palestinian Authority (PA), the SkyLink Group of Companies has signed a joint venture to provide airlinks between Israel and neighboring countries. The joint venture with Ofek, an Israeli helicopter operation, will allow SkyLink to operate aircraft between Israel, Jordan and the PA. SkyLink will operate three helicopters as airlinks, one of which is a Bell 212 flying under Canadian registry. The SkyLink Group of Companies is a Canadian-based, multinational aviation management company.

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TAB news

SYNAGOGUE IN STOCKHOLM
This formal, elegant synagogue building is located in central Stockholm, Sweden, within walking distance of Gamla Stan (Old Town) and the nearby National Museum. The Hebrew inscription on the facade of the building invokes the blessing of peace to those who are near and who are far. In the foreground is a sculpture dedicated to Raoul Wallenberg. [Jerry Richmond photo]

Guidebooks may be of assistance

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

If you're planning warm-weather and/or cold-weather holidays in North America or elsewhere, the following new guidebooks may be of assistance.

•*South Beach* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, $28.95) is photographer Bill Wisser's lush tribute to Miami Beach's swinging Art Deco neighborhood, a favorite haunt of tourists. As you flip through its pages, you'll probably be tempted to buy a one-way ticket to Miami.

•*Disney World and Beyond* (Raincoast Books, $18.95) proves the point that there is much more to Orlando, Fla., than Disney World. But the emphasis of Stacey Ritz's useful guide is, of course, the Disney empire, the state's biggest draw.

•*Honolulu* (Raincoast Books, $12.95) invites you to explore a metropolis sometimes overlooked by travellers in Hawaii. Chock full of photographs and maps, this guidebook is packed with practical, up-to-date information.

•*Rocky Mountain States* (Raincoast Books, $27.95) is tailor-made for travellers drawn to national parks and outdoor winter sports, particularly skiing. It is a veritable storehouse of knowledge.

•*San Juan & Gulf Islands* (Raincoast Books, $15.95) is a succinct compendium of a favorite destination adjacent to Vancouver Island. You'll read about the best cycling paths, the finest hiking trails and the most popular shops and restaurants.

•*The New Key to Belize* (Raincoast Books, $22.95) transports traders to one of the "hottest" eco destinations in Central America. With it, you can plan day trips to beaches, coral reefs, Mayan ruins and rainforests.

Iraqi's portrait a riveting story

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

With the fifth anniversary of the Gulf War a week away, Shelley Saywell's riveting documentary on a dissident Iraqi scientist is appropriately timed.

Fire and Water, to be broadcast by TVOntario on Jan. 17 at 10 p.m., is a portrait of Hussain Shahristani, a Shi'ite who declined to build an atomic bomb for Iraq's Sunni Muslim strongman, Saddam Hussein.

Shahristani, a University of Toronto graduate, was appointed Hussein's chief nuclear advisor in the 1970s, when Iraq had visions of dominating the Middle East.

In 1979, a year before Iraq invaded Iran, Shahristani was ordered to develop an atomic device. When he refused, Hussein countered by saying it was his duty to serve his country. Shahristani was unmoved. In a final, imprudent act of defiance, he condemned Iraq's deplorable human rights record.

Shahristani was arrested, tortured for 22 consecutive days and nights and banished to prison in Baghdad for life. Hussein's brother-in-law offered him a way out if he relented, but Shahristani was adamant.

He languished in prison until the outbreak of the Gulf War, when he escaped, rejoined his family and went into exile in Iran, a circumstance that remains a thorn in Iraq's side.

Since then, Shahristani has become a human rights activist, focusing his attention on Iraq's campaign of brutality against the Marsh Arabs, the descendants of the ancient Sumerians.

According to Saywell, 250,000 Marsh Arabs have been killed or displaced by Iraq in the past few years.

Fire and Water, which is narrated by Kate Nelligan, is first and foremost a chilling expose of Iraq's unbridled regional ambitions. Shahristani, a quiet, reflective individual, claims that Hussein sought "to reshape the map of the Middle East."

The Iraqi dictator might have succeeded had Shahristani used his talents to provide Iraq with a nuclear arsenal, Saywell believes. Shahristani recoiled from this task because he considered it "dangerous, immoral and unethical."

Fire and Water also paints a compelling picture of Hussein, whom Shahristaini describes as "a person with a complex," who behaves like a Babylonian king.

Finally, *Fire and Water* is a poignant account of a tight-knit family. For 11 years, as he rotted in a cell, Shahristani's Canadian-born wife — Bernice Holtom, a convert to Islam — and their three children never wavered in their loyalty, dedication and love.

One might ask why Shahristani continues to live in Iran, not exactly a model of religious or political pluralism, when Canada has offered him asylum.

The answer is clear. Iran lies in close proximity to the Marsh Arabs, whom Shahristani is trying to save from further harassment and death.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Spielberg Archive Screens Early Zionist Film, Rare Dreyfus Footage: A special award was presented to the Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem for its presentation of the first-ever retrospective of pre-state Israeli films at the recent Pordenone Silent Film Festival in Italy.

The award was granted to the Spielberg Archive for its contribution to enriching the knowledge of Israeli film-making in general and specifically those made in the silent film era. While most of the 35 films in the retrospective came from the archive's own collection, several were contributed by Czech, Dutch, British, American, Danish and German film archives.

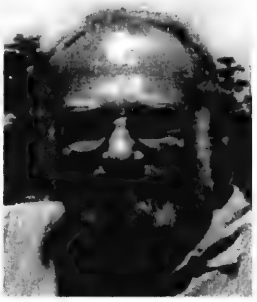
Among the rare films shown by the archives was one shot in Rennes, France, during the second trial for treason of Alfred Dreyfus in 1899. The film contains scenes of Dreyfus walking in prison with his jailers and of his wife leaving the prison after visiting him. Having only recently come to light, it is believed to be the only authentic film footage showing Dreyfus at the time of the affair.

Another rare film was *Springtime in Palestine*, produced by Keren Hayesod in 1928. The most ambitious Zionist film produced in the 1920s, it was considered lost until a surviving print was found recently in the German Federal Film archives.

* * *

Jewish Book Awards: Submissions for the 1996 Jewish Book Awards are being accepted at the Koffler Centre of the Arts, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York, Ont. M2R 1W6, up to Feb. 1. To be eligible, books should be by Canadian authors writing on subjects of Jewish interest and published in Canada in 1994 or 1995.

Award categories include fiction, poetry, biblical/rabbinic scholarship, history, literature for young readers, scholarship on a Canadian Jewish subject, original translation from Yiddish or Hebrew, Yiddish writing, Holocaust history or literature. Awards vary from $250 to $1,000. Two copies of each book are required. Contact Joan Tooke, 416-646-1880, ext. 299.



Shel Krakofsky

* * *

London Book Launch: Physician-writer Shel Krakofsky launches his newest poetry collection, *Blind Messiah*, in London, Ont.'s Congregation Beth Tefilah Jan. 13 at 7.30 p.m.

Published by Moonstone Press, *Blind Messiah* follows the popular and critical success of Krakofsky's previous collections of poetry and short fiction, for which he has received several national literary awards as well as the 1993 Jewish Book Prize for creative writing.

Krakofsky is the founding editor of *Parchment*, Canada's national journal of contemporary Jewish writing, and a former English teacher and journalist with the *Globe and Mail*. He practises medicine in London and lives with his family in the nearby farming community of Komoka.

* * *

Winchevsky Centre Benefit: The United Jewish Peoples Order presents singer Batsheva, who performs in Yiddish and Ladino; klezmer clarinet-saxophonist Martin Van de Ven of the Flying Bulgar Band; and Heavy Shtetl Music. As well, performers Judy Silver and Bill Baird are set to lead participants in Yiddish and Israeli folk dances.

Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave., North York, Jan. 13, 8 p.m. Tickets are available at This Ain't the Rosedale Library at Church and Wellesley streets, at Lasting Impressions in Bathurst Manor Plaza, or by calling 416-635-0720.

* * *

Morton Feldman Anniversary: New Music Concerts pays homage to the late American composer Morton Feldman on the 70th anniversary of his birth, with a performance of his *Crippled Symmetry* at 8p.m. on Jan. 12 at the North York Recital Hall.

The concert features percussionist Robin Engleman, pianist Barbara Pritchard and NMC founder/ artistic director and flutist Robert Aitken. It will be preceeded at 7:15 by a filmed interview with Feldman.

Tickets are $18 adults, $9 students and seniors. 416- 872-2222.

* * *

In Brief: TVO is presenting three documentaries by award-winning film-makers Albert and David Maysles, the pioneers of direct cinema. *See Umbrellas* (1995) on Feb. 1, *Gimme Shelter* (1970) on Feb. 8, *Salesman* (1968) on Feb. 22, all at 10 p.m.

Hear Toronto's own "Yiddish Bette Midler," Theresa Tova, singing From Belz to Broadway at the New Yorker Theatre, 651 Yonge St., Jan. 28, 8 p.m. Tickets ($18) are available through TicketMaster at 416-870-8000 or 416-872-1111.

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Business Briefs

Israeli Standard Of Living Rises

JERUSALEM – Israelis improved their standard of living in 1995, earning more money during the year and spending more of what they earned.

Israel's per capita personal disposable income grew by five per cent during 1995, while consumer spending grew by four per cent, according to figures released this week by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Israel's tourism industry also experienced an upswing in 1995, with a 15 per cent increase in the number of visitors.

Japanes Investors Show Interest In Israel

TEL-AVIV – Some of Japan's largest investment groups have expressed interest in launching investment activities in Israel following a seminar conducted by Bank Hapoalim in Tokyo.

The bank's chief representative for Canada, Rafi Ben-Ami, said many of the 150 Japanese business leaders who participated in the seminar in December held private meetings with members of the Hapoalim delegation. Israel-Japan trade has already grown to $2 billion (US) annually, with Japan now Israel's largest export market after the United States.

Some of the Japanese participants included Sumitomo Bank, Fuji Bank and Mitsubishi Ltd.

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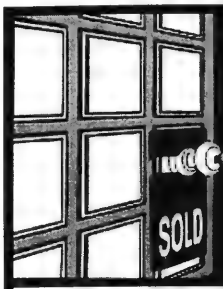

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259 SENIORS

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

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Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
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285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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330 OBITUARIES

Render, Henry on December 26, 1995, late of 52 Palmerston Dr.
Girtler, Leopold on December 27, 1995, late of 4266 Bathurst St. #603
Voindonison, Ioudonison on December 27, 1995, late of 100 Antibes Dr. #1703
Poch, Louis on December 27, 1995, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E. #2908
Weisberg, Anne on December 29, 1995
Swartz, Matilda on January 1, 1996, late of 163 Faywood Blvd.
Rovet, Ethel on January 1, 1996
Altman, Yeoshua Salek on January 1, 1996
Sekhan, (Sehan) Rivekka on January 2, 1996

Steeles Memorial Chapel

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330 OBITUARIES

Bella Granatstein on December 23, 1995, late of 645 Castlefield Avenue
Rose Steiner on December 22, 1995, late of 55 Skymark Drive #102
Roslyn Mallen on December 24, 1995, late of 55 Burnview Cres.
Philip Granovsky on December 24, 1995, late of 55 Prince Arthur Ave. #903
Sydney Ezrin on December 25, 1995, late of 300 Antibes Dr. #201
Charles Tucker on December 26, 1995, late of 496 Hidden Trail
Eugenio Grosz on December 24, 1995, late of 175 Cummer Ave. #355
Samuel Johnson on December 28, 1995, late of 62 Baycrest Ave.
Annie Zimmerman on December 28, 1995, late of 6010 Bathurst St., #305

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C.J.N.
Classifieds Really Do Work!!!

Dear Ella,

I am a 34-year-old woman and have been playing in the single's circles for years.

It finally happened! I met the most wonderful man. He is kind, funny, romantic and honest – all the traits that are important to me. He is originally from Russia and has lived here for almost seven years now. Avram speaks with a strong accent, but his English is good.

I finally decided I would take him to meet my parents. My parents are of Polish decent and have very strong values. They are also overprotective, possibly because I was an only child.

The evening went well until after dinner when we retired to the couch. Then my mother asked that unavoidable question: "So what do you do?"

Avram told them he builds frames for furniture at a factory.

Ella, you had to see their faces drop. The tone for the rest of the evening was set after that. They were cold and borderline rude. I was very embarrassed and had to get out of there fast.

I love my parents dearly but will not let them ruin the first good relationship I have found in a long time.

From Russia with Love

Dear From Russia with Love,

Congratulations!

It sounds like you have met a very special person, and from the sound of your letter, a good match for you.

Try to put yourself in your parents' place. They love you very much and have raised you with their own vision of how and with whom you will end up. Their dream is that you should want for nothing. Your parents have not yet had a chance to learn of Avram's qualities. All they know is that he does not fit the exact mould that they envisioned for you.

Give them a chance to get to know him. You said yourself that they have very strong values. Let them learn, the way you did, what a special person Avram is.

Try to use patience instead of anger and it will work out for you.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

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POTATO APPLE BAKE

6 medium potatoes, peeled and boiled

1/2 cup applesauce

dash cinnamon (optional)

3 tblsp onion soup mix

2 tblsp vegetable oil

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a medium casserole dish. Mash potatoes when hot. Add cinnamon to applesauce, then add to mashed potatoes. Mix well. In a small bowl, mix soup with oil. Add to potato mixture and mix well. Pour into prepared dish and bake for 45 minutes. Serves 6-8.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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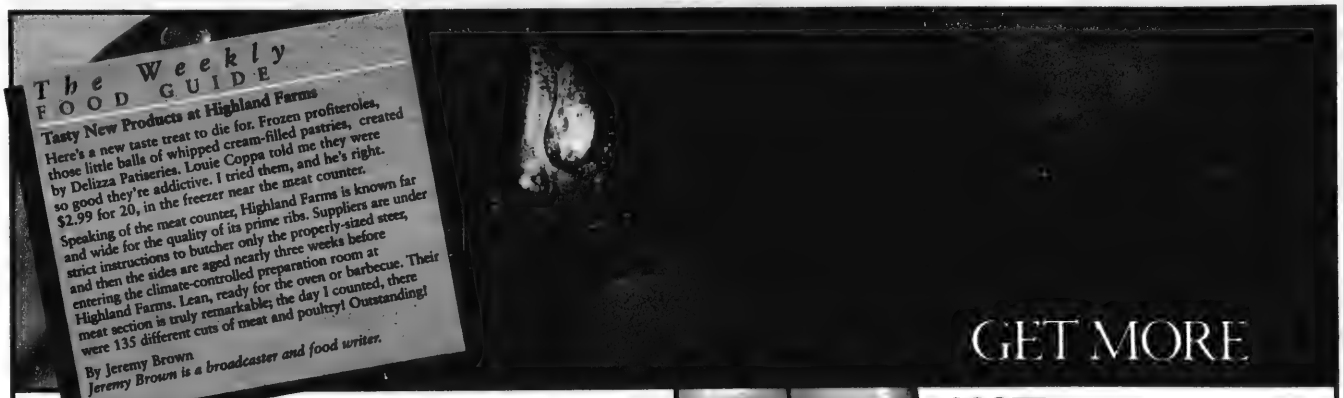
The Weekly FOOD GUIDE

Tasty New Products at Highland Farms

Here's a new taste treat to die for. Frozen profiteroles, those little balls of whipped cream-filled pastries, created by Delizza Patiseries. Louie Coppa told me they were so good they're addictive. I tried them, and he's right. $2.99 for 20, in the freezer near the meat counter.

Speaking of the meat counter, Highland Farms is known far and wide for the quality of its prime ribs. Suppliers are under strict instructions to butcher only the properly-sized steer, and then the sides are aged nearly three weeks before entering the climate-controlled preparation room at Highland Farms. Lean, ready for the oven or barbecue. Their meat section is truly remarkable; the day I counted, there were 135 different cuts of meat and poultry! Outstanding!

By Jeremy Brown
Jeremy Brown is a broadcaster and food writer.



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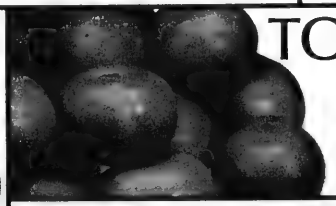

TOMATOES
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2.18 kg

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Product of USA
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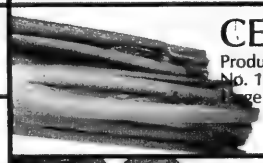

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ORANGES
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Orchard, Fancy Grade, Fresh
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The Canadian Jewish news
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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Woman denied refugee status may take case to the United Nations. **Page 5**

School funding case goes to the Supreme Court this week. *Backgrounder* **Page 6**

Esther Wachsman, mother of murdered IDF soldier Nachshon, speaks to *The CJN.* **Page 7**

Coast to Coast

Markham, Ont. to name street in honor of Jerusalem's 3,000th anniversary. **Page 24**

Israel, U.S.A & the World

Saddam Hussein remains in full command of Iraq despite crippling economic sanctions. *Analysis.* **Page 28**

Sports *news*

Place-kicking brothers, two of five Jews who played in this year's American college football Bowl games. **Page 35**

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Havdalah: 5:58

Canada, Israel free trade

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — A free trade agreement between Canada and Israel will go into effect on July 1, pending approval by both governments.

Negotiators hammered out an agreement in principle in Israel last week, capping 14 months of talks.

If approved, the agreement will remove all tariffs on industrial products on July 1. Experts predict that bilateral trade would triple.

"We could be exporting $500 million a year to Israel instead of $150 million," said Kevin Gore, chief negotiator for Canada.

Tariffs would remain in force for certain agricultural and fish products.

In the next few weeks, officials will finalize a few technicalities in the proposed agreement. The document will then be presented to both governments for review, with the goal of implementing it July 1.

Gore said he would urge the Canadian government to adopt the agreement in full. "If either side begins making changes the whole agreement could collapse," he warned.

Israel has been pressing for a free trade agreement with Canada for many years, but Ottawa was reluctant to sign one in the aftermath of the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA].

However, Israel's other free trade agreements with the United States and European Union put Canadian exports to Israel at a great disadvantage – in fact that eventually convinced Canada to alter its position.

The foundation for the agreement was laid during the visit of Yitzhak Rabin to Canada in November, 1994, when he and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien shook hands on the issue.

"This agreement in principle consummates that commitment," said Canada's ambassador to Israel, David Berger.

Currently, some Canadian exports to Israel, such as paper products, face tariffs of over 40 per cent. "These will disappear on July 1," said Gore, noting that there will be no gradual phasing out of tariffs as in NAFTA.

A period of adjustment is not necessary, he explained, because both sides have already adapted to an open market and because the volume of trade between the two countries is not that great.

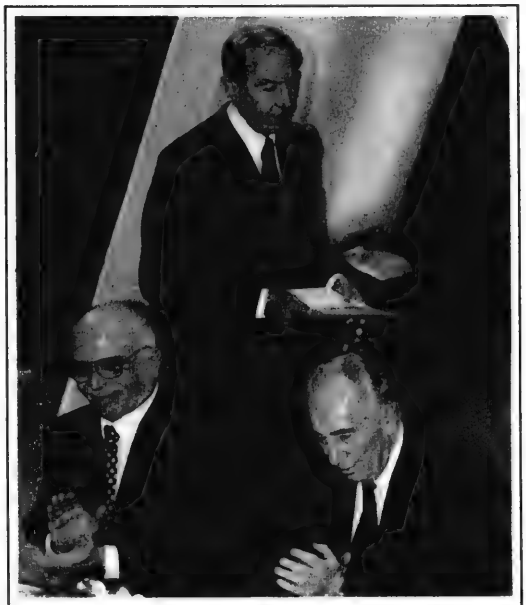
In 1994, Canada imported $182 million worth of goods from Israel and sold Israel $149 million in Canadian merchandise.

The total volume of trade reached $350 million in the first nine months of 1995.

The agreement will also apply to the West Bank and Gaza Strip by virtue of the customs union between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

"An important aspect of the agreement is that it takes into account the considerable amount of trade that each side does with the United States," said Israeli negotiator Dr. Gabriella Cohen.

Continued on page 29



APPLAUDING THE PEACE-MAKER
King Hussein (left) and Prime Minister Shimon Peres applaud Secretary of State Warren Christopher after his speech at an award ceremony near Tiberias honoring heads of the Jordanian and Israeli peace teams, Faez Tawarneh and Elyakim Rubinstein. *[RNS]*

Israel security chief

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – In an interview with the *Jerusalem Post* several years ago, Adm. Ami Ayalon displayed a reticence that in retrospect seems appropriate for the man named last week as the new head of the General Security Service.

Feature

The interview dealt with Ayalon's role in the attack in 1969 by a naval commando force on Green Island, a fortified Egyptian position in the Red Sea. The admiral was clearly uncomfortable talking to a reporter, particularly about himself. Slowly, he related his part in the story, a role which won him the nation's highest award for bravery. He spoke at first in sparse sentences that cloaked more than they revealed but as he began to relive the moment the telling became more animated.

The event had taken place during the War of Attrition along the Suez Canal. The Egyptians, recovering from the debacle of the Six Day War, were laying down massive artillery barrages daily on the Bar-Lev Line and launching commando raids across the canal with increasing boldness.

Continued on page 29

Radical right mute in Canada

By PAUL LUNGEN
and DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporters

Only weeks after shloshim services were held for Yitzhak Rabin, two Jerusalem yeshiva students were convicted of spitting on the grave of the assassinated Israeli leader.

While they face a maximum of three years in jail, the act demonstrated yet again the contempt in which Rabin was held by some members of the Orthodox community.

Rabin's assassination appears to have been an entirely homegrown affair, though echoes of support for the assassin, Yigal Amir, have been heard in Israel and the United States.

Only faint hints of support, if any, for Rabin's assassination have been heard in Canada, but some in the Jewish community, who have their ears to the ground, say a more serious concern has been the escalating level of rhetoric heard prior to the assassination.

Shortly after Amir's arrest, the Israeli media reported a Canadian had come forward to bankroll the confessed murderer's legal defence.

It was later revealed those reports were wrong, but former Canadian Jewish Defence League leader Meir Halevi said "It wouldn't surprise me if people in Toronto were supporting Amir's defence fund."

Halevi, who has also headed the Canadian version of Kach, Rabbi Meir Kahane's political party that was banned in Israel, said Toronto is "more traditional and right wing" than other North American cities.

"Not that the assassination had the blessing of people, but before the assassination people came up

Continued on page 25

SUMMER TIME FUN:

Look for our 16-page camps advertorial section inside this week's paper for advice on where to send your kids.

Don't
The

Christopher optimistic over Israel/Syria talks — please see page 27

The News In Brief

International

CANADA

Order of Canada

OTTAWA — Several Jewish Canadians were among the 68 appointments to the Order of Canada announced this month by Governor General Romeo LeBlanc.

Promoted to Companion, the Order's highest rank, was composer Louis Applebaum of Toronto.

Named an Officer was Abel Joseph Diamond of Toronto (architecture).

Appointed Members were Jack Bell of Vancouver (philanthropy); Frances Belzberg of Vancouver (volunteerism); Gordon Brown of Montreal (volunteerism); Yhetta Miriam Gold of Ottawa (social sciences); Senator Jack Marshall of Ottawa (politics); and Joseph M. Tanenbaum of Toronto (philanthropy).

Mitterrand Condolences

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress last week sent a letter to France's ambassador to Canada extending condolences on the death of former President Francois Mitterrand.

Mitterrand encouraged a more balanced policy in the Middle East and was the first French president ever to visit the Jewish state, states Congress' letter to Ambassador Alfred Siefer-Gaillardin.

The late president showed strong leadership when he joined a national protest following the 1990 desecration of a Jewish cemetery in Carpentras, Congress noted.

Changes Delayed

OTTAWA — The introduction of new selection criteria to assess skilled immigrants, released by Immigration Minister Sergio Marchi two months ago, has been put on hold indefinitely.

The new regulations were to come into force Feb. 8 but concerns raised by immigration lawyers have delayed them.

The new rules would place increased emphasis on an applicant's knowledge of English or French, as well on skills and ability to adapt quickly to the Canadian job market.

Superstein Honored

EDMONTON — The University of Alberta recently honored longtime Jewish community activist Jake Superstein with a honorary doctor of laws degree.

Superstein, 80, came to Canada from Pinski, Poland, in 1928 and along with his father and brothers, founded the Edmonton Produce Company.

He was awarded the degree in recognition of his "voluntary service to the community and his devout contributions in advancing harmony, compassion and genuine kindness to all citizens."

Camp BB on Net

OTTAWA — Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa says it is the first Jewish summer camp in Canada to be on the Internet.

The camp has announced the Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa Home Page, featuring information, color photos and other data.

It can be found at http://www.ottawa.net/— saul/camp.

ISRAEL

Oslo 2 First Reading

JERUSALEM — The Knesset last Monday night passed, on first reading, the bill implementing the Oslo 2 peace accord, by a 41-32 vote.

MKs from the Orthodox Shas party were absent.

The bill would implement different aspects of the Oslo 2 agreement, including a clause allowing Arab residents of east Jerusalem to vote in the Jan. 20 Palestinian elections.

Arab Voting

JERUSALEM — A survey by Haifa University into voting trends among Israeli Arabs has revealed a marked drop in support for right-wing parties and a dramatic rise in support for the Labor Party and the left-wing bloc.

The survey of 1,200 Arab voters, conducted last autumn, shows that 95 per cent of respondents said they would vote for Labor, left-wing and Arab parties.

Only five per cent said they would vote for the Likud or smaller right-wing or religious parties.

In the 1992 elections, right-wing and religious parties garnered 22 per cent of the Israeli Arab vote.

Willing to Send Troops

JERUSALEM — The United States would be willing to send troops to the Golan Heights to help Israel and Syria implement a peace deal, U.S. Secretary of Defence William Perry said last week during a visit here.

If an agreement calls for a peace monitoring force in the Golan Heights, and if both Israel and Syria request that United States participate, "we are prepared to do that," Perry said after talks with Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Mine Kills Three

JERUSALEM — Three Israeli civilians were killed and one injured earlier this month when their jeep ran over a land mine in the Sinai.

A group of 13 Israelis had flown to Sharm el-Sheikh, where they rented four jeeps for a desert outing.

Shortly after they set out, one of the jeeps detonated an old mine.

The charge, apparently from a minefield laid by the Egyptians before the 1967 Six Day War, had apparently been washed into the popular jeep routes during flooding.

WORLD

Swedish Writer Dies

STOCKHOLM — Swedish journalist Arvid Fredborg, one of the first people to report the scope and goals of the Holocaust died last week near here. He was 80.

Fredborg's 1943 book, *Behind the Steel Walls*, detailed the extermination of Jews at death camps, and estimated that two million Jews had been killed up to that time.

The book created a stir in Sweden and was published in English in 1944.

Scholarships Available

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Vol. XXXVI, No. 37 (2,783)

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Ethnic, religious groups plan to lobby gov't on cutbacks

By **BEN ROSE**
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish groups have taken the initiative in forming a coalition with other major religious groups and the Chinese, Italian and Portuguese communities, to lobby the Ontario government to ease the effect of cutbacks on the poor, seniors, the disabled and those dependent on non-profit housing.

"We had to take the bull by the horns and work with other faiths in presenting a positive program," said Harold Brief, chair of a committee representing Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (JFGT).

One of the six points agreed upon by the coalition is a request that services provided by religious and/or ethnic communities for their own people be allowed to continue because of their efficiency, volunteer support and fundraising ability.

The report, presented to an Ontario region meeting Jan. 11, was endorsed by representatives of the Anglican, Catholic, Seventh Day Adventist and United churches, as well as by delegates from the Chinese, Italian and Portuguese communities.

A small working group will prepare a position paper to be presented to the government, Brief said.

"We understand the door is slightly open now," he said. "In the past there was no chance for consultation."

When a Congress delegate asked if the coalition intended to criticize the "undemocratic nature" of the government cuts, Brief said it was more interested in presenting a positive program.

Concern for society's most vulnerable and the statement that the Ontario government must represent all the people are among the six main points endorsed by the coalition. They also support the need for transition measures to help social service providers and their clients, and for new tax powers by municipalities in the face of increasing caseloads, including breaks for non-profit groups.

It is also suggested that the government change regulations governing social service delivery in a variety of areas, includng child care, to increase efficiency.

Representing the JFGT on the coalition are Alan Sandler, Gerry Richler and Morris Zbar, while Congress is represented by Brief, Rabbi Dow Marmur and executive director Manuel Prutschi.

Racism report critiqued

By **PAUL LUNGEN**
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A York University study that found white residents of Toronto do not generally harbor racist views drew mixed reviews, with critics arguing it was too limited in its definition of racism.

"The authors are defining the term racism narrowly," said Karen Mock, national director of the League for Human Rights. "They are using the term only to mean those people who hold blatantly bigoted views."

The report found 58 per cent of whites believe "visible minorities often get better treatment than other Canadians," she pointed out. The statement "is simply not true" and the fact that whites believe it indicates a "backlash in the view of visible minorities."

Even more, the statement represents a "racist view, but that's not the way people view racism. If you suggest it's racist, they get defensive," she added.

Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, interpreted the study's findings differently.

"Toronto is a pretty good place to live ... I don't think anyone ever suggested that Toronto is a city rampant with racism. We've had some troubles and we deal with them as they occur," he said.

The report, conducted by York University's Institute for Social Research, found that "in general, white Torontonians cannot be viewed as having racist views."

The study "does not sustain these gross claims that come from some quarters that there are widespread negative attitudes towards non-whites in Metro. The data does not bear that out," said York professor Paul Grayson, author of the study.

In the survey, 85 per cent of whites agreed with the statement that "visible minorities have made an important contribution to the cultural life of Canada," while only nine per cent disagreed.

Eighty-one per cent of whites agreed that "it should be against the the law to treat visible minorities different from other Canadians" and 79 per cent disagreed with the statement that "most visible minority people are not prepared to work as hard as other Canadians."

The report also concluded that whites are by-and-large opposed to forcing businesses to hire minority workers. Only 29 per cent agreed with the statement, "If companies have few visible minority workers, they should be made to hire more visible minority workers when they hire new staff." Sixty-four per cent disagreed with that statement.

Meanwhile, a second York University study, also prepared for the Commission on Systemic Racism in the Ontario Criminal Justice System, found that blacks believe they are treated worse than whites by police.

Seventy-nine per cent of blacks, 60 per cent of Chinese and only 50 per cent of whites believe that blacks are treated worse than whites by police.

Will Bathurst St. become the Jerusalem of Toronto?

TORONTO — It might not be a bad idea for Bathurst Street to be renamed Jerusalem Street in honor of Jerusalem 3000, Rabbi Dow Marmur suggested jokingly, but there are several obstacles.

"There are too many property owners and residents who would have to give their approval, and besides the street goes through five municipalties," he said.

Rabbi Marmur was reporting on behalf of the Israel Affairs Committee to the Ontario Region of Canadian Jewish Congress on efforts to mark Jerusalem's 3000th anniversary.

So far, the best prospect is in the City of York, where rabbis of three synagogues have agreed on the street to be renamed in their area, but residents must still be consulted, Rabbi Marmur said.

He said Mayor Barbara Hall of Toronto also displayed a "positive" attitude towards the Congress request to rename a street, but renaming Bathurst Street was not discussed with her.

— **B.R.**

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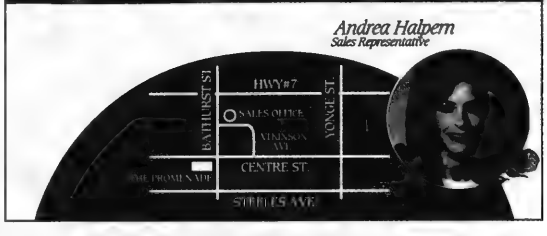

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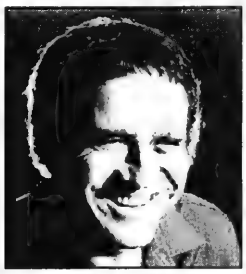

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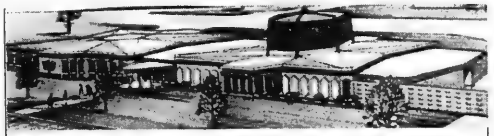

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From the editor's desk

Palestinians undertake transition to democracy

"Going to the polls" is a phrase that we in the West readily understand. It sits easily with us. It is commonly used in our language because it is part of the deep structure of our way of life.

In two days, on Jan. 20, the Palestinian residents of the West Bank, Gaza and the Arab-populated areas of Jerusalem will also be going to the polls. But in the context of Palestinian elections, the phrase "going to the polls" has never been used before. It does not mean, of course, that democracy, in its full and true sense, will have arrived for the Palestinian people. For, apart from Israel, nowhere in the Middle East has democracy in any sense arrived for any people. But it does mean that the beginning of the long, arduous transition to democracy for Israel's troubled and troublesome neighbors may possibly be closer by a small, but significant step.

This week across my desk, I received a concise primer on the Palestinian elections prepared by David Goldberg, PhD, director of research and education at the Foundation for Middle East Studies. The foundation is a research organization that provides information and research to individuals, groups and agencies within the Jewish community of Canada. As anyone who knows Goldberg will attest, the quality of the work is excellent. He writes in a manner true to his training and responsive to his readers' needs. Thus, his work is comprehensive and carefully footnoted, but written in a style which is comfortable for the lay reader.

He provides the historical background to the elections, explains their technical aspects, and then offers some interpretative analysis about their implications.

I shall try to give a brief variation of Goldberg's summary.

The elections were born in the Declaration of Principles (DoP) agreed to between Israel and the PLO on Dec. 13, 1993.

Though the DoP provides the legal authority for the elections, the genesis of the idea lay in the Camp David accords signed by then-prime minister Menachem Begin and president Anwar al-Sadat in 1978, and subsequently reintroduced in the 22-point plan formulated in May 1989 by the Likud-Labor national unity government headed by Yitzhak Shamir.

As of this writing, 1,013,235 people have registered to vote. They will be choosing from among 700 candidates for incumbency to an 88-member council elected from 16 electoral districts. Arab residents of Jerusalem will also participate in the elections. All seats in the districts will go to the party with the most votes.

Two additional candidates, Yasser Arafat and Samiha Khalil, a 72-year-old veteran anti-Israel activist, are contesting the position of Ra'ees.

In his paper, Goldberg meticulously records the areas of division in Israel over the elections, between the skeptics and the enthusiasts, the Likud and the government. The former "are troubled by the participation in the election of Arab Jerusalemites," fearing this will "open the way to a Palestinian effort to redivide the city." They also assert that the new council will be a parliament in waiting for an eventual Palestinian state which will "constitute a mortal security threat to Israel."

The latter, on the other hand, contend that the elections are an integral component of Palestinian-Israeli reconciliation. The elections, they say, "will create a new psychological and social reality in the territories."

Goldberg is no naif. He does not gloss over the many contentious aspects of the electoral process that has been imposed upon the newly enfranchised electorate by Yasser Arafat and his followers. He does not idealize the participants, both candidates and electors, as converts-to-democracy along the road to Ramallah. Nor does he glorify the impending event as a watershed in the history of the region.

He carefully places the elections in the context of the beleaguered, suspect process that he hopes will lead to a permanent, peaceful reconciliation between two peoples. One of the most effective guarantors of such a reconciliation would be the introduction into the Palestinian way of life of the norms and values of democracy.

Thus, Goldberg writes: "In the final analysis, the elections ... should be viewed as a means toward the fulfilment of true democracy for the Palestinian people, and not as an end in itself."

In the long run, democracy for the Palestinian people is as important to Israel as it is to "Palestine".

MBD

The candidates

Ontario teens meet in *kallah*

TORONTO — Thirty-four teenagers from small Ontario Jewish communities came to Toronto for a recent four-day *kallah* (gathering) focusing on the Holocaust.

A key speaker at the High School Outreach Program of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region was Toronto survivor and partisan fighter Peter Silverman.

In the weeks prior to the *kallah*, students received material on Holocaust education, anti-Semitism and anti-racism, said Randie Cartman, program coordinator. "An extra day was added to this *kallah* so that our youngsters were not overwhelmed by the amount of information presented."

Students in scattered communities learn by correspondence through material sent out by Congress and periodic visits by Congress professionals, according to Dr. Harvey Erlich of Toronto and Judi Cartman of Sudbury, chairs of the Congress regional youth committee.

Some of the 34 participants in CJC Ontario region's high school outreach program for teens in small communities met in Toronto for a four-day kallah. In front is Sarah Chalmers of Peterborough. Behind her (l-r) are Avi Gross Sobol (Guelph); Elaine Cooper (Cambridge); Amy Pepper (Cobourg); Sarah Nashman (Peterborough); Leah Kilberg (Guelph); Arielle Berger (Kingston), Erica Green (Barrie) and Devon Searle (Stratford). [Randie Cartman Photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Frustrated lawyer may take refugee case to UN agency

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The frustrated lawyer for a woman who was denied refugee status in Canada on the grounds that, as a Jew, she could go live in Israel, says he may take the case to the United Nations.

And Yehuda Levinson predicts there will be a "flood" of dismissals of asylum claims from Jews, because Canadian officials have been emboldened by a recent court decision.

Other experts and community groups are still trying to come to terms with the controversial ruling, which they fear will single out Jewish refugee claimants for refusal.

In a decision made Nov. 23 but released last month, the Federal Court of Canada upheld an earlier Immigration and Refugee Board [IRB] ruling denying asylum to 65-year-old Antonina Grygorian, who claimed to have suffered personal anti-Semitic attacks in Azerbaijan [*CJN*, Dec. 21].

The IRB ruled that as a Jew, Grygorian could have availed herself of Israel's Law of Return, which guarantees citizenship to anyone who can prove one Jewish grandparent and states an intention to settle in Israel.

Grygorian, who came to Canada in 1994 to join her daughter and has shown no interest in settling in Israel, could have obtained Israeli citizenship "by a mere formality of application," the panel stated.

The Federal Court agreed, saying Canada's protection should only go to those who do not have "ready and automatic right to another country's nationality."

Late last month, the court refused the certification of a question — essentially an appeal — from Levinson. That means the matter can go no further in the courts.

But Levinson isn't through.

He's applied for what's known as a post-determination reevaluation of the case before an immigration official. In the meantime, Grygorian can stay in Canada.

If that fails, Levinson says he'll take the case to the Geneva-based United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Amnesty International and other human rights groups.

Meanwhile, he fears Grygorian can be deported to Azerbaijan, her last place of residence, or to her native Russia.

Levinson had pointed words for the Federal Court judge's understanding of the Law of Return, saying, "He just didn't get it."

On the other hand, he said nothing is preventing another court challenge of a similar IRB ruling, and the possibility of a completely different outcome. And Levinson said he would be "shocked" if he eventually lost this case.

There have been contradictory rulings. Last May, an IRB panel concluded that the Law of Return makes it clear that a desire to settle in Israel is necessary to obtain Israeli citizenship, and that Israeli law requires "demonstration of such desire by actual immigration" to Israel.

But many in the Jewish community worry the Grygorian ruling — the first of its kind — sets a dangerous precedent.

Perry Romberg, acting national director of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS), said the decision smacks of Canada's wartime "none is too many" policy on Jewish immigration.

It also "infers that Israeli citizenship is automatic to all Jews."

Romberg said IRB panels are now free to use the ruling. "Those panels that might not be friendly can easily quote this," he said.

"It's not happening to anyone but Jews, who should have to same full access to the law as anyone else."

Toronto immigration lawyer Harvey Savage, meantime, plans to challenge the court ruling before an IRB panel in April.

He'll argue the decision contravenes Section 15 of Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedom, which guarantees equality before the law regardless of race, religion or ethnic origin.

Savage said the decision has sent "shock waves" through the IRB, some of whose members are "appalled" by it.

Well-known refugee lawyer David Matas of Winnipeg called the ruling "totally ridiculous" and "unreal" and said he would like the Canadian government to assess the risk of Grygorian's deportation to Azerbaijan.

Matas called on Israel to get involved and state a policy on people who are eligible to immigrate and have nowhere else to go.

Eli Yerushalmi, chargé d'affaires at Israel's embassy in Ottawa, told *The CJN* that Israel's policy "is clear. Every Jew who wants to come is eligible [for citizenship], and that's it."

He said Israel does not interfere in the policies of other nations.

BOOKS FOR DONATION

Students at Leo Baeck Day School recently collected hundreds of books for donation to Mount Sinai Hospital's Marketplace Fundraiser. The hospital raised over $100,000 towards a new neo-natal unit. Shown are hospital volunteer Liora Yakubowicz with Leo Baeck students (rear from left) Ryan Payne and Jessica Rose and (front, from left) Shayna Avinoam and Marli Mucher. [Zita Gardner Photo]

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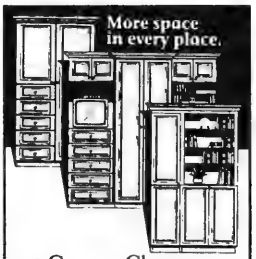

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Supreme Court to consider school funding case

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Rivka (Riky) Young, the high cost of a Jewish education has forced her to limit her daughter Hila's day school experience to the elementary grades.

Backgrounder to the news

With university looming on the horizon and tuition fees reaching $5,000 to $6,000 per year, it was one or the other, she said.

Ironically, Young could have avoided that dilemma had her mother made another choice years ago in Israel.

Young's mother was a practising Catholic, but she converted to Judaism in Israel before Young was born.

Had her mother not converted, Young would have had no trouble giving her daughter a Catholic education — at the taxpayers' expense. Being Jewish has meant she's had to lay out tens of thousands of dollars in tuition fees for Hila to get at least an elementary school education.

She'd like to have sent Hila, 17, to a Jewish high school, but "if Hila wants to go to university, I can't afford that and a Jewish school. It would be too much money," Young said.

Young is angry that, as a taxpayer, she helps subsidize Catholic schools at the same time as high costs forced her to end her child's Jewish day school education.

"Why do the Catholics get the choice and the Jews don't?" she asked.

That's a question asked by many of the parents of the 10,000 Jewish children attending day schools in Ontario, not to mention thousands of other Ontarians.

Unhappy with the status quo, Young has joined four other parents with children in Jewish day schools who are suing the government of Ontario. They are asking the courts for an order to compel the province to support Jewish schools.

Over the past five years, the case has wound its way through the court system and on Jan. 23 and 24 it will be heard by the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC).

Lawyer Ed Morgan, who is representing the five Jewish parents, said his case comes down to two principles enshrined in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms — equality before the law and freedom of religion.

It is fundamentally unjust that one religious group receives a benefit not available to the members of other faiths, he said. However, two Ontario courts, including the Court of Appeal, have ruled that the bargain entered into at Confederation, which allows the funding of Roman Catholic schools in Ontario, takes precedence over charter rights.

Morgan believes there would be no conflict with that bargain if Jewish schools were funded *in addition* to Catholic ones. He also argues that what the parents are asking does not contradict the High Court's previous ruling in the Bill 30 reference, in which the SCC approved the extension of public money to Catholic schools from Grades 11 to 13.

The equality argument

In addition to the equality argument, Morgan believes that the current funding practice violates parents' freedom of religion. Since education is compulsory in Ontario, that line of reasoning goes, parents have to send their children to school.

Jewish parents, particularly if they're Orthodox, would not be able to fully exercise their religion if they had to send their children to public schools where they can't get the instruction in Jewish practice, prayer, philosophy, festivals and rituals, Morgan said.

At the initial trial, Justice Anderson found a violation of the charter's equality provisions, but he ruled that funding only Catholic schools was a reasonable limitation on those rights, given the goal of maintaining a pluralistic, religion-neutral public school system.

On appeal, a five-justice panel of the Court of Appeal unanimously found no violation of equality rights or of freedom of religion.

In addition, it ruled 4-1 against the parents on a subsidiary issue, the provision of funded health services in Jewish day schools. Matan Kezwer, child of one of the parents suing the province, could not get the medical treatment in a Jewish school that was available in public schools. The dissenting judge agreed with the parents that this was a health and not an education issue, and therefore his treatment should be funded even while he attended Jewish school.

Morgan said the 5-0 Court of Appeal judgment was disturbing, but the decision of the SCC to hear the case (it was not compelled to do so) gives him reason for optimism. The composition of the court has changed almost completely since its decision in the Bill 30 case, with only Chief Justice Antonio Lamer remaining.

In that case, the court considered the equality arguments advanced by Canadian Jewish Congress, which was an intervener, only in passing, Morgan said.

In addition, the SCC "is free to rethink its own rulings."

One argument they will be asked to consider is contained in an affidavit filed by a spokesperson for a bilingual Ottawa Jewish day school, which points to the fact that religion, not language, is the determining criterion on this issue, Morgan said. (Adding to the anomalous funding situation is the fact that Polish, Ukrainian, Hispanic, Portuguese and Filipino Catholics, none of whom could be said to have been part of the Confederation bargain, can benefit from full religious schooling, while Jews and Protestants cannot.)

Government assistance

The Jewish quest for government assistance for day schools goes back at least 20 years, said Manuel Prutschi, executive director of the Ontario region of Congress.

In 1972, Quebec extended significant sums to its independent religious schools and later in the decade "an initiative was launched through the North York board of education under which Jewish school were to come under the [aegis] of the board," Prutschi said.

The provincial government of the day successfully fought that move in the courts.

Then in 1984, Bill Davis, who was Ontario premier, announced that Catholic schools, which had been funded only to the end of Grade 10, would receive funding for the remaining high school years.

Congress then established the Ontario Jewish Association for Equity in Education (OJAEE), to lobby government for fair treatment for Jewish schools.

In 1984, the Shapiro commission studied the issue of funding for non-Catholic independent schools and in 1985, Bernard Shapiro recommended some sort of financial assistance be provided.

But governments of all three major parties have refused to do this, Prutschi pointed out.

Following the Bill 30 case, OJAEE decided to take the Jewish community's position directly to the courts. However, since only individuals can raise equality arguments, Congress helped locate the five parents who sued the government.

Joining the five Jewish parents (Adler, Grossman, Kezwer, Rapp and Young) were parents with children in Protestant schools, who are supported by the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools.

Interveners

The Canadian Civil Liberties Association joined the case as an intervener, arguing that extending funding to other religious groups would fragment the public system, which serves to bring together people from all backgrounds.

Other interveners who oppose the parents' position are the Metro Toronto School Board, the Ontario Federation of School Boards and most recently, the government of Quebec.

While Quebec does provide some funding to Jewish schools, Morgan suggested the province entered the fray because "they feel they don't do it out of constitutional requirements, but out of a generous policy."

A SCC decision, which is binding across the country, would affect them directly, Morgan added.

Although he would not put a dollar figure on the total amount that would go to Jewish day schools if he is succesful, Morgan said Congress estimates that funding all non-Catholic religious independent schools would add three per cent to Ontario's education budget.

During the 1980s, four independent public opinion surveys showed "a significant majority in the province felt that once separate schools were fully funded, that should be extended to independent religous schools operating under ministery guidelines," Prutschi said.

Riky Young (right) is one of five Jewish parents suing the Ontario government for funding for day schools. She's seen here with her daughter Hila.

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Greater Toronto Area

Slain soldier's mother urges 'listening in tolerant manner'

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Disheartened by bitter divisions in Israeli society, Esther Wachsman believes the path to unity can be found in education — starting as early as the preschool years.

"What it will take is education towards communication, which doesn't only mean speaking, but listening in a tolerant manner, and being willing to accept that people who hold views other than your own are good people worth respecting and honoring," Wachsman said in an interview last Friday, enunciating each word for clarity.

The 47-year-old Jerusalem public high school teacher and mother of seven was in town to address the Lubavitch International Women's convention at Markham's Chimo Hotel Saturday evening.

A New York native who made aliyah in 1969, Wachsman became known world-wide via television news when her 19-year-old son Nachshon, a soldier in the IDF's elite Golani brigade, was kidnapped by Hamas terrorists in October 1994. Countless people prayed for his safety as they lit an extra Shabbat candle at his mother's request, but Nachshon was murdered by his captors during a failed Israeli rescue attempt.

Since then, Wachsman and her husband Yehudah, also 47, have devoted themselves to promoting peace and Jewish unity, all the while carrying out their everyday responsibilities. With children ranging in age from 9 to 23, they've made a point of not being away from home at the same time.

The enormity of Wachsman's commitment and the depth of her religious faith stand in contrast to her short physical stature. A motherly-looking woman with an unexpectedly winsome smile, she is wearing a black hat with colorful appliques, virtually covering her short-cropped hair.

As a religious Zionist, Wachsman resents being considered "an accessory to murder" because Yitzhak Rabin's killer was also Orthodox.

"I was very distressed to see an entire population being stigmatized because the assassin was of a religious background. I resent the fact that my children were uncomfortable wearing their kippot."

She knows of nobody who did not condemn the Nov. 4 murder, she stressed.

Following the assassination, Wachsman wrote a letter to Rabin's widow, Leah, asking her "as the mother figure of Israel" to try to unify the Jewish people, whatever their political stripe.

"Unfortunately that didn't happen," said Wachsman quietly, doubtless referring — among other incidents — to Rabin's pointed snubbing of Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu at her husband's funeral.

Wachsman doesn't condemn Leah Rabin for her anger. "Grief is a very individual emotion," she said.

Her own lack of rancor is almost surreal, but the hint of a tremor in her voice when she discusses her son's murder belies her calm exterior.

"I would not say it shook my faith, but I've certainly questioned G-d. I spent a great deal of time in study and contemplation, trying to find answers, and I discovered that there were none, that every soul is here on loan. The Creator of the Universe determines when that loan is redeemed, and sometimes it's a little too early. I accepted that, and I've learned to let that give me my strength."

She has derived further sustenance from phone calls and letters of support written by Jews and non-Jews alike. Since the family's ordeal began, they have received almost 17,000 letters. "Many, many" were from the Israeli Arab community.

Individual Arabs called to tell them that prayer vigils had been held at their mosques on her son's behalf, and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat phoned to let them know — through his adviser Achmed Tibi, who acted as Hebrew interpreter — that he would do everything in his power to save Nachshon.

Wachsman declines to state her political views publicly, but terms the peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians "problematic."

"I think Chairman Arafat has to be a lot more careful about his rhetoric [when he addresses the Palestinians] to gain credibility with Israelis, who are very concerned about his sovereignty within kilometres of our homes. Words have power, as we saw with the assassination."

Esther Wachsman

Pragmatism and yearnings (for land being given to the Palestinians, for example) don't necessarily coincide, she pointed out.

Wachsman would like to see Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' vision of a "peaceful, democratic country with economic prosperity" expanded to include a Jewish identity component that comprises Jewish values and ideology.

"Going back to [the topic of] education, every schoolchild should learn of his Jewish roots and the richness of his tradition, whether he practises it or not. This should be taught with pride, and should be part of our curriculum. This is not the heritage [only] of the religious population."

One way in which Wachsman promotes Jewish unity is through her involvement in discussion workshops for Israeli youth from diverse backgrounds. Talking to one another shatters stereotypes, she explained.

Wachsman's husband, who met with the father of Nachshon's killer in a stunning gesture of peace following the tragedy, is in the process of establishing a centre for understanding, tolerance and friendship to be sponsored by world leaders including Arabs.

Other projects in memory of Nachshon and Nir Poraz (the Israeli soldier who led troops in the rescue attempt) include an institute to study bird migration.

Birds have no boundaries, explained Wachsman, adding that lives will be saved as a result of the research. Recently, a pilot was killed because a bird collided with his airplane, she noted.

"Everything we've done is for the purpose of life. If Nachshon's life and death are to have any meaning, then it is up to us now to make his memory beautiful."

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Russian's rumblings

Russia has a new foreign minister. He is Yevgeny Primakov, former deputy director of the KGB and since 1991 the head of Russia's foreign intelligence service. He is considered to have been linked to the spy agency for over 30 years. In the parlance of pundits, he is known as a nationalist "hard-liner." He replaces Andrei Kozyrev, who, staunchly "pro-reform" and "pro-West," had become a lightning rod attracting incessant right-wing criticism in the Duma and on the streets of Moscow. As a result, he became politically expendable to his boss Boris Yeltsin, whose uncertain and fragile personal health has become symbolic of his government.

Primakov's appointment was greeted with great delight by the political opponents on both sides peering over Yeltsin's shoulder, including the head of the Communist party, Gennady Zyuganov, and neo-fascist Vladimir Zhirinovsky. The effusively enthusiastic response by two such questionable democrats to the news of Primakov's appointment gives westerners reason to pause, worried about the direction of Yeltsin's government if not, indeed, about the future of Russian democracy.

But when one adds to their response the nature of Primakov's remarks at his first press conference as foreign minister, it is no wonder that, in the words of the *Globe and Mail*, "there is widespread unease in Western capitals over his appointment."

He told reporters that he intends "to correct the imbalance" of Kozyrev's policies, that Russia "is a great power and our policy must reflect our status, that Russia will step up its efforts to defend its national interests." This was clear code language. According to Primakov, Russia's national interest is not necessarily coincident with the interest of collective security and freedoms championed by the West. More ominously, he implied that it may not even share the democratic values so treasured by the West.

When asked about his plans for Iraq in the scheme of Russian foreign policy, he answered that it occupied "a big place" in his view of the Middle East. This response is also quite troubling.

Saddam Hussein is a bully and a thug who, indifferent to the sufferings of his fellow Iraqis, singlehandedly has caused his country to be sanctioned and shunned. That he is a dictator is objectionable to us, but it simply places him in the company of a panoply of similar monocratic governors in the region. But that he is unrepentantly anti-West and anti-Israel places him in the company of Iran and Libya. (And possibly Syria; it is too early to tell.) All are enemies of democracy, freedom and peace, the very foundation stones supporting our way of life. If Iraq – and thus the values it represents – will have a "big place" in future Russian foreign policy, decision-makers in the West had better pay close attention to Russia's new foreign minister. His rumblings may lead beyond mischief.

As debate resumes

Along with the next phase of Palestinian self-rule and the ebb and flow of peace negotiations with Syria, the Israeli public is very much caught up in the question of whether the date for the elections should be moved up from October 1996. Regardless of the actual date of the election, for all intents and purposes, the election campaign in Israel has already begun.

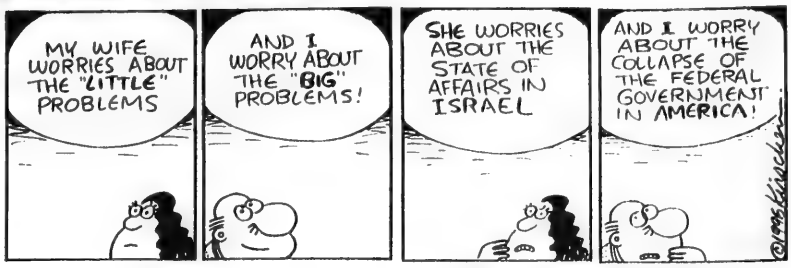
With it we have already started to hear the rhetoric and feel the reheated elements from within the two main competing political camps that the peace process has engendered. But thus far at least, the arguments from the stump and the soapbox have been restricted to substantive policy differences.

Undoubtedly, local partisans of the two camps will transplant some of the emotions of Israel's campaign trail into the neighborhoods of the Diaspora. When that happens, as it surely will, we hope and pray that the language will be moderate, arguments restricted to issues, and the rhetoric muted.

In this issue of *The CJN*, staff reporters Paul Lungen and David Lazarus report that it is generally agreed in our own community there are no extreme, radical, religious or secular right wing advocates of violence. Thank God. But they also report, that before "the assassination", there was extremism and incivility throughout the debate on the peace process. As the debate resumes, we urge participants to ensure that extremism and incivility do not.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

Many people complain about their looks, few about their brains.


MY WIFE WORRIES ABOUT THE "LITTLE" PROBLEMS
AND I WORRY ABOUT THE "BIG" PROBLEMS!
SHE WORRIES ABOUT THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN ISRAEL
AND I WORRY ABOUT THE COLLAPSE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN AMERICA!

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

On Jan.15, 1917, Ida Steinberg opened her first grocery store at what is now 4423 St. Lawrence Blvd. in Montreal. The store was the start of what was to become a family empire. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Slap in the face for Holocaust deniers

Canada Post is to be commended for issuing the new Holocaust stamp. It will help bring home to the general public the enormity of the tragedy that befell our people during World War II. I recommend that members of the Jewish community demonstrate their appreciation to Canada Post by purchasing blocks of these stamps and using them on every possible occasion.

It is gratifying to know that Holocaust deniers will probably be receiving mail bearing the stamp. Staring them in the face will be an unmistakable reminder that Canada has given official and graphic recognition to a historic reality which they labor with such crazed zeal to deny.

Robert B. Eisen
Toronto

Money for woman and child, not Mike

I am responding in this way to a letter from Mike Harris asking me for a donation to the PC ONTARIO FUND "to support the efforts being made by your administration:"

After the fiscal fiasco of the Reagan Revolution, The Common Sense Revolution is a courageous attempt to restore the good name of revolution usurped by Marxism. It was for this reason, amongst others, that I intended to respond generously to your request. What upset my good intention, however, was a lady and her little kid cringing in the cold near the Roy Thomson Hall. She and her boy had been shut out of the shelter because of restructuring and they, like the PC ONTARIO FUND, asked me for help. I faced a defining moment of dilemma, which I eventually resolved by giving the lady the donation initially intended for you.

Still I feel I am obligated to you. I will make my obligation good when I get my 30 per cent tax cut.

Thank you for your understanding.

Eli Pfefferkorn
Toronto

Supports Mike Harris policies

Re: "Ontario cuts forcing re-evaluation of services" by Morris Zbar, and the editorial "Govern, don't bully" (*CJN*, Dec. 14)

I am a member of the Progressive Conservative party and I proudly voted for the Mike Harris government this summer. I also favor many of the policies brought forward by the Reform party of Canada. I was also born Jewish.

I have been growing tired of the bashing of the Mike Harris government in your publication. To state that Jews, as well as other minorities, have to fear the policies of the Ontario Conservatives is unfounded. The announced cut-backs to various social services have been warranted for some time. For example, education tuitions should be increased in Ontario and user fees for the purchase of drugs are highly necessary. We finally have a fiscal conservative government in Ontario to be proud of.

Further, it should be stated that there are some Jews who favor what the Harris government plans to to. The fact that there are Jews who disagree with the Ontario Conservatives cannot be disputed. But, in the future, please remember that lumping together an entire community under one political umbrella is not a justifiable practice.

Michael Taube
Toronto

Cutbacks hit women, youth and poor

We are writing to register our opposition to and concern about the recent cutbacks in Ontario. In particular, we object to the targeting of social programs which serve women, youth and the poor.

We understand that change needs to occur and this is your mandate, but we question the common sense of focusing on social programs exclusively. Alternative methods of balancing the budget exist, including increasing tax revenues by creating liveable wage jobs. This and other methods need to be considered.

Feministyot:
Jewish Feminist Social Action Group
Ali Aber, Dianne Davies, Nora Gold, Deena Mandell, Marsha Melnik, Yaya Padawer, Stacey Papernick, Lisa Singer, Sandy Wise and Marcia Zalev

"If it quacks like a duck ..."

The *Toronto Star* acknowledges that it breached its guidelines regarding the Jews for Jesus ad. *(CJN*, Jan. 4.) Give me a break!

Who does publisher John Honderich think he is fooling? Does he think we were born yesterday? If it walks like a duck, smells like a duck and quacks like a duck, then it is a duck.

Leonard Smith
Toronto

French courses at McGill for credit

Leslie Feldman is to be commended for recognizing the importance of learning French in his letter to *The CJN* of Jan. 4. However, he might be interested in discovering that courses offered through continuing education at McGill may be taken for credit. In fact, University regulations state that a student who has obtained permission from his/her home department may register in these courses and receive credit for them. All that is required is a letter of authorization from the student's home department.

Dr. J. Archibald
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Orthodox Jews must do some soul searching

By MARTIN LOCKSHIN

After the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, it would be wonderful if all Jewish groups and Jewish individuals would rethink their positions and consider some serious soul-searching. As an Orthodox Jew, I do not feel that my own movement is behaving less morally than others. But as an Orthodox Jew, I feel bound to observe the advice of the rabbis (in Gemara Sanhedrin 18a) and not offer criticism to others until my own house is in order. That is why I have been constantly thinking about two questions: What has been the reaction of thinking centrist Orthodox Jews to the murder of Yitzhak Rabin? And what ought it to be?

Immediately after the tragedy, there was reason to believe that serious soul-searching might take place. Some wise Orthodox thinkers, like Rabbis Yehuda Amital and Aaron Lichtenstein in Israel and Prof. Shnayer Leiman in the United States, spoke movingly and introspectively about the assassination.

But very quickly the tone and direction of the discourse within the Orthodox world changed radically. In part, this was due to external factors. From outside of the Orthodox community, some of the most vicious and vile anti-Orthodox rhetoric ever heard began to be bandied about — as if all of Orthodox Judaism supported and supports the actions of Yigal Amir.

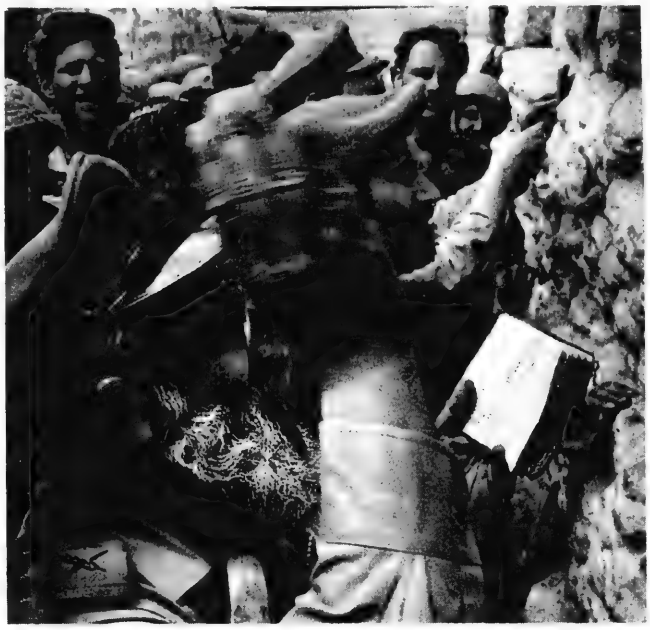
Today in Orthodox circles, rumors are being spread — at times with relish — about various ongoing despicable acts of discrimination against observant Jews. And there is no doubt that many of these stories do have a solid basis in fact. Even the left-leaning newspaper *Ha'aretz* reports that Orthodox Jews in Israel who wish to get accepted into elite army units have been going to their interviews without wearing kippot, for fear that they will not be accepted if they appear to be religious.

One result of all the anti-Orthodox discrimination and hateful rhetoric has been that many Orthodox Jews now see themselves as the primary victims of the entire tragedy. Orthodoxy has very swiftly moved from humble introspection to an assertive defence of the honor of the Torah and of the right to be Orthodox.

This Orthodox self-perception as victims, in its most extreme form, involves seeing the discrimination against Orthodoxy as systemic. A number of Orthodox Jews are saying that the basic structures of Israeli democracy — the Knesset, the police, the army and the courts — all discriminate against observant Jews. The *Jewish Press* of New York for example, refers to Israel as "a police state" in its front page headline.

Such charged rhetoric is very scary. Virtually every legal system in the world — including the halachic system — allows people who cannot obtain "natural justice" from the system to strive for that natural justice in extra-legal ways. There is then ample cause for concern that we may yet see further vigilante action by Orthodox Jews who have convinced themselves that the Israeli democracy is not a democracy.

But even independent of the "discrimination" factor, too many respected and thoughtful Orthodox Jews seem to have decided that all that is necessary after the assassination is to condemn Yigal Amir forcefully and unequivocally, to mourn the loss of a leader and the loss of Israel's innocence and then go about business as usual. Yehiel Leiter, for example, wrote in the *YESHA Report* shortly after Rabin's assassination that it wasn't the rhetoric of his community that killed Rabin, but the actions of one "deranged" man. If Amir was deranged and is not representative of his community, there is no need for introspection and soul-searching.



The reunification of Jerusalem in 1967 was the fulfilment of a 2,000-year- old dream for the Jewish people. For some people, it was also the inspiration and justification for the incorporation into the way of life and beliefs of religious Zionism of an element of "messianism", the extreme manifestation of which has culminated, tragically, in the actions of individuals such as Baruch Goldstein and Yigal Amir. [Photo from *Israel/The Reality*, Thames and Hudson, London, 1969]

But one just can't ignore the fact that Amir and the other famous Orthodox murderer of the '90s, Baruch Goldstein, attended the finest modern Orthodox schools and excelled in their studies. They were not sociopaths. They were well-integrated, respected members of their communities; it was impossible to tell them apart from their colleagues and friends. As Rabbi Lichtenstein said, on the day before the assassination the nationalist Orthodox community in Israel would have gladly shown off Yigal Amir as one of the great successes of its educational system. It is absurd then for the Orthodox community to say today that he and Goldstein are not representative.

What did the Orthodox community do after the murder of 29 Arabs in Hebron by Baruch Goldstein? The immediate reaction was impressive. Virtually to a man, Orthodox rabbis roundly condemned it. But it would appear that not all Orthodox Jews got the message that Baruch Goldstein's actions were "un-Orthodox." Some Orthodox Jews, including yeshivah students, continue making regular pilgrimages to Goldstein's grave. They are not ostracized by their communities or their yeshivot.

And some few respected Orthodox leaders, like Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, continue to say today that Goldstein's actions have to be "contextualized," that you cannot discuss what he did without remembering the atmosphere of hate against Goldstein's community generated by the Arabs who live in Hebron. In other words, after the Goldstein massacre, some Orthodox leaders and many Orthodox followers managed to portray themselves as the victims of the tragedy.

And now after the Amir murder, again Orthodox leaders universally condemned the action. And again there is good reason for concern that the reaction will be short-lived.

After the assassination, many argued wisely that rhetoric should be toned down. But has it been? *Ha'aretz* (Dec. 6) reports that a number of yeshivah boys confronted an on-duty Israeli army officer near Shechem and called him a murderer and a traitor. As of this day, they haven't been expelled from their yeshivah or even chastised. And it was well reported that outside of Madison Square Gardens during the recent pro-peace rally, religious demonstrators were calling Peres a murderer and a traitor.

For me, the saddest aspect of the latest developments has been the way Orthodox Jews are rallying to support rabbis who, in very inflammatory language, spoke out against Rabin. One such rabbi, Rabbi Nachum L. Rabinovitch, formerly of Toronto, said on Israeli radio that a person like Rabin is "*mitchayev benafsho*," which would normally be translated as meaning that he is deserving to die. To be sure, Rabbi Rabinovitch then clarified that he did not feel that humans should kill Rabin, rather that God ought to take care of it.

The same Rabbi Rabinovitch wrote in a piece that appeared in the *Jerusalem Post* on Dec. 27, 1993, that a time may be coming soon when Jewish soldiers who are asked to "act against their own people" (by removing settlers from settlements) will have to decide whether they wish to become *moserim*. The article makes it very clear that a soldier who would cooperate, and certainly a politician who would give such an order, would be a *moser* (loosely translated as "informer" or "oppressor") and would be comparable to a member of the Judenrat during the Holocaust.

And any student of rabbinic literature knows that a *moser* is liable to severe penalties in Jewish law and that many halachic texts allow or even encourage vigilante action against a *moser* without any of the standard rabbinic considerations about due process. (i.e., Shulchan Aruch, Hoshen Mishpat 388:10.)

Many would consider such remarks offensive and potentially dangerous. Yet quite a few Orthodox Jews, including many Orthodox rabbis, have rallied to the support of those who made such hot-headed and dangerous comments about Rabin. Why has this happened?

I think that it is not the case that many Orthodox Jews actually agree with Rabbi Rabinovitch and his colleagues. But Orthodox Jews, like other minority groups, have a sense of group solidarity. They continue to see themselves as the vanguard of real Zionism and Judaism, the cream of the Jewish nation. Particularly now, when so many non-Orthodox people are speaking so many half-truths about Orthodoxy, some Orthodox Jews have decided to circle the wagons and defend the honor of *all* members of the "us" group.

As an Orthodox rabbi, I think that this is a very short-sighted and wrong-headed approach. I understand that it may not be popular to suggest that Orthodoxy should, so to speak, limit the free speech of its adherents. But let us recall that Orthodox Judaism has always set very clear limits on what constitutes orthodoxy and orthopraxy ("correct" behavior and "correct" belief). Orthodox Jews are willing to disqualify many Jews — and many rabbis! — from positions of authority, such as kashrut supervision or being the head of a yeshivah, because of infractions against accepted community standards, even infractions that are simply cases of "improper" speech. (Maimonides, *Mamrim* 3:1-7.)

Consider that the position currently adopted by Orthodox Jews, almost universally, is that a rabbi who expresses overly liberal views about an issue such as the divine origin of the Torah or the flexibility of halachah is no longer a member of the "us" group and would be, generally speaking, not trusted as a kashrut supervisor or a rosh yeshivah. But a rabbi who said publicly that Rabin is "*mitchayev benafsho*" is, so it would seem, still part of "us," and we will defend his right to say such things even if we don't totally agree.

What a terrible message is being conveyed to the world at large — and especially to members of Orthodox communities — by this attitude! Every Orthodox Jew, and every knowledgeable outsider, knows that there are hundreds, perhaps thousands of infractions of thought, speech and action that could cause a rabbi to lose his Orthodox credentials and become one of "them." But the clear message being taught is that labelling the prime minister of Israel a *moser* or venerating Baruch Goldstein is a tolerable infraction (or perhaps no infraction at all) and that the perpetrators of that "offence" are still part of "us."

Orthodox Judaism has, presumably unwittingly, put its adherents into quite a quandary. We must decide if we really identify with a group that has very restrictive rules on its membership but includes those who say inflammatory and dangerous things about the prime minister of Israel. Thoughtful Orthodox Jews are being forced to rethink what constitutes the "us" group and what contitutes the "them" group. Who is and is not part of my group? Am I to identify with Jews who share my views about the divine origin of the Torah but call Rabin a *moser?* Or with Jews who believe in change through democratic means, who renounce vigilante behavior, who pursue peace and eschew hateful rhetoric?

Orthodoxy should take steps to dissociate itself from its practitioners and leaders who advocate and teach positions that might lead to vigilante behavior. This should be done only in order to make it easier for people like me to identify with the group. It should also be done before another Goldstein or Amir arises from Orthodox ranks. And ultimately it should be done for the sake of Orthodox values, before Orthodoxy loses whatever respect it still commands among its adherents and among other Jews.

Martin Lockshin is a professor in the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University.

Opinions

Impact of Crusades on Jews ignored

Nine hundred years ago, during the hiatus period between November 1095 and February 1096, the ideological seeds planted by Pope Urbain II at a conclave of churchmen and lay people at Clermont in France took root and the crusades were born.

By Arnold Ages

With astonishing speed and conviction, people from all social and economic classes joined together to travel to the Holy Land in order to free Christians from the yoke of Islamic rule and to liberate the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. Five different crusades until 1270 targeted Muslim interests, not only in Palestine, but in Spain as well.

The crusades achieved remarkable successes, such as the capture of Jerusalem in 1099, but also confronted disasters — the victory of the Muslim leader Saladin in 1187.

In a sense, the routing of Muslim forces in the Balkans at the end of the 17th century was the last chapter in Pope Urbain II's rally cry to Christendom to "liberate" the world from Muslim control.

What of the impact of the crusades?

One of the things about the crusades that has always perplexed historians is the explanation of the absolute faith and zeal which prompted hundreds of thousands of Europeans to uproot themselves from hearth and home and travel thousands of miles eastward in order to risk life and limb for the glory of their religion.

Jonathan Riley-Smith, the editor of a new book on the crusades, which Oxford University Press has released, provides some answers to this question. According to Riley-Smith the crusading spirit was inextricably intertwined with medieval Christian beliefs about sin.

In that world view, man was tainted from time immemorial, with an original sin that could not be erased without the mediating grace of the Church and its doctrines of salvation. In one bold stroke, the Church offered a short cut to salvation — participation in the holy exercise of ridding the world of Christiandom's arch rival in the Levant, the Muslims. For the crusaders, the promise of paradise in the next world, was irresistible.

Not all crusaders were motivated, of course, by such high theological insights. Some participated to escape the monotony of daily life, others to flee burdensome debt, still others to fulfil the desire for adventure and prospective booty. The combination of all these motives was sufficient, however, to maintain the critical velocity of the crusades for centuries.

A statistical audit of the books that have been published over the years about the crusades demonstrates a curious fact about the question posed above regarding the impact of the crusades on Jews. Riley-Smith's book is typical: it contains 408 pages of essays dealing with every aspect of the crusades from the esthetic to Islamic responses to Christian attacks. In the entire volume there are six scattered references to the fate of Jews. That, however, is an improvement over the article on the crusades in the latest edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica which, in its main 13-page article, does not even mention the fate of Jewish communities which suffered under the crusader boot.

Thus, an event which left thousands of Jewish dead along the Rhine pathways used by the crusader zealots on the way to the Holy Land, and which saw Jewish communities in the Levant similarly victimized by crusader zeal, is deserving of only insignificant peripheral mention in the new Oxford essay anthology and none at all in a major encyclopedia of the English-speaking world.

For redress of this glaring omission, the Encyclopedia Judaica provides a 5½-page summary of what the crusader desire to purify one's sins cost the Jewish communities in Europe and the Middle East.

"The crusades and their attendant degradation were firmly imprinted on the historic consciousness of the Jews. The period became singled out in the popular mind as the start of and explanation for the misfortunes of the Jews, although in fact the excesses were only symptomatic of a process which had already been set in motion."

Thus the crusades, like the Holocaust of this generation, marked an epoch-making juncture in Jewish history. Lamentably, in both events the fate of the Jews was shoved off into the periphery.

It worked with the crusades.

It will not work with the Holocaust.

The boundary between the sacred and the ordinary

Both the Torah and the Talmud are very concerned with boundaries. One of the first boundaries was that set for Adam and Eve in the garden — the limit of their access to two very special trees, the tree of knowledge of good and evil, and the tree of life. We all know the outcome of that experience in limiting the behavior of humans.

By Jean M. Gerber

A vital boundary is the one between the sacred and the everyday. Abraham Joshua Heschel, in his mystical assessment of time and space, taught that the Shabbat was the boundary between ordinary and sacred time. Through the Shabbat, Jews withdraw from the ordinary and, once a week, enter the sacred universe of the Shabbat.

Many limits have been set to distinguish between categories: boundaries between meat and dairy foods, between properties (removal of the marker of your neighbor's field was considered a serious theft), between the roles of men and women, between adult and child, slave and free person, Jew and non-Jew.

In the wake of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin, the issue of the holiness of the land of Israel and the boundaries to be set between it and the rest of the world are at issue. This issue arises as modern nation states have used borders to define their existence. Many have therefore asked if the land is so sacred that its possession by a Jewish state overrides the worth of human life.

Anyone looking to the Bible to sort this out must be ready for some frustration. Are we ready to lay claim to David's kingdom or Solomon's, or the Protectorate which Herod administered for the Romans? Is Israel to seek borders that begin at the Nile and end at the Euphrates? I think not. But, many argue, if the land of Israel is holy, then the determination of its boundaries lies beyond human capacity to negotiate. This line of thinking has brought Jews in Israel, as well as in Canada, to the brink of civil strife.

One answer is that in creating the state, thousands of Jews were ready to die in order to define its borders. However, another way to look at that is to say they died so that Jews would have the opportunity to build a state and now is the time for the present State of Israel to define its borders in the here and now, not in the messianic future.

The late Yeshayahu Leibowitz (brother of the famous teacher of Tanach, Nehama Leibowitz) met the issue of the holiness of the land head-on in his article, *The Uniqueness of the Jewish People*, in the *Jerusalem Quarterly* (Spring 1981). His conclusions are worth our consideration now as never before.

The uniqueness and the mission of the Jews, according to Leibowitz, is not in any intrinsic holiness or special "soul of the nation," which, he maintains, does not exist. "There are, rather, Jewish individuals, living, breathing human beings," charged with observing the laws of the Torah. These laws are the vehicle through which, by striving to observe them, Jews achieve holiness. The concept that there is intrinsic holiness without action in Jews and the Jewish people is what Leibowitz called "the Judaism of Korach," who challenged Moses by asking why his position was so elevated, since, Korach asserted, "all the congregation is holy." On the contrary, holiness is only achieved by constant striving towards it on the part of humans. Only God is holy in and of himself.

Today both secular and observant Jews tend, in Leibowitz's opinion, to mistake the order of events. Assuming a special place for Jews is to grasp the wrong end of the stick. When Jews, secular or religious, accept a part of the mission entrusted to them, they aspire to create holiness. When they distort or miss the mark, they lessen the possibility of bringing holiness to their people and to the world.

Just as he argued for the power of Jews to become holy only by their actions, so Leibowitz argued that, contrary to much modern religious thought, there is no intrinsic sanctity in land. It is the actions of its inhabitants that sanctify or pollute the land. So, reading the midrash on levels of holiness — the holiest land being the land of Israel and the holiest city being Jerusalem, the holiest spot the holy of holies, Leibowitz deconstructed that series to mean that only when the inhabitants of that land and city were in themselves working to create holiness would the land become holy. (Recall that it was because of their wickedness that the Canaanites were expelled; and that once because of their idolatry and once for baseless hatred, the Jews were exiled.

In other words, mankind not geography, is responsible for the boundary between sacred and ordinary.

"The elevation of a country to the level of sanctity is pure idolatry," he wrote.

By making the land itself an object of veneration, Jews are at risk for the sin of worship of land and space rather than of the divine and the sacred. An idol can consist of rocks and sand, houses and schools, as easily as it can be a sculpted image.

He concludes, "The land is neutral, just as everything in this world is neutral. There is only one holiness, expressed in the threefold kedusha: " 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' Nothing apart from that is holy, either in history, in nature or in man; one can only sanctify objects through the service of the Lord."

If so, all of us have a long way to go.

The Shabbat of our lives

When recently I attended a convention in Atlanta, I dropped in on a session entitled The Spiritual Journey of the Older Adult. The speaker who got my immediate attention was a physician from the Boston area, Dr. Howard Weintraub. Literate and laid-back, he proved to be a master teacher. His audience was overwhelmingly "elderly" (I dare not say "old" since that term has become incorrect in today's society).

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Weintraub called us "persons in late adulthood," which is a time of life that for most people spells slow decline, impairment and loss. Having admitted these factors as inevitable, he proceeded to teach us how each of these negatives also had a positive counterpart. Decline could be balanced by renewal, diminished capacities by freedom and wisdom, and losses by gains.

He challenged us to admit the negatives and face them as inevitable. Physically, we are going downhill. The death of friends and family reminds us of the fate that awaits us down the line.

We see a decline of power. We are no longer in a position of authority; the younger generation has taken over. For some of us, this realization is simply numbing; for others, it spells disappointment and depression. All of which makes aging a time of losses.

But, said the doctor, there is another side, and we have to train ourselves to appreciate its presence and potential. There is also a new freedom that is to be used, not wasted.

Start with this: as the outer world shrinks, the inner world stands ready to open up. From tending to the material world and the acquisition of power and gain which absorbed us in the middle years of life, we can now turn to a grossly neglected area, the inner self and its values. Our time is freed up for introspect and for gaining an understanding of what life is all about. Six decades we toil, and then we are free to welcome the Shabbat of our lives.

We have made our contribution in the work we have done, in the families we have raised, the friends we have cherished, the community we have enriched as volunteers. This contemplation leads us (to use Eric Ericson's term) to achieving a sense of integrity.

Of course, we have to come to terms with the loss of function we experience in varying degrees; we have to acknowledge our mortality as something that is real and not just theoretical. We have to make up our minds that this is marvellous time for renewing our spiritual life.

It begins with a serious search for the Divine Power, which is achieved by contemplation, reading and joining with others engaged in the same enterprise. For those unaccustomed to prayer, it means giving it a chance. "We may fall in love again with the miracle of the world, even feel challenged to define for ourselves a new role in society and in nature, as this spiritualization of matter gradually infuses our perception."

This role will make us into the true "elders" of the community, role models for the younger generations. Whatever our physical state, there is for most of us room to grow spiritually. And, said Weintraub in closing, "Just as with a candle at the sundown of Shabbat, so at the havdalah of our lives, our earthy flame is extinguished in the wine of a vintage Jewish life, God willing."

The Kirshner File

A shtetl in Poland revisited

By Sheldon Kirshner

Had he known what lay ahead, Theo Richmond would not have undertaken the task. "Never, never," he chuckled. "I would not have had the courage."

When Richmond, a British documentary filmmaker, set out to write a chronicle of a former shtetl in Poland, he figured that he would have to spend about six months on the project. Instead, he labored seven years on his massive book, *Konin: A Quest* (Random House), which was published recently.

Although he was born in London and had never visited Poland, Richmond felt like "an ex-citizen" of Konin, which lay close to the German border prior to World War II.

His parents had been born and raised in Konin and his childhood had been filled with stories about it.

In the early 1960s, a group of Konin Jews in Israel, some of them survivors of the Holocaust, decided to publish a Konin memorial book. Richmond subscribed to it, and in 1968, the gigantic volume arrived by mail at his house in Surrey, near London.

Since the book was in Yiddish, he was unable to read it. "It was as inaccessible to me as a Dead Sea Scroll." Still, every now and then, Richmond glanced at the photographs in it.

In 1987, he resolved to unlock the contents of the memorial book. What fuelled his quest was not so much a desire to plumb his ancestral roots as a wish to know more about one small corner of a vanished world destroyed by the Nazis during the war.

In satisfying his curiosity, he thought, he might create a lasting memorial for the Jews of Konin.

Speaking by phone from Manhattan, where he was busily promoting his book, Richmond compared himself to a detective. Starting with only two or three clues, he gradually fleshed out the story of Konin.

Through it all, he said, there were "moments of elation" and "moments of despair."

When he began, the information at his disposal could barely fill a postcard. At the end, virtually every nook and cranny of his house was inundated with Konin memorabilia. "My home," he said, "became a Konin museum."

To amass the data, Richmond drew on the memories of about 50 ex-residents of the town, whose Jewish population in 1939 numbered 2,700 out of a population of 12,100. He interviewed former residents in Britain, Israel and North America, recording almost 400 hours of taped recollections. (Among the very few who rejected his request for an interview was Barry Goldwater, the former Arizona senator and presidential hopeful whose forebears sprang from Konin, but who abandoned Judaism after settling in the United States.)

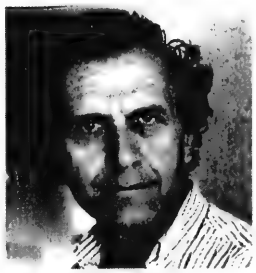
In addition, Richmond pored through archives in Israel, Poland and the United States.

And of course, he learned Yiddish, without which he could not have conducted his relentless search.

From his investigation, Richmond learned of Konin's Jewish community, its institutions, its personalities, its intricate class structure and customs and its colorful outdoor markets.

He also learned of the anti-Semitism and of the anti-Jewish boycotts organized by extreme Polish nationalists in Konin.

Konin was bombed by the German air force two days into World War II. As panic welled up, some Jews fled eastward. Others remained behind, gathering in their homes to usher in Rosh Hashanah.



Theo Richmond

Soon enough, the Nazis launched a campaign of terror against the townspeople, targeting the Jews in particular. By 1941, Konin was *Judenrein*, the Germans having deported all its Jews.

The Red Army swept into Konin in January 1945, expelling the Germans. In the post-war period, Konin's population swelled, reaching 80,290 in 1989, the year communism was wiped off the map in Poland.

Richmond commenced his quest without a book contract. For four years, until a publisher finally expressed an interest in his budding manuscript, he was basically on his own — subsisting on a shoestring budget (standby flights, cheap hotels and sandwiches) while earning "absolutely nothing."

His wife was a great source of support, but more importantly, he was sustained by a benefactor — "an angel" — who provided him with a substantial interest-free loan (which he has since repaid from advances).

Richmond spent a week in Konin, which, he writes, had "the feel of a provincial country town, small enough to be explored by foot, with views over meadows, fields and river."

Exploring modern Konin, which he describes as "a town of supreme ugliness," Richmond discovered that every trace of Jewish life had been expunged, and that what was left of the synagogue had been converted into a library.

Before leaving Konin, he found a monument dedicated to its former Jewish inhabitants. But it was in the Catholic cemetery and extremely hard to find.

As well, he met a woman whose mother had been Jewish but who had married a Catholic in a church ceremony and now considered herself a Christian.

By all accounts, *Konin* has been a hit with the critics, and in Britain it is a contender for two literary awards. Richmond reports that the book will be translated into German, Dutch and Italian and that Polish and Hebrew versions are likely.

Richmond hasn't forgotten his stay in Konin. After *Konin* was published, he sent a copy to Konin's library, which did not have a single volume about its Jewish past.

"My book," he said with a touch of pride in his voice, "has given them back a part of their history."

Remarkable woman portrayed in biography

Dianne Feinstein is a remarkable American woman, the first female senator from California and the former mayor of San Francisco.

Jerry Roberts, a newspaper columnist who has followed Feinstein's career for the past two decades, profiles her in *Dianne Feinstein* (HarperCollins, $28), a thoroughly researched book which traces the trajectory of her life from an unhappy childhood to triumphant election victories.

Born to wealth and privilege, she and her two sisters were from a seemingly picture-perfect family. Leon Goldman, her father, was a renowned surgeon. His wife, Betty Rosenberg, was a beauty of Russian Orthodox background.

The idyllic facade, however, belied turmoil. Betty, a tormented soul, was an alcoholic given to aberrant behavior. When she flew into a tantrum, she was capable of screaming racial obscenities — such as "little kike" — at her daughters.

By contrast, Leon was rock solid, a calming influence from whom Dianne drew strength and self-confidence.

Having described her formative years, Roberts goes on to sketch the details of her student days at Stanford University, her struggle as a single mother, her professional development as a lawyer and her plunge into local, state and national politics.

As biographies go, *Dianne Feinstein* is well worth the paper it's printed on.

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Rabbi Menahem ben Solomon ha-Meiri of Perpignan

This is the second of a two-part essay about the life and work of the great scholar ha-Meiri.

By GREGG STERN

Despite its unique presentation and massive learning, *Bet ha-Behirah* had few readers in the centuries following its completion. Knowledge of Meiri's writings between the 14th and 18th centuries, hardly to speak of influence, is virtually nil. The first volume of *Bet ha-Behirah*, on tractate *Megillah*, does not appear until almost 300 years later, in Amsterdam, in 1769. Similarly, from the 14th until the 18th century, Meiri's magnum opus received negligible citation, and even those handful of authors who mention *Bet ha-Behirah* hardly make use of it. Certain isolated citations were included in two important anthologies: *Shitah Mequbbetzet* of Bezalel Ashkenazi (d. 1594), and *Bet Yosef* of Joseph Karo (d. 1575).

Guest Voices

What led to this state of affairs? Was there some nefarious action taken against Meiri's corpus? Actually, not just Meiri's writing, but a large portion of the southern French legal-interpretive legacy was submerged or disappeared during the late Middle Ages and early modern period. It seems likely that the disappearance of this legacy was affected, to a great extent, by the gradual dissolution of southern French Jewry following the expulsion of 1306.

Works like *Sefer ha-Me'orot* by Meir ben Simeon ha-Me'ili of Narbonne (d. 1263), *Sefer ha-Mikhtam* by David ben Levi of Narbonne (later 13th century), *Sefer ha-Menuhah* by Manoah of Narbonne (later 13th century) and *Sefer ha-Battim* by David ben Samuel Kokhavi [of Estella] (d. 1330) were long submerged and have come to light essentially in the 20th century.

Hebrew writing that impacts upon normative practice does not necessarily travel in an allegiant community. Sephardim at times preserve Ashkenazi works, and vice versa. Indeed, the elements of chance — or that of providence — cannot be ignored in the survival of a major work in a single copy. Nevertheless, the two great communities retain their group continuity in new regions after their geographic displacement — the Sephardim in North Africa and the Near East, the Ashkenazim in Poland, Russia, Ukraine and Balkans. Southern Jewry, on the other hand, was — after its eventual expulsion — absorbed into other Jewries that failed to save its cultural legacy from desuetude.

It seems worthy of note that the important Parma manuscript of *Bet ha-Behirah* (the principal source of the printed text) was produced in the Comtat Venaissin, a small protected southern French principality that maintained allegiance to the traditions of earlier generations.

How in fact did *Bet ha-Behirah* finally reach us? Surviving manuscripts of single tractates preserved in the great libraries — the British Museum, the Bodlican, the Vatican — when assembled, contain not even a quarter of the whole work. Without doubt, manuscripts of parts of *Bet ha-Behirah* were in circulation over the centuries, but they were quite rare. That even one semi-complete manuscript of the massive *Bet ha-Behirah* survives — thanks to the humanistic interest of the Duchessa di Parma, Maria Louise — is indeed a fortuitous occurrence.

The six-volume manuscript was produced in Avignon from 1450 to 1456 in the home of a physician named Mordechai Nathan. From Avignon, the manuscript was carried to Casale, and then to Modena. In Modena, it was examined by two scholars, who immediately recognized its importance: the Hebrew bibliographer, Hayyim Joseph Azulai (d. 1806), and the Christian Hebraist, Giovanni Bernardo de-Rossi (d. 1831). In 1793, Moses Benjamin Foa, a book collector, purchased the manuscript and took it to Reggio. At this juncture, the tomes yielded two publications: *Bet ha-Behirah* to tractate *Shabbat* (Livorno 1794), and *Bet ha-Behirah* to tractates *Nedarim*, *Sotah* and *Nazir* (Livorno 1795). In 1846, Zalman Stern, a Hungarian Jew from Rechnitz, successfully represented the Foa collection — including the manuscript of *Bet ha-Bihirah* — to the Palatine Library in Parma.

The Parma manuscript does not contain *Bet ha-Behirah* to tractate *Avot*, and its important introduction. Until the recent publication of the St. Petersburg manuscript (Jerusalem 1992) — out of the former collection of the Karaite scholar Abraham Firkovich — this text was available solely from the problematic Salonica edition of 1821 and its derivatives.

The question of the increased popularity of *Bet ha-Behirah* in the past 50 years is far more speculative. Some observers associate this popularity with a new generation of students — consumers of all types of secondary literature — who use *Bet ha-Behirah* for the quick and easy access to the otherwise arcane world of medieval talmudic interpretation that it uniquely affords. Perhaps Meiri's elegant lucid, smooth-flowing presentations, in a very pure Hebrew, with relative independence from talmudic terminology, have indeed been exploited as a shortcut in Talmud study by a vastly diminished generation, but perhaps some students of the Talmud have come once once again to appreciate the sensibilities that led Meiri to produce *Bet ha-Behirah* in the first place.

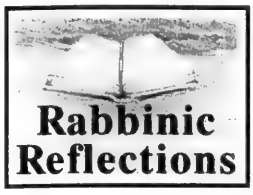
Historian Gregg Stern is the 1995-96 Ray D. Wolfe Fellow at University of Toronto.

SCHOOL MURALS CELEBRATE JERUSALEM

These junior kindergarten students proudly display their classes' murals of Jerusalem as part of Netivot Hatorah Day School's Jerusalem 3000 celebrations. Pictured from left are: Naftali Zweig, Talya Scolnik, Tamar Ruben and Jeremy Segal. [Photo by Rebecca Ansel]

Jewish Life

Living with the tension between *emet* and *chesed*



By
RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS

The late Rav Yosef Dov Soloveitchik commented on a rather simple Rashi on this week's parshah, opening up a concept that is a critical one for all of us in these troubled times.

The Torah describes Moshe's approach to Pharaoh on behalf of the Jewish people and then digresses into a description of Moshe's lineage. In this description, the Torah places Aharon before Moshe — "*Aharon v'Moshe*." Rashi comments that throughout the Torah, you find that sometimes Moshe comes before Aharon, "*Moshe v'Aharon*" and sometimes Aharon is first. This is to indicate that the two of them were equal in value.

The Rav pointed out that the context of this comment of Rashi is critical. The Torah is creating a background for the leadership of both Moshe and Aharon and Rashi comments that both are equal. In leadership, the Rav pointed out, Moshe and Aharon represent two distinct approaches. Moshe represented truth and justice, while Aharon represented peace and kindness. Moshe and Aharon were both leaders of the Jewish people and their styles of leadership were equal. Sometimes the Jewish people require leaders of truth and justice, strict adherence to the law. Sometimes the Jewish people require leaders of kindness and peace.

How do you know when to exercise the leadership of Moshe and when of Aharon? In exercising leadership of strict law, of absolute adherence to the Halachah, people sometimes get hurt. The painful issues of *agunah* and oftentimes intermarriage are modern examples. We fully respect the Halachah and we must adhere strictly to the Halachah with full knowledge that we will not be able to relieve pain and suffering.

Moshe, Aharon represent two distinct approaches

On the other hand, when Jews come and ask that the Halachah accommodate their freedom of choice to eat non-kosher foods or violate Shabbat, as much as we want to be kind and welcoming like Aharon, clearly we must exercise halachic principles.

Emet and *chesed*, truth and kindness. In the Land of Israel today, we see this tension of *emet* and *chesed*. Why do some rabbinic leaders feel that the strict *emet*, the strictness of the mitzvah of settling the land can be relaxed, and must be relaxed, in order to avoid absolute splits in the Jewish people and for the promise of peace, while at the same time other rabbinic leaders feel that we must uphold the strictness of the mitzvah of settling the land and if the price of that mitzvah is that the Jewish people are split and suffer feelings of terrible acrimony, so be it? These are Aharon and Moshe — upholding the ideal of truth or upholding the ideal of peace.

In our own personal lives we live with this tension as well. Our commitment to our principles, to mitzvot and to our ideals sometimes brings us into conflict with others. There is a price to pay for strictness in truth. On the other hand, absolute allegiance to peace at the expense of our deeply held beliefs makes us uncomfortable with ourselves and allows us sometimes to slip into a feeling of relativism of beliefs — that what I do and believe doesn't really matter that much. Life loses its sense of urgency and ultimate meaning.

May we all as individuals and as a people be granted the wisdom to know when to be like Moshe, the upholder of truth, and when to be like Aharon, the pursuer of peace.

Rabbi Tradburks is the spiritual leader of Kehillat Shaarei Torah in Toronto.

Genesis' tree of knowledge defines the human condition

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

The 15th of this month is the holiday of Tu b'Shevat, the new year for the trees.

The Mishnah tells us there are four new years: the new year for the king, one for the animals, one for the year and one for the trees. These dates marked the interval by which to count and measure time and served to calculate the tithes for the Temple.

Today we celebrate only two of these dates, the Jewish New Year and the new year for the trees — Tu b'Shevat. Yet, if the Temple is no longer standing, why do we continue to mark this particular holiday? Perhaps the answer is connected with the significance of trees in our tradition.

The Torah is sometimes seen as the "tree of life," but there is another tree that impacted on humankind quite early, and that was the "tree of knowledge."

In the Garden of Eden, it is the fruit of this tree that Eve takes and feeds to Adam. And the breaking of the commandment not to eat from this tree leads to their exile from paradise.

The reference to the tree of knowledge of "good and evil" continuously raises questions about the nature of this knowledge. What specifically was gained through eating from this tree?

Many commentaries state that Adam and Eve were naked and the tree of knowledge taught them shame. Interestingly, one of our oldest midrashic texts, Genesis Rabbah, interprets this story differently. By a slight shifting of the verses, allowed through a grammatical "window," the midrash reads the events in the following sequence: Adam and Eve are created, they are clothed by God, they eat of the fruit, they are exiled.

In this reading, the people are not naked, which discounts the notion that the tree taught them shame. But then the question of the nature of this knowledge remains: What was gained through the forbidden fruit?

The answer may lie in the actions taken by the man and woman immediately after they have eaten — they make belts for themselves. Normally seen as an attempt to cover their nudity, these belts take on greater significance if one accepts that they were not nude.

The Bible states that God made tunics for Adam and Eve. After eating of the fruit, the people fashion belts — a completely superfluous addition. Is it possible that the tree of knowledge introduced an element of arrogance into human beings allowing them to believe they can compete with God?

Adam and Eve are already clothed and yet they attempt to "improve" on God's work by adding belts.

Perhaps the tree of knowledge defines the human condition from that time forward. Either a person possesses a healthy, cooperative relationship with God, or there is a constant struggle to compete.

By celebrating the new year of the trees, we are reminded that we must not ignore nature; nor should we neglect our role in maintaining a natural balance. Tu b'Shevat underlines the uselessness of competing with the Almighty and allows us to celebrate our position within the vastness of the created whole.

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שישאר ביינינו

גידי קורן

סטיקרים 1995

"עד רצח רבין כל הסטיקרים על המכוניות בישראל היו של הימין: שלמות הגולן, לא לזוז מהגדה וכל דומיהם. רק עכשיו, אחרי הרצח, מעיזים אנשי השמאל להשמיע את דיעותיהם דרך סטיקרים ". כך מסבירים לי סטודנטים ישראלים בנובמבר 1995.

"אבל מה הפריע לאנשים להדביק סטיקרים שמאליים לפני כן" אני מתפלא. "חיית צריך לראות איזה נזקים עשו למכוניות שהודבקו עליהם סטיקרים בעלי דעות יוניות!" מסבירים לי בתגובה. פתאום הדיעה שהימין "שלט ברחוב" מקבלת משמעות מאוד אלימה, מאיימת ופאשיסטית. "מותו של רבין שינה את המציאות הזאת. זה כאילו שבאמצעות הסטיקר "שלום חבר" מגן רבין מלמעלה על מחנה השלום". ואכן הסטיקר "שלום חבר" מודבק, על פי אומדן זהיר שלי, על עשרות אלפי מכוניות, ואני, אגב, בדקתי עוד טרם שצרף "ידיעות אחרונות" סטיקרים כאלה לעיתוני יום ששי.

לֵילָסֵדָה:

הכוונה בשמו של סרט ישראלי חדש זה היא כמובן ל"ליל הסדר", כפי שמבטא אותו אחד מגיבוריו הצעירים של הסרט. זהו סיפור של משפחה ישראלית, על בניה ונכדיה וניניה, שנפגשת לליל הסדר. כל האהבות, שנאות, פחדים, חשדות - הכל עולה בצורה זו או אחרת. כמו סרטים ישראלים אחרים שיצאו לאקרנים לאחרונה גם לֵילָסֵדָה מציג שורה מצויינת של שחקנים, החל בגילה אלמגור ויוסף שילוח הותיקים ועד לצעירים בראשית דרכם. גם פה הבעיה העיקרית לטעמי האישי היא התסריט, שבהרבה מקומות קשה להאמין לו. הג'אנר של סרטי משפחה שנפגשת לאירוע זה או אחר הינו מאוד מקובל בכל העולם, ועל כן נוצרו בתחום זה סטנדרטים מאוד גבוהים (רק תשוו ל"גשרי מדיסון" שהוצג לאחרונה). אין מה לעשות - רמה טכנית "אירופאית" איננה מספיקה ! אם התסריט בלתי אמין - גם השחקנים הכי טובים בעולם לא יוכלו להושיע אותו. הכל מוכרח להתחיל בסיפור טוב. לאחרונה הלכתי לראות את וודי אלן החדש (Mighty Aphrodite) - איזה תענוג ! איזה תסריט! איזה איש חכם ומצחיק ! אין מה לעשות - עד שלא ילמדו לכתוב תסריט כמו שצריך לסרט ישראלי, הסרטים דוברי העברית יהיו ברובם משהוא שבין הצגת סיום של בית ספר תיכון לבין תשדיר שירות. ושלא יתפלאו מדוע הקהל בוחר ברגליו סרטים זרים.

רגעים מצמררים בהסטוריה האנושית:

בשנת 1980 יצאה אגודת ההמאטולוגים (רופאי מחלות הדם) בחוברת מיוחדת "לקראת שנות השמונים" - ובה דיברו על ההתקדמות המהירה וההשתפרות בטיפול במחלת ההמופיליה. הֵמוֹפיליה היא מחלה שבה הדם אינו נקרש במקרה של דימום והחולים עלולים להפסיד דם רב. הטיפול בהֵמוֹפיליה הוא על ידי מתן גורמי קרישה החסרים ישר לתוך הוריד או בזריקה. בחוברת הזו דיברו מדענים גדולים בחגיגיות על השתפרות איכות החיים של החולים ועל זה שבעוד עשר שנים יוכלו הם לחיות חיים כמעט רגילים. עברו חמש עשרה שנים מאז, וכמעט שליש מכל חולי ההֵמוֹפליה נדבקו באיידס שקיבלו מהערויים של חומרי הקרישה. את חומרי הקרישה מרכזים מהמוני מנות דם, ומספיק שאחת מהן נגועה היתה באיידס, כדי להדביק אנשים רבים, וכך קרה. רבים מהם מתו ורבים עוד ייפלו קורבן למחלה. אני מעלעל עכשיו בחוברת משנת 1980 וחושב: האֵל יושב למעלה ומחייך, או מה?

בשנת 1986 קיימה להקת "קווין" (Queen) קונצרט חי באיצטדיון וֶומבלי בלונדון . הסולן וכותב שיריה, פרדי מרקורי שר את "אנחנו האלופים" (We are the champions") ובאמצע השיר הודה לקהל על תשומת הלב, העושר והאושר, כשהקהל מחזיר לו בתודה. מרקורי אובחן כחולה איידס זמן קצר לאחר מכן. הוא נפטר לפני כארבע שנים. אני מאזין עכשיו להקלטה מוֹמבֶלי משנת 1986 וחושב: הינה כאן, בהקלטה, נעצר הזמן. והאֵל יושב למעלה ומחייך, או מה?

רק ישראלי יבין:

אשה אחת שבעלה עזב אותה בלי להשאיר כתובת, מתייצבת כל שנה אצל הרב לשאול מתי יחזור בעלה. מכניס השֶמֶש את הפתק אל הרב וההוא עונה: אל תדאגי, בעלך יחזור במהרה. אחרי כעשר שנים של תשובות מסוג זה יום אחד אמר השמש לאשה: "תשמעי, גברת קליבנסקי, בעלך לא יחזור!" . הגיעו הדברים לאוזנו של הרב והוא כעס מאוד על השֶמֶש שלו ואמר לו: " איך יכולת לעשות דבר כל כך אכזרי בניגוד לדעתי?" ענה לו השֶמֶש: " רבי ! זה ככה: אתה רואה כל שנה את הפתק אבל אני רואה את האשה..."

Community Matters

Budget cuts trigger talks with other communities

Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto have just completed an unprecedented round of talks with other religious and ethnocultural groups on provincial budget cuts.

Planning & Allocations Director Morris Zbar addresses a recent Jewish Women's Federation forum on government budget cuts.

Congress took the initiative in organizing a series of meetings with the United, Catholic, Anglican and Seventh Day Adventist Churches and representatives from Italian, Portuguese and Chinese communities.

"That the Federation and Congress met with such a large number of organizations in such a short time," said Morris Zbar, the Federation's Director of Community Planning & Allocations, is "proof of our common concerns and their urgency. The issues were similar and the problems were similar."

The objective, according to CJC, Ontario Region Executive Director, Manuel Prutschi, was to seek common ground on the impact of drastically reduced government expenditures and develop a united approach to take to Queen's Park.

"All of the organizations expressed a concern about cuts hitting the most vulnerable members of society," he noted. "We also agreed on the importance of retaining services being delivered by individual ethno-cultural and religious communities to meet the unique needs of their members."

Both Prutschi and Zbar stressed the importance of "constructive" discussions with the government. "Our aim," explained Prutschi, "is for the government and the communities to work together as partners."

Zbar cited the importance of tax changes that would encourage increased contributions to non-profit organizations, burdened by new funding demands. "Our social safety net is breaking down," he cautioned. "We cannot replace government funding, because we don't have the taxing authority. So we need new tools to cope."

The next stage in the multicultural consultations undertaken by Congress and Federation is the creation of a joint position paper to be brought before the government within a few weeks.

Federation tells Montreal Jews

Count on our support

The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto is demonstrating solidarity with the Jewish community of Montreal in the wake of last year's referendum. The Federation's backing for Montreal Jewry was expressed through an open letter published in the Montreal edition of the Canadian Jewish News.

Federation President Sandra Brown was responding to a letter from her Montreal counterpart, Yoine Goldstein, president of FEDERATION CJA. Goldstein referred to "anger and discomfort" among Montreal Jews, caused by the referendum, "the conduct and rhetoric of the campaign, the uncertain results, the unfortunate remarks of exclusion by certain politicians and the threat of yet another referendum."

The letter also outlined the pride of Montreal Jewry in being both Quebecers and Canadians and FEDERATION CJA's plans to hold cross country consultations.

Brown, who believes strongly in a unified Canada, offered Goldstein help in heightening awareness about the importance of the issues Quebecers are facing.

"We, too, are committed to a dynamic future for the Jewish community in Montreal," she said. "We are committed to Jews all over the country, especially those experiencing difficulty."

Sandra Brown, President, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

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As my father planted for me, so do I plant for those who came after me.
- Talmud

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Community Matters

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From the 1996 UJA Campaign team, to our incomparable community, thank you for sharing the vision!

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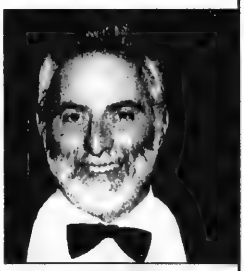

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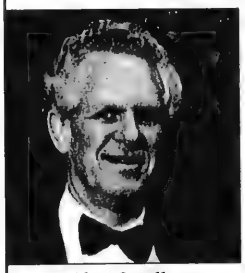
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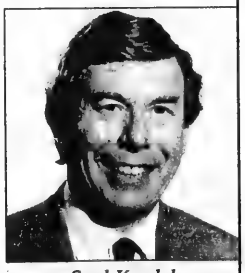
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Community Matters

Federation awards $100,000 in Jewish continuity grants

Fifteen community groups will be receiving the Federation's first Jewish continuity grants. The recipients range from the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism to Beth Jacob High School for orthodox girls (see separate stories on winning proposals).

According to Les Klein, Chairman of the Federation's Committee for Jewish Continuity, the grants, from $2500 to $25,000 reflect the community's diverse cultural, religious and social make-up.

"There are no quick fixes to ensuring Jewish continuty, said Klein, "but we're sure off to a good start."

The 19 member committee was created as a result of recommendations made in June, 1994 in a report from a task force chaired by Aaron Brotman.

Klein sees advocacy as the committee's most important role as members work to raise awareness about continuity and bring it to the forefront of the community agenda.

With a budget of $300,000 from the Federation, the Committee went to work soliciting proposals from Jewish groups seeking funding for continuity programming. By October 31, over 70 applications had been received.

May Dalume, 20, the committee's youngest member, who sat on the task force for two years, described the proposals as "stellar pitches".

"We were all pleased with the high quality and innovative style of the ideas proposed," she stressed.

"We looked for new programs and for programs that involved co-operation between groups and organizations," added Klein.

A reception for grant recipients will be held Sunday, February 4, which coincides with Tu Bishvat. The committee expects to award a second round of grants by June of this year.

The Continuity Committee consists of: Rosanne Ain, Sandra Atlin, Alan Bardikoff, Art Benjamin, Eric Bornstein, May Dalume, Shelly Duke, Ronitte Friedman, Sandra Hazan, Les Klein, Martin I. Lockshin, Anne Matlow, Pam Medjuck, Valerie Rackow, Alan Sandler, Alan Shefman, Eli Toby, Liz Wolfe and Ted Zittell.

Continuity Committee Chair Les Klein

Project promises to place Jewish content into day care

Jewish parents will soon have more choices in Jewish day care thanks to *Project Sarah*.

Sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service, the Bathurst Jewish Centre and Jewish Vocational Service, *Project Sarah* will use a $15,000 continuity grant to recruit and train members of the Jewish community to operate day care in their homes. A similar project is currently being run in Los Angeles.

Joan Stevens of JF&CS says the idea for Jewish home day care is "rooted in today's economic situation where demand for day care far exceeds affordable supply."

"When it became clear that no new subsidies for day care would be offered, we came up with something to fill the void as much as possible," explains Stevens.

The sponsoring organizations will be establishing trainee eligibility criteria and requiring references for all trainees, but Stevens says "no experience is necessary." Professional trainers, specializing in early childhood education, will spend 12 weeks teaching potential day care workers about all apsects of Jewish day care. The ins and outs of running a day care business will also be addressed by professional business consultants.

Stevens hopes *Project Sarah* will allow children, from an early age, to be exposed to all aspects of Judaism.

A taste of Judaism

The Canadian Council for Reform Judaism and Kolel: Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning is offering an appetizing introduction to what Jewish life is all about for those who have yet to be in touch with their own Jewish identities.

The two sponsoring organizations received the largest continuity grant of $25,000 for a program called *A Taste of Judaism*, aimed at unaffiliated members of the community.

Program organizer Jessie Caryll says "continuity depends on how successful the community is at reaching the unaffiliated and marginalized."

Three one week courses, beginning this spring in synagogues and community centres across the city, will be offered on spirituality, ethics and peoplehood. The classes will be small and initimate and will, according to Caryll, "teach partcipants the ABC's of Judaism and all its core values."

Downtown agencies unify for the unaffiliated

Over 15 Jewish agencies in the downtown Toronto area are combining forces for the benefit of Jewish residents in the city core.

The Downtown Jewish Community Council and the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (BJCC) obtained a $15,000 grant for an outreach program geared to nearly 40,000 Jews living in the area. According to BJCC Executive Director Bill Emery, only 25% of downtown Jews are being serviced by existing programs.

Emery hopes to reach "the broadest possible range" of people by using non-traditional advertising vehicles and creating innovative programming.

Last year, close to 200 people, including many University of Toronto students, attended a community seder at the BJCC. Emery expects to add new social, cultural and educational programs in 1996 to "attract diverse groups who don't associate with the broader Jewish community up north."

The Bloor JCC is a magnet for the downtown Jewish community.

Continuity grant projects

- A Taste of Judaism
- Project Sarah
- Outreach
- Parent Teen Dialogue
- Windows 5756
- Yiddishland Cafe
- Ashreinu/Asharsheres
- Jewish Single Parents and Friends
- Zionist Youth
- Meet Me in the Park
- Intergenerational Holocaust Program
- Jewish Youth Genealogical Project
- Halleluya '96
- Riverdale Jewish Community Outreach
- Firecrackers

Continuity grants a milestone, says Jackson

The Federation's first round of continuity grants represents a "pivotal point" in the life of Toronto's Jewish community, according to the Director of Continuity Programming, Susan Jackson.

Susan Jackson

"We've moved far beyond paying lip service to continuity," she said. "Now we're placing a premium on action."

Jackson is most impressed with the way in which individual organizations got together to develop innovative projects meeting unfilled needs. She's also impressed with the many recommendations received by the committee to reach those who are not closely connected with the community.

"Because they're not affiliated with community institutions or synagogues does not mean they're alienated from Judaism. They haven't yet discovered a means of expressing their Judaism. We want to help them through that proccess."

Jackson reminded unsuccessful applicants that a new set of grants will be awarded later this year. "We certainly don't want to dampen the enormous enthusiasm that we saw in all the applications. One message emerged very clearly; our community cares about its future. We all care enough to want to be Jewish."

Community Matters

Continuity grants cover "firecrackers" to genealogy

Continuity activities funded by the Federation encompass virtually every aspect of Jewish life in the Greater Toronto Area. Here is a summary of Federation supported projects.

Students at Beth Jacob High School have already begun the *Ashreinu/Asharsheres* outreach program every Sunday for 7-12 year old Russian newcomers.

Jewish Single Parents and Friends will run a variety of adult and children's programs to provide support for single parent Jewish families.

The Zionist Youth Council will host three major youth oriented events targeted to 8-18 year olds, beginning on Tu Bishvat.

Meet Me in the Park is a series of educational and political talks sponsored by Magen David Synagogue. The weekly events, aimed at 18-30 year olds, will be held in an informal setting in Earl Bales Park.

The Good Fellowship Lodge and Jewish Camp Council of Toronto are sponsoring an *Intergenerational Holocaust Program* to encourage interaction between seniors and youth.

The Jewish Youth Genealogical Project, sponsored by the Jewish Genealogical Society, will develop a beginners guide to to Jewish geneaology listing Ontario geneaological sources.

Halleluya '96 is a song competition sponsored by Beth Tikvah Synagogue, Toronto Council of Hazzanim, Israel Canada Cultural Foundation and the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Israel Youth Program Centre.

The Riverdale Jewish community is undertaking outreach programs around holiday celebrations in order to reach the unaffiliated.

Aish Hatorah is organizing a *Firecrackers* project for young parents with children. Programs will include children's entertainment and educational classes for adults.

The Jewish Youth Geneaological project is hoping young people will uncover their roots. Photo: courtesy of Ontario Jewish Archives.

Yossi Saperman, (3rd from the left) the spiritual leader of Riverdale's community synagogue, discusses the fine points of Torah with eager students.

Oy vey, it's the Yiddishland Cafe

The Hard Rock Cafe, it won't be, but the Yiddishland Cafe will offer something unavailable anywhere else in Toronto.

The monthly cabaret style shows will feature Yiddish artists performing musical concerts, comedy acts, plays and poetry readings at the Workmen's Circle Centre.

Henya Reinhart and other members of the Workmen's Circle Cultural Committee, who received a continuity grant, came up with the idea as a way of "getting the younger generation more connected with their roots."

For close to a century, the Workmen's Circle has promoted Yiddish culture and education through a variety of programs catering mostly to Toronto's large Jewish immigrant population.

According to Reinhart there are "quite a number of Yiddish performers in Toronto who have difficulty finding places to perform."

Yiddishland Cafe committee members Henya Reinhart (L) Mendl Beker and Bela Sanderson.

Windows 5756 opens new views

Diverse elements of Toronto's Jewish community will soon be getting together to exchange views about the future of the Diaspora's relationship with Israel.

The *Windows 5756* conference, organized by the Mini-Moriah Committee of the Canada Israel Forum and supported by a continuity grant, is based on the continued success of the annual Moriah Conference in Israel.

Committee Chair, Sheila Arkin, says the goal of the one day conference, to be held February 11 at Baycrest Terrace, is to "positively reinforce our diverse Jewish identity through understanding and appreciation."

Arkin expects 150 participants and hopes to target youth, Israelis living in Toronto, the affliated and the non-affiliated.

If the program is a success, Arkin expects it to become an annual event. She plans to use video taped footage as an educational tool for other conferences.

Project encourages parent-teen talk

The Parent Teen Dialogue Program, supported by a $7,500 continuity grant, is a new effort being launched in 10 cities to find more opportunities for parents and teens to discuss important issues with each other.

BBYO, Bathurst Jewish Centre and Jewish Family & Child Service are looking to "fill a void in the community for dialogue between parents and teens," says BBYO Senior Regional Director, Miriam Pilc-Levine.

The dialogue will focus on a variety of programs covering topics such as stereotyping, prejudice and anti-Semitism, drinking, lashon hara (gossip), sex, drugs, intermarriage and attitudes towards Israel. "Each unit will have a Judaic component so that Jewish values can be explored", says Levine.

According to International BBYO Director, Sam Fisher, the program will "bring parents and teens a richer sense of Jewish identity that integrates family life, community and tradition."

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Greater Toronto Area

Ashkenaz celebration lives on with AshkeTANTS

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ashkenaz lives!

So successful was Ashkenaz 95 at Harbourfront (it was attended by some 30,000), that Ashkenaz 97 is a go. Its sendoff is a benefit dance, AshkeTANTS, Jan. 27, 8.30 p.m. at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC).

Not only will aficionados of klezmer music put on their dancing shoes, but the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band will be augmented with Afro-Cuban percussionists to provide a beat for all forms of dance. There will also be instruction for dancing to Yiddish music.

"It's the best way to beat this January cold weather," said an enthusiastic David Buchbinder, the Ashkenaz artistic director who proved the naysayers wrong when crowds flocked to hear music, dance and drama in the Yiddish mode created by international artists.

"The time was ripe and people were intrigued by the variety of what we offered," said Buchbinder. "What I hadn't anticipated was how excited the artists themselves became when they saw the reaction. In the audience, it was a turning point in the lives of people in their 20s and 30s. Some told me it was the first time they felt completely comfortable at a Jewish event. They enjoyed a feeling of connection to their Jewishness."

Participants put on their *TANT*Sing shoes at last summer's Ashkenaz festival at Harbourfront. [Nir Bareket photo]

Ashkenaz 97 will go ahead, whether or not the Harbourfront locale is available, he said. "I think Harbourfront will still be in existence; it's a perfect spot for Ashkenaz, but we are looking at other alternatives."

Depending on funding, Ashkenaz 97 will be accessible to all, though the 90 per cent of events that were free in '95 may not be attainable. "Ashkenaz 97 will be bigger and better than the first one," Buchbinder said. "We are counting on the community to become more involved."

The Jan. 27 dance will feature, among other performers, the talented singer Theresa Tova actor-monologuists Alon Nashman and Michael Wex as emcees.

In recreating the spirit of Ashkenaz, Nayeh Velt Cultural Initiatives, which sponsors the festival, announced an affiliation with the Bloor JCC. The two organizations will be partners in programming and audience development.

Tickets for AshkeTANTS are $25, or $15 for students and seniors. To book or for information, call the Bloor JCC at 416-924-6211

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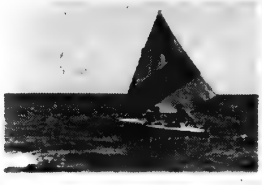

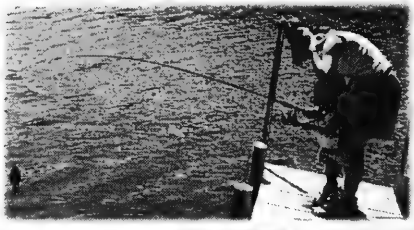

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Tel: 514-485-1135
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Fax: 514-485-1124
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Tel: 416-630-7578
Fax: 416-630-8301
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Fax: 416-630-8561
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Tel: 416-789-2193
Fax: 416-789-3970
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Fax: 416-482-2660
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Tel: 416-781-5156
Fax: 416-787-3100
National Shaliach: Itzik Gelber. Camp Director of Camp Solelim - the largest Zionist youth movement in Canada. The Movement runs activities for children and youth throughout the year and also operates Camp Biluim Canada for 16 year old boys and girls and Camp Biluim Israel for 17 year olds.

CITY OF NORTH YORK
PARKS & RECREATION
CAMP NAORCA & SPECIALTY CAMPS
5100 Yonge St.,
North York, Ont. M2N 5V7
Contact: Heather deLorenzis
Tel: 416-395-7901
Fax: 416-395-7940
The City of North York Parks & Recreation Dept. offers a nature camp and 6 specialty day camps. Choose from Arts Discover, Computers, Fine Arts, Gymnastics, Sports and Kids Camp. Camp Naorca is a nature oriented day camp, with busing service, located on the grounds of Seneca College King Campus.

CRESTWOOD VALLEY DAY CAMP
411 Lawrence Ave. E.,
Toronto, Ont. M3C 1N9
Tel: 416-444-9595
Fax: 416-444-2127
Offers a dynamic summer experience for children 2½-10 ys., 5 heated pools provide for the best in Red Cross instructional swim. A full sports program includes archery, tennis, soccer. The baseball training option offers intensive daily instruction. Drama, dance, ceramics, nature and a petting farm are highlighted.

EARL BALES COMMUNITY DAY CAMP
c/o 5 Tarbert Dr.,
North York, Ont. M2M 3S7
Contact: Sima Bracken
Tel: 416-223-1361
Community based full day camp in its 17th year, for children 4-9 yrs. Located in beautiful Earl Bales Park. Red Cross swimming program daily at Northview Pool. Mature, experienced, enthusiastic staff. Age-appropriate activities include sports, music, drama, arts & crafts, special events, nature and cook-outs.

EXPLORATION SUMMER PROGRAM
P.O. Box 368, 470 Washington St.,
Norwood, MA 01450 US
Tel: 617-762-7400
Fax: 617-762-7425
Now in it's 20th yr. Exploration offers 3 co-educational enrichment programs in beautiful and historic Massachusetts. The Senior Program (entering grades 10-12) and the Intermediate Program (entering grades 8-9) are held at Wellesley College. The Junior Program (entering grades 4-7) is held at nearby St. Mark's School. Dates - 2 sessions: June 30—July 20 and July 21—Aug. 10.

FAMILY CARE SERVICES
10t West Beaver Creek Rd., Unit 3
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4B 1C6
Contact: Ivan Greisman
Tel: 905-709-3187
Fax: 905-886-8556
ChildNet is a program that assures the identity of a child who was lost or in an accident. Confidential, safe and affordable. Easy to wear press-on labels enable parents or medical personnel to be contacted immediately. ChildNet Safety I.D. Labels offer a unique link between you and your loved ones

FUN'N MORE
Promenade Mall,
1 Promenande Circle, 3rd level
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 4P8
Owner: Pnina Guendelman
Manager: Francine Lewin
Tel: 905-764-8955
Fax: 905-886-8842
Fun'N More is the coolest and the hottest place for kids ages 1-13. At the new Cyber-Fun centre your kids can submerge into the world of virtual reality and multi-media or play with the new Sony Playstation and Sega Saturn. Babysitting drop-off, DJ/birthday parties, and recreational/educational activities, at very reasonable rates. Discount/-packages available

GREEN ACRES DAY CAMP
11123 Kennedy Rd.,
Markham, Ont. L6C 1P2
Directors: Leon Hochglaube, Eddy Bogomolny
Tel: 905-887-1400
Fax: 905-887-1887
Features a fabulous country site in Markham which includes 3 heated outdoor pools and an on-site waterslide park. Varied camp program includes sports, camp shows, overnight, riding, "hands-on" farm animal program, recording studio, baseball clinics, karate, ropes course. Door-to-door transportation provided by the camp.

HILLCREST DAY CAMP
59 Plymbridge Rd.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2P 1A2
Tel: 416-489-8355
Centrally located in the beautiful green Hogg's Hollow Valley at Yonge & York Mills. Our unique camp caters solely to the preschool set, ages 2½-5 ys., with a low camper-counsellor ratio. Rhythm and sound are all around with music by Kayla. Theme days, arts & crafts and swim program add to a well-rounded and fun-loving camp experience.

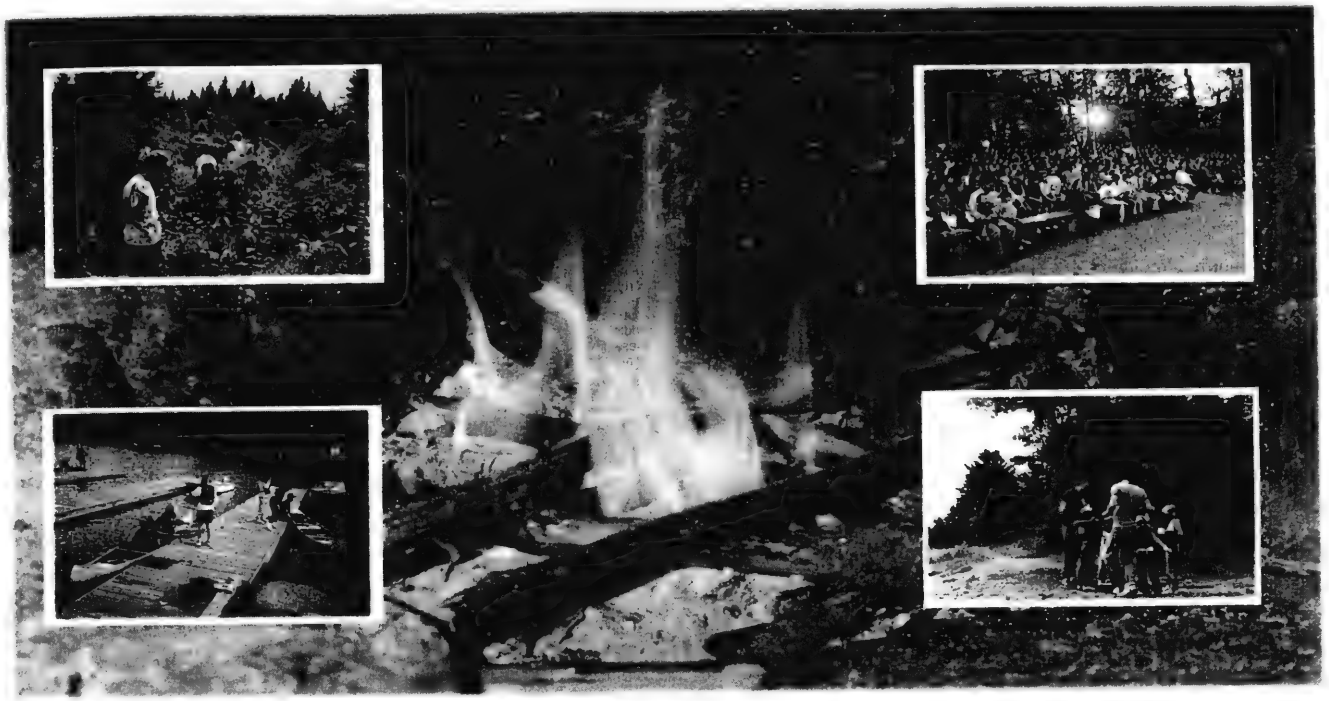
"KIDS OF CANADA" HOCKEY CAMP
73 Dawn Hill Trail,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 3B1
Director: Cory Shiner
Tel: 905-882-5751
Fax: 905-886-3931
A dynamic experience encompassing the development, improvement and mastery of the camper's skills combined with an innovative recreation program. Educating campers in hockey as a fun and satisfying sport includes, developing skills in team work, fair play, and leadership. This camp will provide a remarkable summer experience for boys and girls ages 3-13 yrs.

KIDSWORLD DAY CAMP (ages 3-5½)
FUNWORLD DAY CAMP
(entering grades 1 & 2)
117 Bannockburn Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 2N2
Tel: 416-785-4600
Our 16th yr. under the direction of Mrs. Weinberg, M.Ed., ECE. Instructional swimming. Door-to-door transportation, hot lunches and snacks, daily special events, personalized trained staff. Kindergym, arts & crafts, sports, theme days, professional entertainers, music.

KLUB KIDZ DAY CAMP/SPORTS CAMP
22 Bradenton Dr.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2H 1Y5
Directors: Robert Wise & Candy Drescher
Tel: 416-614-6915
A private country day camp located on 32 acres of private campgrounds in Richmond Hill, emphasizing outdoor recreation. Door-to-door transportation, lunches and snacks provided at no additional charge. Your child will find a team of enthusiastic, energetic, creative and motivated staff including professional consultants selected for their love of kids and camping.

Cont'd on page B3

SUMMER TIME FUN



DIRECTORY OF CAMP ADVERTISERS

Cont'd from B2

MACCABI ISRAEL SUMMER PROGRAMS (formerly Masada)
110 E. 59th St., NY, NY 10022
Program Director: Phil Cohen
Tel: 212-339-6030 / 31 / 36
1-800-732-1266
Maccabi is the largest Israel program in North America. Each summer we bring more than 600 teens and college students to Israel on one of our 12 programs. The programs range from 4-5½ wks. Programs include: adventure, scuba, sports, kibbutz, plus more. Call for a free video and information: 1-800-732-1266.

MARKY'S WAREHOUSE OUTLET
7171 Yonge St., (just north of Steeles)
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 2A9
Contact: Howard or Noel Esakov
Tel: 905-731-4433
Fax: 905-731-1356
Your 1-stop camp shop. Everything from underwear (Fruit of the Loom, Elita, Jockey) to 42-inch lugger bags, camp pyjamas to name tags. All at outlet prices! Plus Gym Master, Raptors, Tye-Dye and more! Shopping carts, kids' play area, free hot coffee and smiles.

MENORAH NURSERY
4300 Bathurst St.,
Willowdale, Ont. M3H 3R4
Administrator: Helen Jarcaig
Tel: 416-638-6910
Menorah Nursery is a place where each child has an opportunity to learn through play with other children, with appropriate toys and materials, and where their mental, emotional, and physical growth is fostered. Choosing Menorah Nursery, assures you that we will provide a warm, stimulating and secure place for your child.

SHENDY'S SWIM SCHOOL
1 Markdale Ave., Unit 1,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 1S8
Director: Eric Shendelman
Tel: 416-784-0900
If you are looking for experienced and well trained instructors, small classes and a friendly atmosphere, then Shendy's Swim School is for you. We provide programs in all Red Cross and Royal Lifesaving levels. Shendy's Swim School is a commercial member of the Ontario Camping Association, and provides many leadership and recertification classes for all camp staff.

STUDENT CAMP & TRIP ADVISORS
Contact: Koral Zeidel, 1-800-755-1667
Lynn Yaphe, 1-800-721-8070
Student Camp & Trip Advisors have been assisting families to find the right summer experience for their children for the last 25 yrs. This is a free personalized service and advice is given from a portfolio of approx. 700 camps, trips and schools. There is no charge for this service.

TRIPLE CROWN BASEBALL DAY CAMP
19 Lilac Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 5K1
Director: Danny Bleiwas
Tel: 905-881-5997
Fax: 905-881-0620
Located at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area in Stouffville, Triple Crown has a 5 diamond complex, and is for boys and girls ages 5-14. The camp offers door-to-door transportation and incorporates a fun camp atmosphere with a positive learning environment to provide campers with an excellent baseball experience.

TORONTO MONTESSORI SCHOOLS
8569 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4B 3M7
Tel: 905-889-6882
Fax: 905-886-6516
Our summer day camp, utilizing Toronto Montessori Schools' facilities, provides an excellent environment for children 4-12 yrs. Instruction in swimming, arts & crafts, computers, tennis, gymnastics and music is offered, with other options such as French, piano, carpentry, clinics in basketball, etc. Call for brochure. Sessions commence July 8-19, July 22-Aug. 2, Aug. 5-16.

WESTCOAST CONNECTION
87 Stillwater Cres,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 3S3
Tel: 416-667-1288
Fax: 416-665-1097
Unique summer travel experience encompassing campstyle spirit. 18 tours available for teenagers 13-17 years of age and college students 17-20. Active Teen Tours, Cycling "Plus" Programs and Outdoor Adventures are featured in North America and Europe, varying in length from 3-6 weeks. Call for a free brochure.

YOUTH & HECHALUTZ DEPT.,
CANADIAN ZIONIST FEDERATION,
Local Israel Youth Program Centre
National Director: Linda Israel
Tel: 514-486-9526
Fax: 514-483-6392
An endless variety of Israel summer programs for youth 15-24 are offered. Programs offer an eye-opening unforgettable summer experience, guaranteed to stimulate interest and pride. Each program is filled with learning, challenge, discovery, physical activity, breathtaking scenery - in short, exhilaration, unparalleled fun and a lifetime of friendships and memories.

ZODIAC SWIM SCHOOL
3768 Bathurst St., #305,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 3M6
Directors: Ellen & Rick Howard
Tel: 416-633-3323
Fax: 416-633-3303
While development of swimming skills is of course a central focus, building each student's self-esteem and confidence in Zodiac's challenging, non-threatening environment, is equally important. Qualified instructors teach Red Cross, Life Saving and other programs in Zodiac's 3:1 ratio classes at 7 convenient locations (a wide variety of class times are available).

NEW
BIRTHDAY PARTY SPECIALS
SONY PLAYSTATIONS
VIRTUAL REALITY RIDES
CYBER-FUN & COMPUTERS
PRE-TEEN D.J. PARTIES
SEGA-SATURN
BABYSITTING/DROP-OFF
10% OFF PRIVATE PARTY WITH THIS AD
INQUIRE ABOUT OUR NEW PROGRAMS & DISCOUNTS
@ FUN'N MORE Inside the Promenade Mall (905)764-8955

CAMP GESHER
HABONIM DROR
A unique camp experience modeled on Kibbutz values
Ages 9-16 — Full session: 7 weeks
Half session: 3 or 3 1/2 weeks
Special activities and programs:
*Sports and Waterfront *Work Projects
*Interest Groups *Scouting *Hebrew *Judaic Program
To register: Toronto, Orit Praag (416) 633-2511 or 223-6233;
Ottawa, Meir Moran (613) 789-7241 or 828-8184

SUMMER TIME FUN

Hundreds of Camps, Trips, Schools, Work Projects!
Just One Phone Call!!!
Student Camp & Trip Advisors
Let the Camp Specialist guide you to the Best summer experience for your child.
•Traditional Camps, 4 & 8 weeks
•Art, Drama, Tennis, Golf
•College Programs
• Bike, Hike, Wilderness
•Community Service
•European Travel
A FREE SERVICE SINCE 1970
Lynn Yaphe (514) 482-1462 1 800 721-8070
Koral Zeidel (514) 482-6756 1 800 755-1667

JEWISH TEENS!
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG ISRAEL presents...
ACHVA '96
Summer Travel Programs
• AFTER 8th GRADE-ACHVA USA/EAST
Six weeks of travel through the eastern half of the United States & Canada with a great group of friends.
National parks, theme parks, zoos, museums, Shabbatonim, daily prayers, educational seminars, kumsitzes.
• AFTER 9th GRADE-ACHVA USA/WEST
Six weeks of travel through the western half of the United States & Canada with a great group of friends.
National parks, theme parks, zoos, museums, Shabbatonim, daily prayers, educational seminars, kumsitzes.
• AFTER 10th GRADE-ACHVA ISRAEL
Six weeks of touring, learning & fun—
Experience a rapelling adventure at Me'arat HaKeshet.
Swim the Mediterranean, walk the sand dunes of Ashkelon.
Bamidbar Experience-3 full days of hikes, climbs, splashes, cookouts, overnights, map-reading and survival skills.
For info., call: National Council of Young Israel Youth Dept.
(212) 929-1525 • (800) 617-NCYI ext. 181

Zodiac Swim School goes to camp!!

While Zodiac's program is popular during all seasons, Zodiac's spring program (end of March until mid-June) attracts many "rookies" launching their swim careers and "veterans" looking to sharpen their skills for summer.

Zodiac's primary goal of helping its students become more confident, skilled and safe in and around the water will only enhance your child's summer experience, whether at the cottage, camp or in some other activity. During Zodiac's 17 years of operation, skill development at all levels of Red Cross, Life Saving and other specialized courses has been a central focus; building each child's self-esteem, confidence and trust, however, is equally important. Qualified and caring instructors and supervisors, together with directors Ellen and Rick Howard, work with children and parents in effectively achieving these goals.

While Zodiac will of course prepare all of its students for a great summer, children who are both students at Zodiac and campers at Green Acres Day Camp will have a special opportunity in Summer '96. Zodiac and Green Acres will be working together to bring Zodiac Swim School calibre swim lessons to the Green Acres' campers!.

For those who wish to supplement the camp or other summer experience or simply want their children to benefit from continuing swim lessons, Zodiac also offers its own terrific and unique summer program!.

Invest in your child's safety and fitness

LOCATIONS:

SPRING Program Begins Week of Mar 23

ASSOCIATED
(Leslie & Steeles)
BLOORVIEW
(Sheppard & Leslie)
FOREST HILL
(Spadina & Eglinton)
HARBORD
(Bathurst & Bloor)
HUGH MACMILLAN
(Bayview & Eglinton)
VAUGHAN
(Eglinton & Allen)
MENTOR
(QEW & Hurontario)

Zodiac Swim School Limited

MAX 3 STUDENTS PER INSTRUCTOR

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE:

Parent & Tot (4:1)
Pre-School
Red Cross "Colour"
Royal Life Saving I, II, III
Bronze/Leaders/Instructors
Esso Swim Canada
Adult Swim Classes
Private Lessons

FEATURES:

Infants to Seniors
Family Students Swim at Same Time
Qualified & Caring Instructors
Free Orientation

SWIM INFO (416) 633-3323

Camp Kesher provides exciting new alternative

An exciting new alternative for parents seeking a quality summer for their children is being offered by the newly opened Camp Kesher, located in the heartland of Israel, near Petach Tikvah (not far from Ben-Gurion Airport). This camp offers campers all the sports facilities and cultural activities of the typical American Camp with the added bonus of featuring Eretz Yisrael with all it's wonders and special attractions.

Camp Kesher will have weekly trips to different parts of Israel; Jerusalem, Masada, Zefat, Ein Gedi, also kayaking on the Jordan River, banana boating on the Kinneret, water parks, horseback riding, hiking and extensive touring have all been carefully planned and orchestrated to enhance your child's appreciation for this great gift Hashem has bestowed upon us when he gave us this land.

Camp Kesher is a modern orthodox, co-ed camp adhering strictly to kashrut and daily minyanim. Yeshiva kids 11-16 yrs. are welcome.

For the price of camp in the U.S., the children will be flown to Israel and given a summer (8 wk. program or 2 4 wk. sessions) of which dreams are made.

Visiting day will be at the end of the 3rd week. A charter flight will be arranged for a minimal price. Parents and siblings can take advantage of this flight and stay in Israel for 1 wk.

To become part of this special camping program or for further information, call the office **(516) 295-3816**.

CAMP KESHER IN · ISRAEL

קשר אחד

Spend The Time Of Your Life This Summer

Located near Petach Tikvah on beautiful grounds with modern accommodations.

THE CAMP FEATURES
Swimming Pool, A/C Dining Room, Shul, Theatre, Sports and weekly trips. Ulpan and shiurim are part of the educational and modern orthodox format.

For Yeshiva Boys & Girls ages 11-16
8 weeks $4,200
4 weeks $2,300
Roundtrip from NY Included

Camp Directors:
Fran and Yanki Wertheimer
Rabbi, Dr. Yechiel Bar Lev

Call for more details (516) 295-3816. Ask for Fran Wertheimer.

- Kotel
- Ulpan
- Masada
- Kayaking
- Aqua Parks
- Ein Gedi
- Sports
- Banana Boats
- Zefat
- Shiurim

Green Acres offers a "swim school calibre" aquatics program

Green Acres has always been a leader in the day camp field combining creative new camp programs and concepts with first class facilities in a beautiful country setting.

Now we're leading the way again! In association with Zodiac Swim School, Green Acres swim staff will be providing a Swim School Calibre aquatics program at camp this summer. Ellen & Rick Howard, directors at Zodiac Swim School are excited about their new challenge at Green Acres.

Under the expert hands-on supervision of Zodiac Swim School professionals, our swim instruction periods will now provide continuity for the many children who participate in swim school programs year 'round. At Green Acres, campers will gain from the benefits of being able to continue with their swim progress throughout their summer at camp! In addition, the young or timid swimmer will enjoy the advantages of a sound foundation in water skills that is both fun and safe.

For the many campers who register in a swim school program in the fall, the Green Acres swim experience is an excellent opportunity to help build a child's confidence in the water. In addition, parents can now feel comfortable in the knowledge that what their children learn at camp is compatible with the teaching progressions at swim schools.

To receive an informative camp brochure, please call (905) 887-1400.

GREEN ACRES DAY CAMP

- **Fabulous** country site in Markham
  Door-to-Door transportation provided
- Ages 4 to 13 yrs; CIT's 14 & 15 yrs
- 3 **heated** outdoor pools
- On site **waterslide park**
- Solid, successful Red Cross swim instruction program
- Sports, camp shows, overnights, riding, 'hands on' farm animal program and **lots of camp activities you won't find anywhere else**.

Call **(905) 887-1400** For a Colourful Brochure

OUR STAFF MAKES THE DIFFERENCE! Now interviewing for summer camp staff positions.

Teen travel camp offers USA and Canada tours

Westbound Adventures is an extraordinarily well-organized and well-planned teen travel program. Choose from 3-5 week tours to the west coast of Canada and USA.

Westbound Adventures is geared for teens completing grades 8-10. Some of our tour members join the trip with a friend, others come on their own. During orientation we'll run ice breakers and other wacky events which create an environment where everyone is comfortable and included in the fun.

From a challenging day of hiking in Lake Louise to a relaxing night at the movies - we do it all. Olympic days, swimming, mountain biking, survival training, glacier walking, soaking in natural hot springs, rollerblading, skiing and horseback riding. We'll play volleyball, toss frisbees, ride a cable car and travel on a ferry boat. We'll be exhilarated by a luge ride, whitewater rafting and a dune buggy experience. We'll throw footballs and ride a sno-cat on the icefields. Are you tired yet?

After the sun sets we'll have campfires, sing songs, smores, share stories and late night talks. We'll also have opportunities to see city nights, dance, go bowling, rollerskate, play mini golf and enjoy laughs at a comedy club.

For detailed trip itineraries and a colourful brochure, please call Westbound Adventures Teen Travel Camp at 905-887-1400.

WHITE WATER RAFTING • HIKE GROUSE MOUNTAIN • SKI AT WHISTLER • DUNE BUGGY THE SAND DUNES

Westbound Adventures
Teen Travel Camp Inc.

"CANADIAN EXPLORER"
— 25 days in Western Canada
"PACIFIC COAST CHALLENGE"
— 31 days in the USA and Canada

Inquire about our "Breakthrough Prices"

- OPTIONAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT CAMP GREEN ACRES FOR GRADE 10 STUDENTS
- LEADERSHIP PROGRAM ON-THE-GO
- SPECIAL COMBO TRAVEL/CIT OPTIONS FOR GRADES 8 & 9 STUDENTS

Call 905-887-1400 for our '96 Brochure

They say dreams only last a few minutes - our last a lifetime!

LOS ANGELES • UNIVERSAL STUDIOS • RODEO DRIVE • VANCOUVER • ALBERTA

GRAND CANYON • CALGARY STAMPEDE • VENICE BEACH • SEATTLE

HEARST CASTLE • LAKE LOUISE • DISNEYLAND • ALCATRAZ

Hillcrest: fun for youngsters

Centrally located in the beautiful, green Hogg's Hollow Valley at Yonge and York Mills. Our unique camp caters solely to the pre-school set ages 2½ to 5 years.

We provide an enriched, creative and nurturing environment while maintaining the highest safety standards.

A low camper/counselor ratio helps to ensure each child is made to feel comfortable and secure in what is often their first camp experience. Our staff is comprised of Hillcrest teachers, student teachers from the Early Childhood Education Program and mature, experienced counselors.

The rolling camp grounds and the adventure type playground provide a setting for exploration and fun. Our trained Red Cross swim staff are sensitive to new and experienced swimmers, providing your child with a feeling of security and confidence in the water.

In our arts & crafts program your child's imagination will blossom with our creative and stimulating "hands-on" experience.

Music is one of the highlights at Hillcrest Day Camp. The music program is directed by our music specialist, Kayla.

Hillcrest Summer Camp provides a safe and secure environment geared to the needs of your preschoolers.

HILLCREST CAMP AGES 2½ - 5½

- Counsellors drawn from E.C.E. programmes
- Full and half-day programmes available
- Two week sessions available in August
- Red Cross Swim Instructions (on site)
- Playball Sports Program
- Door-to-door transportation

- Special Days
- Creative Movement
- Carnivals
- Drama
- Arts & Crafts
- Cookouts

♫ ♪ MUSIC WITH KAYLA ♪ ♫

489-8355

Queenie Spindel - Camp Director

Hillcrest is located in beautiful Hogg's Hollow Valley (Yonge & York Mills)

TORONTO MONTESSORI SCHOOLS

opus mihi praebeat ipse quiem

SUMMER DAY CAMP

situated on a 6 acre property, at Highway 7 and Bayview Avenue

Three two-week sessions for boys and girls
July 1 - July 12
July 15 - July 26
July 29 - August 9

Over 20 Years Experience

Using the Toronto Montessori School building and grounds in Richmond Hill, children ranging in age from 4 to 12 years will enjoy the fun and experience of our day camp.

Our campers enjoy daily instruction in:

swimming • arts and crafts • computers tennis • gymnastics • music

In addition campers may choose:

French • piano • carpentry • jazz dance marching band • sports clinics in basketball, volleyball, soccer, badminton, track and field.

For more information (905) 889-6882

Day Camp
KLUB KIDZ
Sports Camp

A Country Day Camp Environment...located on 32 acres of private campground in **Richmond Hill**

Staff members who are reliable, mature, motivated and enthusiastic, and are committed to providing a happy and safe environment for children to learn and play.

GREAT FOOD!
A varied and nutritious menu including hot and cold lunches and snacks planned in consultation with a Registered Professional Dietitian and it's **included** in your FEES!!

Off-location excursions with a purpose.

Red Cross Swim instruction daily.

A place where **safety and supervision** will never be compromised.

WHY KLUB KIDZ??

Juice, Kiskos and fresh fruit are always available throughout the day to KLUB KIDZ Kidz.

The Kidz leave camp wanting to come back.

Our amazing facilities include 2 Swimming Pools, Tennis Courts Ropes and Adventure Course, Creative Arts Centre, and Petting Farm to name a few.

Success in providing a **well-rounded program** with continuous adventure, fun and safety.

New for '96
Rock Climbing Wall
Outdoor Wood-Framed Shelters
Ball Hockey Court
Expanded Petting Farm Facilities

A small camp that provides an intimate camp experience in which each child is recognized as an important individual in the whole camp process.

Our programs can continue despite inclement weather because of our wonderful indoor facilities.

Where else can Parents experience a day at Camp? At KLUB KIDZ you are always welcome. We truly have an open-door policy, emphasizing excellent ongoing communication.

A well organized door-to-door transportation system at no additional cost to you. 80% of our Campers spend less than 35 minutes travelling to camp and from camp.

Call for a Brochure or A Home Visit

(416) 614-6915

Safe Supervised Fun

The City of North York Parks and Recreation Department have been providing unforgettable day camping experiences for 41 years. Some of the best memories of childhood and youth come from summer camp. And North York offers the most memorable camp adventures around.

Consider North York's six specialty camps: Arts Discovery, Computer Camp, Fine Arts Camp, Kids Camp, Gymnastics and Sports Camp, where young people develop their talents in everything from softball to dancing, computers to gymnastics. All of the camps are well-rounded, with skills development in a specialty complimented by a full lineup of traditional activities like swimming and games. Or Camp Naorca, where campers enjoy the wonders of nature amidst 697 acres of rolling hills, groomed fields, rustic hiking trails and woods, a sandy beach and a cool lake.

Located on the grounds of Seneca College's King Campus. Camp Naorca is the most enduring Parks and Recreation day camp. Naorca encourages appreciation for nature and the environment, while offering all the best-loved camp programs.

Campers are led by experienced and enthusiastic counsellors, selected based on their skills and abilities to relate to and teach young people.

For more information about any North York Parks and Recreation Camps, call the Camp Hotline at 395-7818.

• Gymnastics Camp • Computer Camp • Fine Arts Camp • Camp Naorca •

Arts • Drama • Volleyball • Basketball • Kids Camp

Nature Hikes • Swimming • Friendship • Water crafts

SAFE SUPERVISED FUN

North York

Dear Dad and Mom,
Having so much fun learning new skills, meeting new friends and the counsellors are so great.

P.S. North York Day Camps Rule!!

ACCI ACCREDITED MEMBER ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION

CAMP HOTLINE 395-7818

Summer fun for ages 4-9

Earl Bales Community Day Camp offers well-rounded programs for kids aged 4-9, old enough to want some special summer fun, but too young for a sleep-over. We have an experienced program director and staff, and a CIT program. There is 1 counsellor for every 3-5 campers.

Regular hours are 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; new this year are extended hours, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., at only $20 extra per child per week. There are 2 4 wk. sessions, July 2-26 and July 29-Aug. 23. For Aug., there are also 2 and 3 wk. options. The 2 wk. sessions run July 29-Aug. 9 and Aug. 12-23; 3 wk. sessions cover any 3 consecutive weeks during the Aug. session.

We offer 4 specialty areas: arts & crafts, music & drama, nature, and sports. For every camper, there is a half-hour daily swim with Red Cross instructors, at Northview Heights Collegiate. Kids are tested for swimming skills, and put into the skill-appropriate group.

Each monthly session has a Picture Day, a cookout for each group, a special activity day each week — and a Parents' Night, where kids perform for parents.

While transportation and lunch are parents' responsibility, Earl Bales Day Camp provides daily snacks, and a car pool list on request.

For registration, call **223-1361**; or pick up application forms at Earl Bales Community Centre in Earl Bales Park. Orientation packages are sent out 2-3 wks. before the July and Aug. sessions.

Earl Bales Community Day Camp

Our 17th year serving the local community

- Full day, fun-filled camp program for four to nine year old children
- Located in beautiful Earl Bales Park
- Age appropriate activities include arts and crafts, cookouts, games, nature hikes, sports, swimming, waterplay, campcraft, drama, music, special events, story telling, theme days and Parent's Night
- Experienced, enthusiastic staff
- Daily Red Cross swimming instruction at Northview Pool
- July and August one-month sessions; two and three-week sessions available in August
- *NEW* Extended hours available

For brochure and to register, call (416) 223-1361

YOUR
ONE STOP CAMP SHOP

EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR CAMP
FROM NAME TAGS TO LUGGER BAGS

gym master

JOCKEY®

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FRUIT OF THE LOOM
UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED

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GET YOUR "FREQUENT SHOPPER'S CLUB" CARD NOW AT MARKY'S
AND SAVE ON YOUR REGULAR AND SUMMER CAMP SHOPPING

FRIENDLY, HELPFUL STAFF
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Does your pet carry more I.D. than your kids?

Children suffer millions of injuries yearly, tens of thousands are lost, yet most children carry NO means of identification to notify parents in an emergency situation.

When pets carry more I.D. than children, there is an obvious void that needs to be filled. For example, if your child was injured and unable to communicate, you and your family would go through tremendous anguish and frustration of not knowing your child's whereabouts. The ChildNet program was designed to fill this void.

The ChildNet program consists of 50 iron-on labels; once on clothing, a label cannot be lost or forgotten. In an emergency situation, the I.D. label alerts the paramedic, police officer, etc., to call ChildNet's toll-free, 24-hour North American Emergency Response Centre. As soon as a staff member has screened and verified the call, pertinent medical information is relayed to the hospital, and parents or other emergency contacts are notified.

Nowadays, children are more on the go, whether to and from school, visiting friends, at camp or on vacation. ChildNet Safety I.D. Labels offers a unique link between you and your loved ones.

ChildNet is ideal for client promotions and gifts for any occasion.

For more information on ChildNet, please call Lynne at **Family Care Services, (416) 256-3074.** Dealers are also welcome, ask for Ivan Greisman **(905) 709-3187.**

IF YOUR CHILD WAS LOST OR IN AN ACCIDENT,
HOW WOULD YOU BE NOTIFIED??

CHILDNET®

A CHILD SAFETY I.D. LABEL WITH
A NORTH AMERICAN TOLL-FREE, 24 HR. HOTLINE!

CHILDNET
In emergency
1 - 800 - Child
I.D. Number 000000

- Notifies parents, alternative contacts and medical personnel immediately
- Practical and Affordable
- Can't be Lost or Forgotten
- Comfortable and easy to wear
- Easy for Emergency Personnel to find and use
- Confidential information is not available to strangers.

ISN'T YOUR CHILD WORTH $39.95 (tax included) PER YEAR!

Family Care Services
Division of 1088376 Ontario Ltd.

Safety ID Labels
Authorized Executive Dealer for ChildNet®

105 West Beaver Creek Road, Unit 3
Richmond Hill, Ont., Canada L4B 1C6
(905) 709-3187 - Fax (905) 884-8556

Name.....
Address.....
.....
City/Town..... Prov.....
Postal Code..... Phone.(.....).....
.....Children x $39.95=.....
PLEASE PRINT
(Make cheques payable to: Family Care Services)

What you want — we've got it! Israel Youth Program Centre

For a quarter of a century the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Canadian Zionist Federation has been sending thousands of young Canadians aged 15-35 to our Jewish homeland for a unique perspective on their culture, heritage and history. Its 'Original Israel Experience' is filled with discovery hands-on learning and breathtaking scenery!

The Israel Youth Program Centre, a storefront within the Cavendish Mall, is a project of the Youth and Hechalutz Department. There you will find a myriad of information about programs in Israel. Israel means different things to different people, therefore whatever type of Israel experience young Canadians are looking for, the Centre has got it! The expert staff will guide you to the program best suited to your individual needs, whether it be a summer tour, a long term program or a kibbutz-oriented stay.

The fantastic summer programs include a variety of exciting and adventurous components such as hiking the country sea-to-sea, the kibbutz experience, 'gadna', a special week of festivities in Jerusalem celebrating its 3,000th birthday, snorkeling on the coral reef, witnessing the magnificent sunrise from atop Massada. While travelling and learning about your roots, participants will share Israel experiences with Canadians from the Maritimes to Vancouver, while forming bonds which are sure to become lifelong friendships.

Youth and Hechalutz is also pleased to offer the 1996 edition of the *Complete Guide to Israel Programs for Youth in Canada*, listing ALL Israel programs available. As the largest and most experienced organization involved with Israel programs for students and young adults, they really know their business! A wealth of program options are available within the directory - short and long term programs, university credit possibilities, volunteer options and a great deal more. This user-friendly handbook is organized by age and type of program. In it you will find information on university study, ulpan, internships, kibbutz volunteering and, of course, summer travel.

For all information about the options available for 1996, please contact your local Israel Youth Program Centre.

it's time!
ISRAEL 96
SUMMER

This summer, we'll be doing all kinds of really cool things: rapelling down the sides of mountains, cruising through the desert in jeeps, hiking through nature reserves, camping out under the stars, snorkelling in coral reefs, and catching some rays at some world class beaches. We'll also be touring the length and breadth of Israel, checking out all kinds of sites, from the spectacular, to the breath taking! Sunrise at Massada, Shabbat at the Kotel in Jerusalem, sunset in the Galilee and twilight in Tel Aviv - it's all there! Not only that, but we'll be joining with Israelis and people from around the world attending the biggest party ever: Jerusalem 3000, celebrating 3000 years of a Jewish presence in Jerusalem!

So...where are YOU going to be?

For more info on a program thats perfect for you, call your nearest Israel Youth Program Centre

Montreal (514) 481-0218 Toronto (416) 398-6931 Ottawa (613) 789-5010
Halifax (902) 422-7491 Winnipeg (204) 943-6494 Edmonton (403) 487-0585
Vancouver (604) 257-5141

Brought to you by the expert staff at The Youth and Hechalutz Dept. and the Israel Youth Program Centre

Registration has begun!

YOUR ONE STOP ISRAEL SHOP

think about

Camp Shalom, unique among camps

Camp Shalom, on beautiful Lake Muskoka at Gravenhurst, Ontario, has an established reputation as the premier Jewish residential summer camp in Muskoka.

Since its founding in 1948 by the Toronto Zionist Council - (Shalom shares its birth date with the State of Israel) - many thousands of boys and girls have, during their formative years from 8-13, experienced the joys of a fun-filled Camp Shalom summer where life-long friendships are forged and wonderful memories stored.

All this in a warmly caring environment under a well-trained staff with a 3-to-1 staff to camper ratio. A doctor and a nurse are on site at all times.

As a non-political, non-profit Zionist camp affiliated with Canadian Young Judaea and accredited by the Ontario Camping Association, Camp Shalom imbues its campers with a sense of Jewish history, Jewish cultural values and the centrality of Israel in their lives. The special Camp Shalom "ruach" (spirit) creates an ambience which encourages the ideals of sharing, mutual respect and fair play.

Camp Shalom is unique among camps in its individualized program wherein each camper may choose his/her own special interests from among some 18 daily activities which include canoe, sailing, ropes, baseball, tennis, instructional swim, waterskiing, Jewish cooking, drama, arts & crafts, journalism, tripping, photography, Israeli singing and Israeli dance.

Abe Levy of Levy's Glatt Kosher Catering will return for his 3rd season to again produce his outstanding "I can't believe it's camp food" meals and snacks. (Parents and visitors on Shalom's visitors days recall a taste of Abe's superb cuisine.)

The Toronto Zionist Council is committed to maintaining the lowest possible fee structure for Camp Shalom, in order to make Shalom accessible to as many youngsters as possible, while at the same time continuing in the Camp Shalom tradition of excellence, both in program and in physical maintenance.

"We look forward to the summer of '96 and the privilege of sharing another wonderful Camp Shalom experience with the '96 lucky contingent of campers," says Yacov Gabel, director, and Malka Klein, Administrator.

CAMP SHALOM
Camp Shalom '96

THE TRADITION CONTINUES

- A premier residential camp on beautiful Lake Muskoka
- Jewish history/culture/Zionism
- Highest standards of programming & staffing
- Full land sports, tennis, waterskiing, sailing, canoeing, ropes course, arts & crafts, drama, cooking, archery, photography, self-defence, guitar, tripping and much more

For information call
Yacov or Malka
(416) 783-6744

Camp Ramah inspires today's youth

Camp Ramah, located on Skeleton Lake offers a quality camping program in the framework of traditional Jewish practice. Under the directorship of Rabbi Mitch Cohen, Ramah offers the total camping experience for children in grades 3-10. Our safe and comprehensive waterfront program staffed by certified instructors is a highlight for our campers. Sports is an integral part of every camper's development, focusing on skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Arts activities allow each camper to realize their creative potential through projects, performances, and individualized instruction. Outdoors programs take full advantage of the camp's beautiful setting while raising our camper's environmental awareness. A new ropes course gives campers and staff a chance to work together towards shared goals.

Judaica, Hebrew, and Israel programming are a regular part of the camp day. Jewish texts are taught by young adults in an informal setting. Hebrew is spoken, heard and often becomes second nature at camp. Shabbat, prayer, and ritual observance assume special qualities when experienced and shared with friends.

Ramah now offers a unique one month program for campers with special needs. The Tikvah ("Hope") program gives adolescents ages 12 and up an opportunity to enjoy everything about camp while defining their own Jewish identity.

Staff are often former campers who return to Ramah because of the deep-rooted commitment to the Ramah environment. Young people develop skills and leadership, enduring friendships and a Jewish consciousness that helps them become vibrant members of their family and home community..

CAMP RAMAH

Applications are being accepted from

Campers and Staff for the 1996 season.

Two-month session for youngsters currently enrolled in Grades 3-10.
One-month session also available for children in Grades 3-7.

Outstanding Waterfront Program • Athletics
• Mature, Trained Staff • Arts & Crafts• Hebrew Milieu
• Drama and Music • Tripping and much more in an

Observant Jewish Community

Call our office now to schedule an appointment with the Director,or to view our video at home.

* * * * *

•**RAMAH FAMILY CAMP**, for parents and children to share a Ramah camping experience together: **August 23-27, 1996**

•**TASTE OF RAMAH**, a one-week encampment for children currently in Grade 2. **August 4-11, 1996**

Camp Ramah in Canada
491 Lawrence Ave. W., Suite 400, Toronto, Ont. M5M 1C7
Telephone (416) 789-2193 • Fax (416) 789-3970
RAMAH – The Camping Arm of Conservative Judaism

New Director, New Direction at Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa

It's a NEW DIRECTION, A NEW DIRECTOR AND THE BEST VALUE IN JEWISH CAMPING this year at Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa..

Our new director, STEVE FORMAN, comes to us with over 25 years of camp leadership experience. He has brought together a team of mature, caring leaders including Howard Posh of Montreal as Program Director and Jeff Kanter of Ottawa as Head Counsellor. Howard will be responsible for the delivery of exciting new programming this year, and Jeff's duties will include daily counsellor supervision and support. Together, these three professionals will ensure that every camper has a summer of fun, learning and Judaica.

The new team plan to offer a wealth of programming at our Olympic sized swimming pool and our on-site waterfront complete with a fleet of sailboats, canoes and kayaks. They are placing a major emphasis on the performing arts, with specialist instructors in drama, crafts, dance and Judaica. And our landsports and tennis programs have been enhanced with individualized instruction in addition to the regular recreational programs. And this year, CAMP B'NAI BRITH OTTAWA IS THE BEST VALUE IN JEWISH CAMPING. The Camp has received registered charitable institution status so a portion of the camper fees are tax deductible.

As well, Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa recently entered the world of the Internet with an interactive home page. The page features information and photographs of campers, facilities and fun.

You can find Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa on the Internet at http://www.ottawa.net/~saul/camp. Check it out.

For those who like more information than you can find in a printed brochure, copies of the new camp video are now available at no charge. You can contact the Camp office or order it directly from our home page on the Internet.

If you're looking for your friends this summer, we know where they are.

BloorJCC: camps for kids

With Winter Break behind us, it's time to think about camps for kids during March Break and Summer Vacation. The BloorJCC at 750 Spadina Ave. offers a wide choice.

March Break runs March 11-15 and March 18-22. Programs include March Break Fun Days for ages 4½-10 where daily activities include, swimming, gym and a specialty workshop. Circus Camp for ages 8-12; Computer and Internet Workshop for ages 9 and up; Pottery Workshop for ages 8-12 and an Acting Workshop for teens ages 13-15.

Looking ahead to Summer, there is a ½ Day Summer Fun where kids 3-5 can explore a variety of activities in a relaxed nurturing atmosphere; Camp Summer Fun for children ages 4½-10. Activities include sports, swimming, music, crafts and hobby workshops; Summer Fun Plus a specialized Art Camp for kids 9-12; Circus camp for children 8-12; a Teen Drama Camp for ages 13-15 and an Intensive Drama Workshop for ages 16 and up.

All camps are staffed by specialists. Groups are small with a high staff to camper ratio. Enrolment in all programs is limited. Call Florence Marantz at **(416) 924-6211** for more information.

Bloor Jewish Communiy Centre
750 Spadina Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 2J2

BloorJCC

CAMPS, CAMPS AND MORE CAMPS AT THE BLOOR JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

* MARCH BREAK	* SUMMER FUN PLUS 9 - 12
* 1/2 DAY SUMMER FUN 3 - 5	* TEEN DRAMA 13 - 15
* SUMMER FUN 4½ - 10	* MAIN SPACE CIRCUS

FOR MORE INFORMATION (416) 924-6211

CAMP B'NAI BRITH OTTAWA

Camp Director, Steve Forman
25 years of camping experience and leadership together with a mature, caring, well trained, responsible staff offer...

THE BEST VALUE IN JEWISH CAMPING

TOP RATE FACILITIES:

OLYMPIC SIZE POOL	FOOTBALL FIELD	FOOTBALL	TENNIS
INDOOR GYMNASIUM	REC HALL	BASEBALL	SOCCER
TENNIS COURTS	DANCE HALL	NEWCOMBALL	BASKETBALL
SOCCER FIELD	SANDY BEACH	VOLLEYBALL	BADMINTON
PLAYGROUND	BASEBALL FIELD	FLOOR HOCKEY	SOCCER BASEBALL
KOSHER KITCHEN	INFIRMARY	ROLLERBLADING	TETHERBALL

EXCELLENT LANDSPORTS PROGRAM:

ON-SITE WATERFRONT PROGRAM WITH CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS:

WATERSKIING CANOEING KAYAKING TRIPPING
SAILING WINDSURFING SWIM INSTRUCTION

JUDAICA, DRAMA, ARTS & CRAFTS, DANCE
TAUGHT BY QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS

CAMP B'NAI BRITH OF OTTAWA
IS A REGISTERED CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION
A PORTION OF CAMPER FEES IS *TAX DEDUCTIBLE*

FULL SESSION: $3465.00 - BEFORE FEBRUARY PAY ONLY $3365.00
(7 WEEKS)
HALF SESSION: $2155.00 - BEFORE FEBRUARY PAY ONLY $2075.00
(ALL PRICES INCLUDE GST)

***CALL STEVE FORMAN*: 1-800-488-6431**

FOR REGISTRATION & FINANCIAL INFORMATION: 1-613-823-6290

NOW ON THE INTERNET: http://www.ottawa.net/~saul/camp

Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa is an Accredited Member of the Ontario Camping Association

Top camping at low costs

Camp Eitan has been directed by Rabbis Michoel Levine and Moshe Weinberg for the past 17 years.

Both teachers at Eitz Chaim Schools, they offer the most in camping for the lowest price. The prices are the same as last year and include door-to-door bus transportation within a designated area, hot kosher lunches (under COR supervision) and basic instructional swimming.

Also included are gymnastics, overnights, computers, arts & crafts, weekly trips and a varied sports program. The camp is located in Eitz Chaim Schools and offers modern air-conditioned indoor facilities for rainy day activities.

A recent innovation in our boy's division is our baseball camp, offered at our same low price. Coaching, video instruction, practice and game situations are aimed at helping campers at the lower skill levels.

Our girls' division has been divided into two levels to better meet the needs of each age group.

In our preschool division, special daily events, preschool classrooms, playground equip-ment, a weekly theme and a caring staff provide the younger child with a safe and happy summer experience.

For more information, or a brochure please call (416) 781-2333.

בס"ד

Camp Eitan

Quality camping for tots to teens

JULY or AUGUST: $495
BOTH: $855

Same price as last year!

Includes: •Door-to-door transportation
•Hot kosher* lunches •Computers •Sports •Gymnastics
•Overnights •Basic instructional swimming •Trips
•Basketball clinics
•BASEBALL CAMP

**Under the supervision of the Kashruth Council of Toronto*

Call for brochure: **(416) 781-2333**

Only at Moshava

Situated in the scenic Kawartha Lakes region of central Ontario, Camp Moshava provides a full range of sports activities, swimming, boating, hiking, nature study, arts & crafts, drama, shira, and special programs and events.

Over the years, the camp has built some new buildings, developed some new programs, and put in enough water pipe to service a small city.

But the real things that make camp what it is, haven't changed much.

We still assemble and train a staff of exceptional young men and women to work with our campers in a warm, supportive Orthodox Zionist environment. We still see our goal as fostering a commitment to the B'nei Akiva principles of love of G-d, love of Torah, and love of Israel. What is really unique, really important about Camp Moshava, goes beyond facilities and events and personalities. And that won't ever change because we won't let it change.

To learn more about Camp Moshava and what it has to offer you, please join us for an informational session in Toronto on January 21 at Yeshivat Or Chaim, or in Montreal on February 18 at the Hebrew Academy (or both!!). And don't think winter isn't the right time to plan your child's summer. It's always a good time to think summer ... and think Camp Moshava.

THINK SUMMER ....THINK CAMP MOSHAVA

- GET ANSWERS TO YOUR MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS
- TALK WITH OTHER SATISFIED PARENTS AND CAMPERS
- MEET MEMBERS OF THE CAMP MOSHAVA VA'AD AND MOSHAVA'S NEW DIRECTOR

IN TORONTO:
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21
2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
YESHIVAT OR CHAIM
159 ALMORE AVE.

CAMP MOSHAVA

IN MONTREAL:
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18
1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.
HEBREW ACADEMY
5700 KELLART

PLEASE RSVP TO THE CAMP OFFICE IN TORONTO (416) 630-7578
OR TO CARRIE KLIANS IN MONTREAL (514) 369-9399 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND

CAMP SOLELIM

A CANADIAN YOUNG JUDAEA CAMP
Affiliated with Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Canada

For boys and girls in Grades 8 & 9
Give your child a summer they will remember!

June 30 - August 14, 1996

Arts & Crafts, Bama, Shira, Rikud, Full Land Sports, Windsurfing, Kayaking, Canoeing & Tripping, Maccabia, Sailing, Nature Lore, Cookery, Full Zionist and Judaica Program

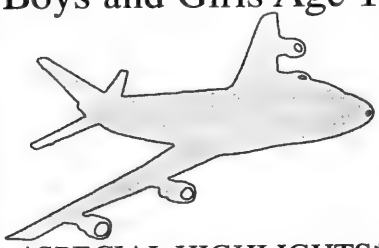
A TOUCH OF ISRAEL IN ONTARIO'S NORTH!

New programs: Waterskiing and Horseback Riding

For more information call 416-781-5156

Biluim Israel

July 3 - August 14
Boys and Girls Age 17



SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS
Gadna; Sea-to-sea hike; Bedouin experience; Massada by daybreak; Security week in the north; Repelling; Water parks; Seminars and Much More!

"The Most Unique Way To Discover Israel"

Biluim Canada

Young Judaea's Leadership Institute In the Beautiful Laurentian Mountains
Boys and Girls Age 16

Tennis, Basketball, Water Sports, Israeli Dance, Arts Program, and Much More

The Perfect Mixture of Summer Fun and Leadership Training

For More Information Call
Canadian Young Judaea's National Office
416-781-5156

CANADIAN YOUNG JUDAEA

Triple Crown's a hit with players of all ages

Located at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area in Stouffville, at Warden Ave. and Stouffville Sideroad, Triple Crown Baseball Day Camp is just 15 minutes north of Toronto.

Triple Crown is for boys and girls ages 5-14 and offers door-to-door transportation. Triple Crown has a 5 diamond complex along with 5 batting cages all equipped with pitching machines. All of the camp's diamonds are professionally groomed and have home run fences to give campers of all ages and abilities the big league feeling.

Triple Crown provides top quality counsellors and instructors to help players improve all areas of their game. Triple Crown offers both Classic and Advanced baseball programs to suit campers of all skill levels. Campers are further divided into units and cabin groups based on their age to ensure that they are competing and interacting with children their own age.

At Triple Crown, campers receive baseball instruction daily. Instructional periods will focus on the proper fundamentals of the game in a positive manner to further the campers skill development while building self confidence at the same time. Campers participate regularly in organized baseball games to showcase the skills they learn and improve on. As well, all campers will have an opportunity to join in other daily activities, including a recreational swim at our lake and other sports activities on our various sports fields. Triple Crown offers an arts & crafts program for those campers who sign up for the regular program

Triple Crown is equipped with a man-made chlorinated lake, complete with a sandy beach. This is a hit with campers of all ages as they get to take a well deserved break from the sun on hot summer days. Campers choosing not to participate in the recreational swim, will play sports games or receive additional baseball instruction.

Who said there is no such thing as a free lunch? Triple Crown provides lunch for every camper every Monday and Friday. Monday's are cookouts and Friday is Pizza Day. An optional lunch program is available for the remaining 3 days of the week. All dietary needs and restrictions will be taken into consideration when preparing all meals at Triple Crown.

Triple Crown provides an excellent program at a reasonable cost. Triple Crown's prices are much lower than other private camps in the Metro area. Triple Crown incorporates a fun camp atmosphere with a positive learning environment to provide campers with an excellent baseball experience.

- FOR BOYS & GIRLS 5-14
- CIT PROGRAM FOR 15 YR. OLDS
- CLASSIC & ADVANCED PROGRAMS
- SPECIAL HITTING & PITCHING CLINICS
- 4 BATTING CAGES WITH PITCHING MACHINES
- 5 PROFESSIONALLY GROOMED BASEBALL DIAMONDS
- QUALIFIED COACHES & INSTRUCTORS
- VIDEO ANALYSIS
- FREE LUNCH MON. & FRI., WITH OPTIONAL LUNCH PROGRAM TUES.-THURS.
- DOOR TO DOOR BUSING
- RECREATIONAL SWIM
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- BLUE JAY GAMES, OVERNIGHTS, OUT OF TOWN TRIPS

. . . AND MUCH MORE

TRIPLE CROWN BASEBALL DAY CAMP

Call for '96 Camp Guide (905) 881-5997

* Sibling Discounts
* Coaches – call for Team Discounts

Compare our Prices, You'll like what you see.

"WE COVER ALL THE BASES"

Register by Jan. 31/96 15% Discount

Triple Crown Baseball Day Camp Inc.
(located at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area)
19 Lilac Avenue
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 5K1
Tel. **(905) 881-5997** Fax: **(905) 881-0620**

Israel camp for girls fosters individual growth

Overnight camps have long been recognized as an excellent supplement to a year-round Torah education. Camping fosters varied opportunities for individual growth. Group living, independence, formal as well as informal learning, song, dance, drama, swimming, etc. are just some of the benefits offered in this natural surrounding

But ... a new dimension has been added at N'Vei Ashdod. For the past 12 years N'Vei Ashdod has provided all these things, and more ... in Eretz Yisrael where everything takes on a special flavour.

Lively, *frum* girls from all over the world come to Camp N'Vei Ashdod and forge lifelong friendships. It is indeed rare to find so many girls from so many places, blending so naturally. Perhaps it is the love for Eretz Yisrael which brings them so close together.

Situated in beautiful central Israel, in a tranquil, fully enclosed, modern campus with an enormous pool and beautiful grounds, N'Vei Ashdod combines learning, sports, fun and excitement with extensive touring throughout Israel.

The girls travel across the country in air-conditioned buses with the finest tour guides available. The whole time, security is top priority.

Shabbos, whether in camp or outside, is particularly special; picture Shabbos in the old city of Jerusalem, or in the *Ir HaKodesh* of Tzfat, guest lectures, *Talmidei Chachomim*, authors and well known Torah personalities add an extra dimension to the Israel experience.

N'Vei Ashdod, the touring camp for girls ages 10-17 in Israel is now in its 12th summer.

For information call **(718) 261-4322** or **1-800-2-ASHDOD**.

CAMP N'VEI ASHDOD

"AT BEAUTIFUL T.O.M. IN THE SHARON NEAR NETANYA" FOR FRUM GIRLS AGES 10-17 JOIN GIRLS FROM AROUND THE WORLD FOR OUR 12th YEAR OF THRILLING EXPERIENCES!

- 6 MEMORABLE WEEKS OF LIVING, TOURING, & HIKING IN A TRUE TORAH WAY
- ALL SPORTS FACILITIES ON PREMISES
- LIGHTED OLYMPIC POOLS
- MODERN DORMS

UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION OF RABBI MEYER FENDEL

IN CANADA CALL (416) 638-5244

IN NEW YORK CALL 718-972-3347 OR 718-261-4322 1-800-2-ASHDOD OR WRITE TO: 141-24 71st RD. FLUSHING, N.Y. 11367

A SUMMER OF "AWESOME" EXPERIENCES

In honor of our
CAMP N'VEI ASHDOD * * TWELFTH YEAR * * SUMMER 1996
We are offering a special
PRE-REGISTRATION SPECIAL
12 x 18 CHAI - OFF our low 1996 price.
(Application and deposit must be postmarked before 1/30/96 for Canadians only)
THANKS, GIRLS, FOR YOUR OVERWHELMING EARLY-BIRD RESPONSES

THE JEWISH CAMP COUNCIL OF TORONTO
3995 Bathurst St., Suite 200
Downsview, ON M3H 5V3
(416) 630-1180

• CAMP NORTHLAND - B'NAI BRITH
-country camp for boys & girls 7-15 located in the beautiful Highlands of Haliburton
-a creative Jewish environment offering a wide range of activities: swimming, waterskiing, sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing, tripping, nature study, tennis, basketball, baseball, soccer, floor hockey, tether ball, arts and crafts, theatre
-introductory program for first time campers
-excellent camper/staff ratio

• GOOD FELLOWSHIP LODGE
-a summer lodge for seniors located on a secluded lake near Parry Sound, Ontario
-a social and recreational program in a Jewish environment, featuring indoor and outdoor sports, cultural programs, and nightly entertainment
-accommodations in newly redecorated twin rooms with private bath

REGISTRATION NOW UNDER WAY

All programs provide tasty and nutritious meals and snacks under the supervision of Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto

Medical staff on premises

Shendy's brings aquatics to camp

Swimming is a total-fitness exercise which sets the whole body in motion, including the heart. Moreover, it is a vital part of enjoying life at camp.

To enjoy swimming, fitness and safety are essential; so Eric Shendelman of Shendy's Swim School "brings aquatics to camp." Shendelman, who teaches for York Region, has been in aquatics for 13 years, and has 16 years experience in camping, including positions as camp and program director.

He attributes Shendy's success to his well-trained, experienced instructors. Because the child's learning depends on personal attention, and treating parents as partners, he and his staff are always approachable both to parents and children.

Though Shendy's emphasizes fitness and safety, there are courses in competitive swimming. Also, there are adult programs available. Many of these programs have helped children and adults overcome fear of water.

Instructors have Red Cross and Royal Life Saving certificates, and regular training updates including summer camp recertification. Shendy's also trains instructors for other camps and schools. Advanced leadership courses include Red Cross and Royal Life Saving Instructors, National Life Guard Award, Bronze courses, CPR and aquatic emergency care.

In the fall, Shendy's will switch to the new AquaQuest system. Shendelman is training his instructors in AquaQuest now, and from spring on, will offer the new Aqua-Leaders' program to children 14 and over.

Shendy's Swim School is a commercial member of the Ontario Camping Association. For more information, please call Eric Shendelman at **(416) 784-0900.**

SHENDY'S SWIM SCHOOL

THE ART OF AQUATICS

presents

WINTER & SPRING SESSION '96

LEARNER/INSTRUCTOR RATIO 3:1

* Red Cross/Royal Life Saving levels *(ages 3 and over)*
* Bronze courses
* Red Cross Aqua-Leaders Program *(must be min. 14 yrs.)*
* Red Cross/Royal Life Instructors Course *(New AquaQuest training)*
* N.L.S. Course
* Aquatic Emergency Care
* C.P.R..First Aid
* Recertification Courses

Call Now to reserve your space

Eric Shendelman SWIM DIRECTOR 416-784-0900

Kinneret's "First-Timers" eases transition to summer camping

Camp Kinneret (formerly Hagshama) has been a landmark of Jewish summer camping for over forty years. Thousands have spent their summers on the shores of beautiful Lac Mercier, near Mont Tremblant, where they have made lifetime friendships. Kinneret offers the full range of summer camp activities such as land and water sports, swim instruction, arts and crafts, drama, nature lore, jazz dance, newspaper, canoe tripping and much more.

What sets Kinneret apart, first of all, is it's small size which ensures a warm, family-like environment. Every camper receives individualized attention not only from the counsellors, but from everyone right up to the director. In addition, Kinneret does not just pay lip service to the idea of Jewish summer camping. Through the general ambience and through fun, informal programs, the camp reinforces pride in their Jewish heritage, with Israel as a focus. Last, but not least, Young Judaea activities in the city mean year-round continuity for those who want more than just a summer experience.

To ease the transition to summer camping for first-time campers, Kinneret runs a "Rishonim" (first-timers) program. Campers, aged 7 to 9, come for a week (July 28-August 5), during which they have their own staff and their own tailor-made program, but are integrated into the daily flow of camp life. Call the director, Tina Ornstein, at the camp office (735-3167 in Montreal or 1-800-426-5108) for more information today.

CAMP KINNERET

Your home away from home – Young Judaea's camp for 7-15 year olds in the Laurentians.

Your child will enjoy a rich Jewish-Zionist program in a family-like environment.

- Canoe Tripping
- Nature Lore
- Instructional Swim
- Windsurfing
- Petting Zoo
- Arts & Crafts
- Drama
- Israeli Song and Dance
- Sports

...and much more!

For more information, call Tina Ornstein

at (514)735-3167 or 1-800-426-5108

Member: Association des Camps du Québec

Sponsors: Hadassah - WIZO Organization of Canada Zionist Organization of Canada

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CARING FOR YOUR CHILDREN SINCE 1982

1/2 Day (3 Hour) • Full Day Programs for Ages 18 Months to 5 Years

**Computers *Crafts *Music*

***Hot Nutritious Lunches & Snacks*

**Low Child to Teacher Ratio *Qualified Staff*

**Theme Days *Cooking *Baking*

For registration information call:

HELEN 638-6910

CAMP B'NAI B'RITH:

Western Canadian Camping At Its Best!

Camp B'nai B'rith, on scenic Pine Lake in central Alberta, provides quality Jewish camping to boys and girls aged 7-16. The camp's unique program includes traditional camp activities, a kosher kitchen, the study of Jewish culture and values through songs, stories, celebrations and an appreciation of the significance of the State of Israel in modern Jewish life.

For '96, the camp has added a photography studio and a new sports field. These new areas, combined with the many additions in the past 2 years (mountain biking, ropes course, pottery studio, jewelry making and much, much more!) will make '96 the best summer in Camp B.B. history!!

The camp's facilities include a large, heated outdoor swimming pool, Red Cross and Royal Life swim awards, skiing, sailing, canoeing, ropes course, mountain biking, riding, tennis, land sports. Maccabiah, pottery, copper enameling, theatre, fitness/aerobics/aquasize, Kibbutz 'mini-farm', Shabbat Services, hiking trips to the Rocky Mountains and a host of special programs and events throughout the summer. you don't want to miss !!.

Full season - July 3-Aug. 15, July 1/2 season - July 3-24, August 1/2 season - July 25-Aug. 15, Wonderweek 'Intro' session - July 3-10 or July 25-Aug. 1.

For information contact the Camp B.B. office at (403) 444-4282 or write to 7200 - 156th Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5T 1X3.

Soccer Tennis Baseball Riding

Pottery Gymnastics Arts & Crafts L.I.P.

Swimming Sailing Tripping Canoeing

Science Dance C.I.T. Program Windsurfing

A UNIQUE SPIRITED CAMP FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGES 6 - 15

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7, 4 & 3 WEEK PERIODS

Plus 10 Day Mini Sessions

- 42 yrs. Nashman Family Original Owners/Directors
- On Magnificent Crystal Clear Lake Couchiching just 1 1/2 hours from Toronto
- Complete Waterfront, Creative Arts & Landsports Facilities
- Enthusiastic, Caring Staff
- Great Food
- Shabbat Dinner . . . Friday Evening Services

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL

(416) 482-2600 or 1 - 800 - 701-3132

CAMP B'NAI B'RITH

PINE LAKE, ALBERTA

1996 Programs

- Wonderweek (Gr. 1-3)
- Kochavim (Gr. 1-4)
- Ruach (Gr. 5 & 6)
- Machon (Gr. 7 & 8)
- Leadership Training (Gr. 9)
- C.I.T. (G. 10)

• Swimming	• Mountain Biking	• Football	• Hiking
• Waterskiing	• Ropes Course	• Volleyball	• Soccer
• Canoeing	• Arts & Crafts	• Tennis	• Riding
• Copper Enamel	• Pottery Studio	• Basketball	• Musicals
• Overnights	• Israeli Dancing	• Landsports	• Baseball
• Shabbat Services	• Jewellery Making	• Mini-farm	• Sailing

For Information and Applications, please contact:

Camp B'nai B'rith 7200 - 156th Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5R 1X3

Tel. (403) 444-4282 Fax (403) 481-5783

Hashomer Hatzair / Camp Shomria

Camp Shomria offers a dynamic and exciting summer camp experience for youth aged 8-16 from Canada and the United States. A variety of challenging sports, theme days, educational and cultural activities, create an atmosphere designed to build life-long friendships. It is located on Otty Lake on a beautiful waterfront ideal for a wide selection of fun-filled water activities.

Camp Shomria promotes deep love for Israel and the North American Jewish community. It is run by the Hashomer Hatzair Youth Movement, established over 80 years ago, and is active within the Jewish community. There are weekly activities available throughout the school year in Toronto and a 6-day residential winter camp during December.

Camp Shomria activities include dance, arts & crafts, drama, hikes, trips (please see directory). Grade 10 graduates participate in a leadership training program called Yedid Plus, which includes an intensive five-week itinerary in Israel.

The staff are dedicated and committed, and most were Shomria campers themselves. Camp Shomria has its own full-time registered nurse, and many staff members are trained in first aid. An excellent hospital with modern facilities is located just minutes away. To learn more about Camp Shomria, please call Yehuda or Miriam at 416-736-1339.

BAYVIEW GLEN

Recipe for a Happy Camper

INGREDIENTS:

1	Camper	1 Bottle of labelled Sunscreen
1	Camp Bag	1 Sun Hat
2	Towels	1 Plastic Bag
2	Swim Suits	1 Camp Bus
1 pair	Shorts	1 Good Breakfast
1 pair	Underwear	1 Terrific OCA Accredited Camp
1 pair	Socks	many Hugs and Kisses
1 pair	Sneakers	many Smiles and Waves

DIRECTIONS:

- Enrol child at Bayview Glen, a terrific OCA accredited day camp.
- Feed child a nutritious breakfast. Dress child in swim suit. Apply sunscreen generously. Add t-shirt, shorts, sun hat, socks and sneakers. Put aside.
- Place towels, extra swim suit, underwear and bottle of sunscreen in camp bag. Add plastic bag.
- Accompany child outside to wait for camp bus. Exchange hugs and kisses prior to arrival of bus. Greet bus counsellor. Wave good-bye to child until bus is out of sight.
- Enjoy the day. Greet the child at end of day. Listen to stories and songs of camp. Hear all about new friends, activities and experiences.
- Check camp bag for notes, wet swim suits and towels.

This recipe yields one happy camper!

BAYVIEW GLEN DAY CAMP (416) 449-7746

MVP BASEBALL ACADEMY

Players 7 1/2 to 15 years, novice to elite, enjoy a full day of Baseball every day. Tom Bacher, a medical doctor, and Marty Tweyman, a lawyer, both of whom have extensive international baseball experience have created the "MVP Approach", an enjoyable and effective atmosphere for developing baseball skills. Our director, Andrew Gold, has extensive experience working with young people. They assure that the camp program meets the needs of all players. We provide small group instruction, 2 Instructors for every 10 players. Our players are placed with others of similar ability and move from station to station with their own coaches. We have noted impressive improvement of our players in just one two-week clinic. The highlight of each week is Friday's Team Day. Skill development, sportsmanship and fun are the trademarks of MVP.

A FULL DAY OF BASEBALL EVERY DAY
4 TWO-WEEK CLINICS in July & August
for boys & girls aged 7 to 14
professionally built diamonds with hitting cubicles and batting cages
a quality coaching staff, workshops with professional players and coaches
MVP ACADEMY
call 416-736-4657
REGISTER EARLY

CAMP ROBIN HOOD
Celebrating 50 1946-1996
A day camp with a great program a mature staff and the best camp swim program
We care about your kids
Call us (416) 736-4443
an OCA Accredited Member Camp

CAMP ROBIN HOOD

Come help us celebrate our 50th anniversary. We are planning several outstanding events. Start by touring Toronto at ***Spring Break or Passover Camp***. The excitement continues with our traditional ***8 week summer program*** for campers from 4 to 14 years that is well rounded, designed to meet the needs of all campers, and is most importantly **FUN**. Our campers enjoy swimming, in 4 heated pools, twice daily with qualified Instructors. Other activities include: canoeing, computers, archery, photography, music, drama, arts and crafts, nature, ropes, dance, sports, hiking and fishing. We provide an active and safe program by maintaining a 1 to 4 ratio of program staff to campers. Our counselling staff are at least 17 years of age. Proof of our success is the 75-80 % return rate of both campers and staff.

Experience Israel with Maccabi (Formerly Masada)

Imagine taking 43 teenagers from all over the United States and having them spend an entire 5½ weeks of their summer in Israel.

The possibilities are endless. However, Maccabi Israel Summer Programs (formerly Masada) manages to unite us all together as one. It is obvious that our time here in Israel will be the most amazing summer of our lives.

Even for people, like ourselves, that came not knowing a single person, just being in Israel gives you a sense of belonging. We all came from different backgrounds, but there is one thing that we all have in common: the fact that we are Jewish.

We all practice our Judaism in different ways, but the same beliefs and values remain inside each and every one of us.

In fact, being in Israel so far (half the trip has flown by) has already strengthened our Jewish identity.

We are looking forward to more fun and exciting times to come during the course of our summer. Our experiences in Israel will definitely have a large impact on our lives. The friendships and memories we have already made are certain to continue and last a lifetime.

By: Lauren Kesler and Rachel Roth from the TAT-Teenage Tour summer of '95.

ISRAEL '96

Maccabi (formerly Masada)

Israel Summer Programs

5 1/2 Weeks Jam Packed With
FUN • EXCITEMENT • HISTORY
AND ADVENTURE

35 Years of Experience For High School & College Students, Ages 13-23
Trips include:
Adventure • Kibbutz • Touring • Scuba • Sports • Leadership • Italy • Poland
12 Programs are Divided into Co-ed Groups According to Age.
For info & free video call: Maccabi — (212) 339-6030 /31/36;
or outside of New York state (800) 732-1266.

Creativity at Kidsworld

Kidsworld is in its 16th year of quality camping. Parents have been choosing Kidsworld for its creative programming for all these years.

Careful thought and much creativity go into the program. Every day something special is happening at the camp, from theme days to carnivals, olympics, professional entertainers and more. Specialty staff are hired to create unique activities in the areas of music, drama, art, kindergym and sports. Both fine and gross motor skills are developed throughout the summer.

Instructional swimming is one of the most important parts of the day. The campers are carefully supervised and they are taught the various skills for the Red Cross swim program.

Mrs. Rochelle Weinberg has directed the camp since its inception. She holds a Master of Education degree, an early childhood education diploma and has taught for 20 years.

She chooses only the most qualified staff through a careful screening process. This wonderful staff is one of the reasons the camp is so popular among parents. With door-to-door busing, hot lunches and snacks, instructional swimming and trips all included in the low price, parents have known for years that Kidsworld gives the most value for the best price!

For more information, phone (416) 785-4600.

Kidsworld Day Camp
(ages 3-5 1/2)

Our 16th year

Funworld Day Camp
(entering grades 1 & 2)

$1,095 Full Season

$695 July
$495 August

(price includes transportation & meals)

•Instructional swimming •Door-to-door busing w/seatbelts
•Hot lunches & snacks •Computers •Sports •Music
•Art •Kindergym •Professional Entertainers
•Daily Special Event •Baseball clinics

For more information, phone: (416) 785-4600

"MID-TOWN JEWEL"

Crestwood Valley Day Camp, located in a beautiful wooded valley at Bayview and Lawrence Avenues, brings children ages 2 1/2—10 close to nature while providing them with the comforts of home.

"We are fortunate to have such a fabulous site located right in the middle of town," says camp director Rochelle Wise.

Campers are encouraged to explore the valley in which the camp is located. Camper's are also introduced to nature through experience on the camp's own miniature farm, which features a vegetable garden and many animals including pigs, ducks, chickens and rabbits. "Our campers enjoy visiting the farm," says Wise. "It is exciting for the younger campers for whom the animals become such special friends."

The camp experience at Crestwood includes supervised arts and crafts (featuring a full pottery program), drama, dance, performance art, puppetry and various athletic activities. Pre-schoolers are offered a full sports program including T-Ball, soccer and co-operative games, helping them develop hand-eye co-ordination and motor skills. An exciting archery program is always a favourite of the children. Tennis is available to older campers.

Crestwood has a "very professional swim program. We overhire qualified swim staff," Wise says, "because we want to ensure that our campers have the best swim instructors available, with small instructor-camper ratios." Crestwood has 5 heated swimming pools on site, and has use of the olympic-sized pool at nearby Glendon College.

The computer Clinic is a favourite at Crestwood challenging campers with innovative programs.

Crestwood's Baseball Training Camp encourages campers who have completed Grade 1 and up to take part in an intensive program focusing on the development of skills and confidence, coached by experienced instructors. Campers in this program enjoy baseball in the mornings and join the rest of the camp for regular activities for the afternoon.

Campers are encouraged to participate in an in-camp overnight which features a cook-out and a traditional campfire and sing-a-long.

Crestwood also introduces its campers to the joys of camping out. Campers completing Grade 2 and up have the option of participating in a 4-day trip to an overnight camp.

Campers never long for the conveniences of home while they experience the great outdoors. They are provided with convenient door-to-door transportation and are served full catered nutritional lunches. Crestwood's air-conditioned rooms and gymnasium are available for inclement weather.

Wise adds that campers revel in "the cozy, family atmosphere" of Crestwood. "Our (180) staff members are very close, and very spirited, building lasting memories for our children."

CRESTWOOD VALLEY DAY CAMP

In the fabulous wooded valley at Bayview and Lawrence

- Superior camp experience
- Warm caring qualified staff
- Ages 2½ - 10
- 1/2, 3/4 or full days
- Door-to-door transportation
- 5 heated pools
- Red Cross Instruction
- Advanced programming for 7-10 year olds
- Overnights and 4 Day overnight camp experience
- Land Sports • Fine Arts

BASEBALL CAMP
TENNIS PROGRAMME
COMPUTER CLINICS

For brochures and applications call:

(416) 444-9595
Rochelle Wise - *Director*

CAMP MAROMAC A First Class Vacation Experience

Since 1968, Camp MaroMac has been a happy haven for 200 children. Set on the shore of Lac Quenouille near Ste. Agathe, the superb facilities offer a large range of water and land sports, as well as arts, crafts, drama and excursions in a secure, healthy environment. A resident doctor and registered nurse assist in camper care.

Camp MaroMac is rated very highly by L'Association des Camps du Quebec, which, after its recent in depth assessment, reported. "The team of Marovitchs (Joseph, Esther and Syd) and (Marvin) Helfenbaum complement each other, form a true team of dedicated professionals and leave no stone unturned in their efforts to provide a safe, secure and fun-filled experience for their campers... The staff is mature, well trained, many being university students or graduates. Medical facilities far exceed the norms required by any camping group or government body... Camp MaroMac has a reputation in the camping community for offering high-quality camping services in an extremely safe and secure setting."

A progressive camp in a traditional setting MaroMac campers always experience new programs such as ROCKCLIMBING, taught on the newly built climbing wall in MaroMac's impressive gym. Innovation is progress, but at MaroMac campers equally enjoy a good old-fashioned sing-song and marshmallow roast at a campfire overlooking beautiful Lac Quenouille in the Laurentian Heartland.

WATERSKIING • TENNIS • SAILING • WINDSURFING

SOCIALS • POOL PARTIES • LANDSPORTS • MOVIES

THEATER • ARTS & CRAFTS • SINGING • ARCADE

MORE FOR YOUR CHILDREN!
MORE FOR YOUR MONEY!

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IN OUR 29th SEASON

BEAUTIFUL LAURENTIAN MTS.
70 MILES NORTH OF MONTREAL
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- CHOICE OF 7 OR 3 1/2 WEEK SESSIONS
- PROFESSIONAL STAFF-1st CLASS FACILITIES
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A First Class Vacation Experience at Affordable Prices

OVERNIGHTS • EXCURSIONS • ROCKCLIMBING

OUR DIRECTORS

Joseph Marovitch

Syd Marovitch

Esther Marovitch

Marvin Helfenbaum

Day camp offers exciting activities

Camp Katonim is a fabulous summer day camp located by the shores of majestic Lake Simcoe. In a beautiful country setting, only 40 minutes away, children enjoy an enriching camp experience with full waterfront facilities.

We offer a well-balanced program with instruction in all waterfront activities, including instructional swim, sailing and waterskiing. As well, land sports and creative arts are an integral part of the Katonim experience. We have the facilities for overnight and offer canoe trips.

Camp Katonim offers 2, 4, 6 and 8-week sessions for children between the ages of 3-16. Buses are available from Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Aurora, Newmarket and surrounding areas.

Our mature and qualified staff bring camping experience, a love for children, energy and dedication. For 50 years, Camp Katonim has continued to provide lasting summer memories.

For information and staff applications, please call: Director, Rob Fishbaum **(416) 222-6914**.

On beautiful Lake Simcoe only 40 minutes away

CAMP KATONIM

Day Camp

AGES 3-16 YEARS	LAND SPORTS
DRAMA	WATERSKIING
TENNIS	CANOEING
ARTS & CRAFTS	SAILING
THEME DAYS	SWIM INSTRUCTION
ONEG SHABBAT	OVERNIGHTS
2, 4, 6 & 8 WEEK SESSION	CANOE TRIPS

Bus service for children 6 years & older in areas of Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Newmarket and Aurora

BALFOUR BEACH, KESWICK

For information call: Rob (416) 222-6914

ACA

CAMP CAN-AQUA

At Camp Can-Aqua, campers can enjoy fun and skill improvement in over 20 land and water activities. Challenge and adventure are geared to the age and ability of each camper. Campers are encouraged to try new things and are never bored. Evening programs, theme days, campfire programs and the Can-Aqua dining experience offer a unique blend of spirit and magic. Add to the spice - join the Can-Aqua family!

Fun Today ...
"Awesome!" "Unforgettable!"
"I can't wait till next summer!"

Most of our staff started as campers, leaders in training and junior counsellors here at Can-Aqua. From the first day of camp, staff set a leadership example, reinforcing traditional family values and exemplifying the camp philosophy: building confidence, independence, leadership and the ability to get along with others. Campers can expect the **BEST** because staff will give their **BEST** - to help your child become a leader tomorrow.

Leadership Tomorrow ...
"I want to give back everything that Can-Aqua gave me."

The camp accommodates 120 boys and girls from 7-15 years with a 3:1 camper/staff ratio ensuring every child receives the benefits of individual attention. The camp is located near Bancroft.

"Friendships and Memories" that last a lifetime"

Fostering leadership, confidence and the ability to get along with others.

Camp Can-Aqua

120 boys/girls (7-15) with a 3/1 camper/staff ratio
. . . more than 20 activities from waterskiing to woodworking

. . . staff are excellent role models reinforcing traditional family values

. . . located near Bancroft

Contact Louis Gyori, Box 70, Cardiff, Ontario K0L 1M0
(613) 339-2969, Toronto Phone (416) 485-7256

Teen Adventure Travel

Westcoast Connection Travel Camp

Is a camp on wheels with a spirit for adventure. These unique summer travel experiences consist of a selection of 3-6 week tours of North America and Europe for teenagers 13-17 years of age as well as for college students 17-20 years of age. 18 exciting tours are offered under 3 of the following formats, **active bus tours, beginner cycling trips and challenging outdoor adventure programs.**

North American tours feature whitewater rafting in Colorado, summer skiing at Whistler, hiking the Grand Canyon, canoeing on Lake Louise and visits to Disneyland, Calgary Stampede, Yosemite National Park, a live TV taping in Los Angeles, Mount Rushmore, Alcatraz, and much more. European tours visit the Louvre, Champs Elysee, Vatican City, and partake in horseback riding in the Loire Valley, a gondola ride in Venice, caving in Interlaken, rock climbing in Gap, hiking in Chamonix, skiing in Val D'isere, living on a boat in Holland and Switzerland and much more.

Prices start at $2429 cdn. For more information and a free brochure, call **416-667-1288** in Toronto or **514-488-8920** in Montreal.

• GRAND CANYON • DISNEYLAND • CALIFORNIA • BANFF • YOSEMITE •

FISHERMAN'S WHARF • COLORADO RIVER RAFTING

SAN FRANCISCO'S ALCTRAZ • HORSEBACK RIDE LOIRE VALLEY

For Teens 13-17 YRS

College Students 17-20 YRS

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CANADA • USA • EUROPE

"THE SUMMER OF A LIFETIME"

Choose From 18 Tours Starting at $2429 cdn

10% off on registration before Feb. 29/96

- ACTIVE TEEN TOURS
- CYCLING PLUS PROGRAMS
- OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Call Now For Our 1996 Brochure:

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• HIKE THE ROCKIES • CYCLE CAPE COD • SKI WHISTLER • VENICE GONDOLA •

Summer Academic Enrichment Programs for Boys & Girls

• Academic Workshops • Activities • Sports
• Field Trips around Historic Boston & Massachusetts

Residential and Day Openings

Wellesley College,
Wellesley, Massachusetts
- **Senior Program** - entering grades 10-12
- **Intermediate Program** - entering grades 8-9

St. Mark's School,
Southborough, Massachusetts
- **Junior Program** - entering grades 4-5 and 6-7

Come to an Informational Meeting

meet the Founder and Executive Director and learn more about this exciting opportunity

Sunday, February 18 at 3 pm • Inn on the Park
1100 Eglainton East (corner of Lesley), Toronto

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ADVENTURE TORONTO

DAY CAMP

(A DIVISION OF DA-COR ENTERPRISES, INC.)

"Supervised Adventure for Kids Ages 7-15"

Register for a week, a month or a whole summer of fun and adventure

JULY

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
CANADA WEEK	1 CANADA DAY CAMP CLOSED	2 ONTARIO PLACE	3 METRO TORONTO ZOO	4 ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE	5 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND
VELOCITY ADVENTURE WEEK	8 FAMILY KARTWAYS/ ROLLER-SKATING	9 WILD WATER KINGDOM	10 NIAGARA FALLS MARINELAND WET 'N' WILD WATER PARK *(Overnight Trip)*	11 *	12 CENTRE ISLAND
DISCOVERY WEEK	15 ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE	16 ONTARIO PLACE	17 FAMILY KARTWAYS/ ROLLER-SKATING	18 METRO TORONTO ZOO	19 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND
WACKY WATER ADVENTURE WEEK	22 WILD WATER KINGDOM	23 WASAGA BEACH BLUE MOUNTAIN SLIDE RIDE *(Overnight Trip)*	24 *	25 CENTRE ISLAND	26 ONTARIO PLACE
VELOCITY ADVENTURE WEEK PART II	29 FAMILY KARTWAYS/ ROLLER-SKATING	30 WILD WATER KINGDOM	31 NIAGARA FALLS MARINELAND WET 'N' WILD WATER PARK *(Overnight Trip)*	1 *	2 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND

** Plus event fee*

AUGUST

INTENSE FUN WEEK	5 CIVIC HOLIDAY CAMP CLOSED	6 ONTARIO PLACE	7 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND	8 METRO TORONTO ZOO	9 FAMILY KARTWAYS/ ROLLER-SKATING

NOW HIRING FOR '96 STAFF

- ✓ Fully supervised by mature staff.
- ✓ 4:1 camper staff ratio (8 campers with 1 counsellor and 1 C.I.T.)
- ✓ Camp Program for ages 7-14 years.
- ✓ C.I.T. Program for age 15 years.
- ✓ Save $10.00 every time you bring your Canada's Wonderland Season Pass.

DOOR-TO-DOOR BUS SERVICE *in*
THORNHILL
RICHMOND HILL
VAUGHAN
WILLOWDALE
YORK MILLS
FOREST HILL
DOWNSVIEW

KIDS OF CANADA

(A DIVISION OF DA-COR ENTERPRISES, INC.)

HOCKEY CAMP

THE KIDS OF CANADA HOCKEY CAMP IS

- ✓ 3 hours of on-Ice instruction daily
- ✓ A 4:1 camper staff ratio
- ✓ A professional senior staff trained and certified in First Aid and C.P.R., teamed up with trained junior/ support staff
- ✓ Designed to help campers help themselves encouraging them to give 100% while playing
- ✓ A program created to develop self-esteem and self-confidence, ensuring maximum playing performance and personal satisfaction
- ✓ An emphasis on fundemental skills: hard work, dedication and sportsmanship
- ✓ Power Skating: forward, backward, crossovers, turning, stopping and speed
- ✓ Puck control: stick-handling, giving and receiving a pass, "deeking", and speed and agility
- ✓ Shooting: wrist shot, snap shot, slap shot, flip shot, and quick release
- ✓ Positional Play: face offs, defensive zone instruction, for checking, and breakouts
- ✓ Organized drills to develop each skill
- ✓ SPECIALIZED GOALTENDING INSTRUCTION

TWO NEW PROGRAMS FOR '96

- ✓ The first is a "learn to skate" program for children ages 3-5. This will include teaching children the basics of skating balance, co-ordination and movements These three major components of skating will be offered in a spirited and enthusiastic environment with fun and laughter for an entire week.
- ✓ The second is a Counsellor in Training (C.I.T.) program offered to keen and knowledgeable teenagers ages 14-16 years. This exciting opportunity will provide C.I.T.'s with hands-on experience in a supervised environment teaching and communicating with children of all ages. In addition, C.I.T.'s will be certified and trained in First Aid as well as participate in special instructing and coaching seminars and work shops at minimal costs. Weekly evaluations will be provided with a final evaluation at the end of the summer.

Please contact the camp office for more details!

EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE REGISTER NOW! (905) 882-575

EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT

TEEN TRAVEL

TEEN ISRAEL PROGRAMS -- A WONDERFUL ALTERNATIVE TO CAMP!!

Israel offers a wide variety of summer programs for students from 13 years of age to 24 yrs. The options range from a two week to a six week tour that includes different activities and programs.

For first-time and seasoned travelers to Israel, an organized tour is often the answer. This enables the student to experience Israel without worrying about the little details. Food, travel and hotels are all arranged. All the student has to do is sit back, make new friends, and see a country where the old is intermingled with the new.

Climb the snake path at Masada, visit the ancient ruins of Caesaria, kayak down the Jordan river, windsurf in Eilat.

There are several ways to find out about the summer programs. One is to call 1-800-567-ISRAEL. This line was established by the Canadian Alliance for the Israel Experience. The main purpose of the Alliance is to encourage teen travel to Israel by promoting the Israel Experience. Callers receive a package of materials explaining the various suitable trip options and who to contact for further information.

It's important to know that The Teen Israel Hotline receives no commission on travel packages sold, and has no direct affiliation with any one group or synagogue, so you can be sure you'll get helpful, unbiased information. Explains Roberta Malam, Program Director of the Hotline, "I get calls from people in all parts of Canada, who are interested in getting information about all kinds of programs. Families may be interested in travel programs suitable for the entire family, especially if they have a son or daughter of Bar or Bat Mitzvoh age. We also get calls from teens themselves, who like being able to source out the information on their own."

The Hotline typically handles several calls each day. Around this time of the year, many of the calls are from parents as well as teens looking for a different, more meaningful way to spend the summer.

Teens often return from a Teen Israel program with a greater sense of who they are -- as individuals and as Jews. In many cases, simply being in a country where Jewish culture is everywhere is a deeply moving experience. And this happens whether the program emphasizes religious studies, outdoor sports, or archeology. Invariably, one of the high points for teens going to Israel is the chance to meet new friends from all over the world. Once again, the experience of meeting other teens who come from vastly different backgrounds, but all sharing a common heritage, is deeply moving. In some cases, the friendships that result from these experiences last long after everyone returns to home. One Israel trip participant, age 16, is emphatic about her experience; "There is something about Israel that just made me feel good about myself, about my history, and even about my own abilities."

In addition to the Hotline, students can receive information by contacting their local Israel Youth Program Centres. The national office is run by the Youth and Hechalutz Department in the Canadian Zionist Federation. Their number is: (514) 486-9526 ext.222.

SOME OF THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT OFFER TEEN ISRAEL EXPERIENCE SUMMER PROGRAMS:

- BBYO Canada
- B'nei Akiva
- Chetz Vakeshet
- Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv Unviersity
- Canadian Friends of Hebrew University
- Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science
- Canadian Volunteers for Israel
- Canadian Young Judaea
- Communaute Sepharade du Quebec
- Friends of Bezalel Academy
- Habonim Dror
- Hashomer Hatzair
- Israel Aliyah Centre
- Kibbutz Program Centre
- Le Centre Hillel
- Livnot U'Lehibanot
- North American Federation of Temple Youth
- Pardess Institute of Jewish Studies
- Ramah Programs in Israel
- Sephardic Educational Centre
- The Alexander Muss High School in Israel
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Call toll-free or check out the Teen Israel Web site, at http://www.teenisrael.org.

Teen Israel Hotline 1-800-567-4772 is sponsored by the Canadian Alliance for the Israel Experience in association with the Israel Government Tourist Office.

ירושלים 3000 JERUSALEM

Greater Toronto Area

Hall of Fame player seeks marrow donor for daughter

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Prominent athletes don't always have it all.

Rod Carew, a hall of fame baseball player and now coach of the California Angels, is praying for a bone marrow transplant for his daughter, Michelle.

Since September, 18-year old Michelle Carew, a lively, outgoing college freshman, has fought a valiant battle against acute nonlymphocytic leukemia, a particularly virulent form of the disease. Only a bone marrow transplant can save her.

Rose Rosa, a Toronto music producer and artists' manager, a long-time friend of the Carews, has brought Michelle's story here because, as she told Marty York of the *Globe and Mail*, "Toronto has been full of big hearts and we've always been quick to run and help people."

As well, she told *The CJN*, it was felt that with Toronto's large multicultural population, there would be a good chance of finding a match for her.

Rod Carew is of Panamanian and West Indian descent, while his wife, Marilynn, is of Ukrainian and Jewish background.

Those of mixed race, and especially of minority groups (such as black, native Canadian or Jewish) have a particularly difficult time finding bone marrow donors.

Not only are there fewer of them in the general population, but they tend to be proportionately underrepresented in the international bone marrow registries.

A follow-up story in last Thursday's *Globe*, said that nearly 200 Canadians, many of similar backgrounds to Michelle Carew, offered to be tested as possible donors for her.

As has been said frequently in *The CJN*, the best chance for a bone marrow donor, comes from the immediate family. In Michelle's case, neither her parents nor her sisters, are compatible with her. As so often is the case, her sisters are perfect matches for each other.

The next best scenario is for someone of similar ethnic or racial background. Rosa is encouraging those of Jewish, Panamanian, West Indian or Ukrainian descent to come and be tested.

Toronto's Jewish community has a history of coming forward in aid of those who need bone marrow transplants, most notably for Jay Feinberg and the late Allison Atlas. Feinberg received a transplant late last summer from someone who had been tested at a mass screening.

Michelle Carew is no less needy — she is in an air-filtered sterile room in an intensive care unit of Children's Hospital in Orange, California. Last week, she was scheduled for surgery to deal with a sinus infection affecting her hearing and eyesight.

Rosa is planning a mass screening sometime in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, to be tested as a possible bone marrow donor for Michelle Carew, or for the many other people who are in need, contact the Canadian Red Cross bone marrow registry at 1-800-668-2866 or Rose Rosa, 905-430-5995.

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12:00 PM PICK UP AT JCC, 4588 Bathurst St. (at main entrance)
12:45 PM PICK UP AT B'nai Brith Building 4766 Bathurst (on Reiner Rd.)
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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan. 18, is deadline for Feb. 1 issue. Thursday, Jan. 25, is deadline for Feb. 8 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Friday, Jan. 19

ONEG SHABBAT

West Toronto Jewish Community Association Oneg Shabbat service 7:30 p.m. Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave. **Sharon** 236-2054.

Saturday, Jan. 20

REFORM MINYAN

Shabbat service at Downtown Reform Minyan, 10 a.m. Bloor JCC, Room 204. All welcome. 928-1784.

JEWISH WOMEN'S VOICES

As part of the Jewish feminist conference, there's a concert featuring performance artist **Judith Sloan**, singer **Adrienne Cooper**, poet **Irena Klepfisz**, pianist **Joyce Rosenzweig**; 7:30 p.m. at OISE, 272 Bloor St. W. $15. Tickets at door or call 410-7944.

Sunday, Jan. 21

RABBI AKIVA TATZ

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto annual Ruth Wolf Memorial Lecture by **Rabbi Akiva Tatz** of South Africa, presently senior lecturer at Ohr Somayach Jerusalem, on WorldMask: Changing Reality is at 8:30 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation, 613 Clarke Ave. W. $5. 905-886-5730.

SHTETL TO BROADWAY

The du Maurier concert, From Shtetl to Broadway, features father and daughter combination **Senya** and **Anna Trubashnik**, oboist and mezzo soprano, 3 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre.

NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

At Temple Sinai, **Bert Raphael** speaks on Nazi War Criminals in Canada — 1996 Update. Services 9:30 a.m., breakfast following, program at 10. $3.

ISRAEL POST-RABIN

B'nai Brith executive vice-president **Frank Dimant** is guest speaker at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda brotherhood breakfast. Topic: Israel Post-Rabin. Services 9:15 a.m., breakfast 10. $3. Ladies welcome. Information/ticket 633-3838.

AGUNAH FOR THE GET

Adath Sholom Synagogue sisterhood program Agunah for the Get by **Joyce Eklove**, Coalition of Jewish Women, 10:30 a.m., 864 Sheppard Ave. W.

WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

Awakening Your Child's Potential: A Workshop for Parents, with lecture by education consultant **Pamela Katz Sims**, presented by Secular Jewish Association (SJA), 10 a.m. to noon, SJA Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. Non-members $8.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh celebration at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, Maariv for and by women at 7:45 p.m., followed by a shiur by **Elliot Malamet**, entitled Tu b'Shevat: The Jewish Obligation of Preserving the Earth. All women welcome.

Monday, Jan. 22

JEWS IN CHINA

Nagillah chapter, JWI, 40 plus singles, general meeting 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres. Program: Jews in China by **Dorothy Beil**. Prospective members invited. $2. **Marci** 905-731-6939 or **Marilyn** 487-7792.

STRESS REDUCTION

Comlimentary health practitioner **Sheila Haslam** presents Practical Stress Reduction Techniques at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, 8 p.m. **Gloria** 630-4779 or **Hilda** 636-1903.

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League — North Bathurst/Vaughan features Why Breastfeed Your Baby?, 7:30 p.m., 48 Dana Cres., Thornhill. **Nancy** 905-889-7445 or **Joyce** 905-881-8779.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

USDS ACTORS

Zak Klinghoffer (second from left), as Hershel in United Synagogue Day School's (USDS) presentation of Eric Himel's tale, *Hershel and the Hannukah Goblins*, takes pleasure in outwitting goblins Judy Litvak, Fay Ganz and Alex Baker. Over 1,000 people at three sold-out performances enjoyed the cast of 50 students, parents and teachers. Play was directed by Rivka Schecter, a teacher at Bayview campus, USDS.

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To place your ad in this professional directory call your CJN representative.
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC
Blood donor clinic Bathurst Jewish Centre 2-4 p.m., 5-7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUES
Weizmann Women for Science and Women's Health Committee, University of Toronto evening with **Prof. Lorraine Dennerstein**, University of Melbourne, Australia. Topic: Global Issues in Women's Health, 8 p.m., Primrose Club, 273 St. Clair Ave. W. RSVP 733-9220.

KIDS, SEX AND AIDS
Beth Tzedec and Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am synagogues jointly present Kids, Sex and AIDS with sex educator **Sue Johanson**, 7:30 p.m., Beth David.

JEWISH GENEALOGY
At the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada meeting, **Sheldon** and **Judith Godfrey**, authors of *Search Out the Land*, speak on Jewish United Empire Loyalists, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $3.

THE WELFARE STATE
Former Ontario premier **Bob Rae** and **William Kristol**, editor and publisher of Washington political magazine the *Standard*, debate The Future of the Welfare State 7:30-9:30 p.m., University of Toronto, Earth Sciences Centre, 5 Bancroft Ave. 978-7253.

Thursday, Jan 25

ISRAELI FILMS
University of Toronto Jewish Studies Program and Jewish Student Union present Israeli films (Hebrew with English subtitles) 5:30 p.m., Innis Town Hall, Innis College, 2 Sussex Ave. A second evening of Israeli films is scheduled March 7. Free admission. **Dina** 978-6600.

LAW BASH
The annual Law Bash is at 8 p.m., Taboo Nightclub, 2345 Yonge St. $10. Sponsored by Osgoode Hall Law School Jewish Students Association.

And What Else Is New...

SINGLE JEWISH PARENTS
Single Jewish Parents Association, dedicated to bringing single parents together for social, educational and recreational activities, holds a lecture and meeting the last Thursday of every month, 8-10 p.m., at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Information hotline 633-5500.

WOMEN'S DAY SEMINAR
Aish HaTorah's Women's Division hosts its third annual Women's Day Seminar, Flaming the Fire From Within, featuring **Rabbi Moshe Weinberger**, New York, lecturer/author/teacher; and **Barbara Abrams**, Ohio, who will discuss working in the Ohio prison system; plus workshops; Sunday, Jan. 28, Baycrest Terrace. Information or tickets 789-3897.

ISRAELI FOLKSINGING
The Koffler Centre School of Music presents Israeli folksinging with **Ritasue Fisher**, Tuesdays 11 a.m. to noon. No experience needed. $25 plus GST for six classes. Register at Koffler Visual Arts office 636-2145.

OR CHAIM KOLLEL
The winter session is starting. Adult education classes are offered every evening. A new class Monday evenings begins Jan. 22, 9 p.m. given by **Elliot Malamet**, entitled Jewish Philosophy in the Real World. **Jay Kelman** 630-6772.

AISH HATORAH
Medical Ethics series: Treating the HIV Patient and Assisted Suicides, **Dr. Michael Kirzner**, Monday, Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Absolute Morality: Abortion, Euthanasia, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamensky**, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 8 p.m., Village Shul, 884- Eglinton Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

ADULT ART CLASS
Learn to draw and paint at an adult art class at Beth Sholom Synagogue, Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m. through Feb. 28. $75. Join anytime, all levels. **Terri** 487-7244.

YIDDISH STUDY GROUP
A class and a reading group for people who can read and understand Yiddish and would like to improve their skills and read Yiddish literature in a group setting, is in addition to the beginners and intermediate classes which begin in February. Information/preregistration, **Sylvia Lustgarten**, director, committee for Yiddish, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, 635-2883, ext. 155.

THE VILLAGE SHUL
The Village Shul offers Understanding the Depth and Beauty of Judaism Tuesday mornings, Bathurst-Eglinton area. Babysitting available. 789-3084.

TU B'SHEVAT SHABBATON
Kavannah presents a Shabbat Retreat in the country Feb. 2-3 with **Arthur Kurzweil** teaching from the Rabbi Steinsaltz's Talmud Editions and mystical publications. This Shabbaton only, on our relationship to the trees and environment, $128, Friday afternoon to Saturday night, vegetarian meals and accommodation. Two-Shabbaton special, including May 17-18 Kurzweil Shabbaton $186. **Shelley** 961-8123.

at the JCC/BJC

Institute for Jewish Learning winter/spring term at BJC, 636-1880, ext. 352.—

Courses beginning in February include Shalom Bayit, **Sarah Chana Radcliffe**; Biblical Family Dynamics, **Chana Sargon**; Let There Be Light, experiencing Bible through art, **Marlee Pinsker**; Prophets, Dreamers and Visionaries, **Rabbi Michael Dolgin**; Doing Jewish I, **Baruch Browns**.

Singles tour of **Isaac Applebaum's** Photoworks Sunday, Jan. 21.

Trip to New York City with the Koffler Gallery to see Too Jewish exhibit at the Jewish Museum, Victoria Day Weekend, May 18-21.

Registration continues at BJC for September 1996 for Tic Tac Two, Nursery School, Junior and Senior Kindergarten and full daycare. 636-1880, ext. 248.

Try BJC facilities for two weeks with no charge. Offer good until Jan. 31. Sign up for 12 months before Jan. 31 and get 13th month free. 636-1880, ext. 373.

Good Age Club of the Bloor JCC events — Thursday, Jan. 18, 2 p.m., Community Resources for Seniors by **Lynn Gallagher**, Family Service Association; Thursday, Jan. 25, 2 p.m., An Overview of the Middle East Peace Process by **Daniel Fine**, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region. Members $1, non-members $2. **Judy** 924-6211.

For Seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club party trip to Le Park, Tuesday, Jan. 30, music, food, $3; visit to Thornhill Square, Tuesday, Feb. 5, bingo with prizes, coffee, cookies, senior discounts at all stores, $2; for further upcoming trips 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club arrangements have been made for the annual Tulip Time Festival trip to Ottawa May 14, 15, 16 including seven kosher meals, touring, entertainment; trip to Homowack Hotel in the Catskills Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations got to Laniado Hospital in Israel **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). On Jan. 25 there's bingo and other games. 661-4689.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) presents Memory and Normal Aging with **Jill Rich**, neuropsychologist, York University, Monday, Jan. 22, 1-2:30 p.m. Co-sponsored with La'Briyut Wellness Centre. Non-members $2.

LLI course, Contemporary Social Issues with **Kathryn Allen** continues Tuesdays, 10-11:30 a.m., Jan. 23-April 9.

La Briyut Wellness Centre offers Health Related Pleasures with **Brenda Zalken** Mondays, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Jan. 29-Feb. 26. Explore the power of music, art, touch, exercise, meditation. Sign up with **Sandra** at Wellness Desk or call 225-2112.

The movie *Father of the Bride* Sunday, Jan. 21, 2:30 p.m.

Russian Golden Age Choir Wednesday, Jan. 24, 1:30 p.m.

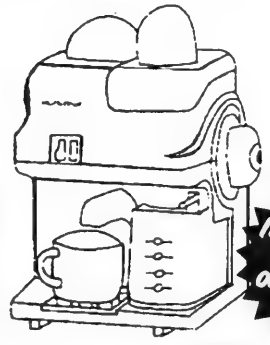
Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays for movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-alongs, dances. **Anna**.

FUNDS FOR SHAAR TZEDEK

Dr. Dani Bitran (left), head of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery in Jerusalem's Shaar Zedek Medical Centre, recently greeted Bernard Abrams, national president of the Canadian Shaar Zedek Hospital Foundation, his wife Tona and her mother Jeannette Putter, and provided them with a tour of the new Jesselson Heart Centre. The visitors brought funds raised in Toronto for specialized computer software for the Heart Centre. The trip was in celebration of Putter's 80th birthday.

ISRAEL TENNIS SUPPORTERS

Canada-Israel Children's Centres members (from left) Harold and Miriam Green, Husky and Ruth Sherkin, Marvin and Estelle Kates, and Joe and Budgie Frieberg at the Amphitheatre in Caesaria during a recent mission to Israel by supporters of the Israel Tennis Centres. More than 5,000 children a day take advantage of the free sports and education facilities provided at the 11 Centres throughout Israel.



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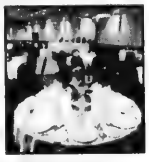

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Kofsky's passionate devotion to Labor Zionism remembered

MONTREAL — David Kofsky, one of Labor Zionism's staunchest exponents, passed away recently after a brief illness. He was 81.

Kofsky served as national president of the Labor Zionist Alliance (LZA) from 1977-92. During that time, he was instrumental in developing the organization as a distinct entity from the movement in the United States.

"He devoted his whole life to the cause," recalled Flora Naglie, former president of Na'amat, the women's arm of Labor Zionism. "He believed in the ideology passionately and defended it with an emotion you rarely see among people nowadays."

Kofsky made his living retailing clothing. After his retirement, he came to the LZA office almost every day, said LZA Montreal director Reuven Shultz, almost up until the time he died.

Schultz credits Kofsky with "keeping the organization together" through some difficult periods because of his skillful leadership.

Kofsky is also remembered for his personal qualities. "He was high-principled, a perfect gentleman with a great appreciation of culture and learning," Shultz recalled. "He had an excellent command of language and a good grasp of history."

Kofsky was born in Russia and came to Canada as a child. His father was a Hebrew teacher and worked initially in Quebec City, before the family settled in Montreal.

His parents were dedicated to socialist ideals, and the young Kofsky followed in this tradition from his youth, joining Habonim at an early age, Shultz said. Before World War II, Kofsky went to the United States to work on a cooperative farm that prepared Zionists for life in Palestine.

Shultz said it appeared Kofsky intended to emigrate, but could not get a visa and returned to Montreal.

Kofsky is survived by his wife Tamar Weinstein, among other relatives.

Markham mayor planning a working trip to Israel

MARKHAM, Ont. — Markham Mayor Don Cousens, a long-time friend of the Jewish community, is headed to Israel in March for a mayors' conference.

And just before he leaves, the town will name a street after Jerusalem, in honor of the city's 3,000th anniversary.

The street will be in a new development in the Bayview-Green Lane area.

As well, Markham is looking to link up with a similar-sized Israel town to explore what Cousens calls "an economic alliance" and not a formal twinning.

Cousens told *The CJN* that Israeli Consul General Jehudi Kinar is talking to a town in the Galilee for the possible linkage.

The conference of mayors from around the world takes place March 18 to 25, but Cousens and York Regional Councillor Bill Fisch will leave before it starts, along with a team of business people from the greater Toronto area.

They'll be selling Canadian know-how and exploring joint deals with Israeli firms, especially in the area of high technology.

Don Cousens

Cousens told *The CJN* he was invited to the mayors' meeting by Jersualem Mayor Ehud Olmert when he last visited Canada.

The Markham mayor was awarded the Canadian Zionist Federation's Jerusalem Award a few years ago primarily for his efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry when he was an MPP.

"I'm so excited about this, you wouldn't believe it," Cousens said of the trip.

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From coast to coast

Critics assail climate of rhetoric in Canada

[Cont'd. from page 1]

to me and said, 'Give me a gun and I'll take care of Rabin and [then foreign minister Shimon] Peres.' It was talk, but it represented a sentiment."

Halevi said he knows of no Jewish organizations in Canada, including those that oppose giving land for peace, that supported Rabin's murder.

Kach, which became defunct in Canada after Dr. Baruch Goldstein's shooting rampage in a Hebron mosque, did not endorse the Jewish doctor's shooting either, he said.

Nevertheless, Halevi claimed, "There was incredible support for Goldstein from lots of people in Toronto," including religious leaders.

And showing again that Toronto has ties to the more militant elements in the Jewish world, Halevi said he knew of 10 youths who attended a paramilitary camp in upstate New York two year ago that was organized by Kahane Chai. Two of the 10 later moved to Israel.

Bernie Farber, director of Canadian Jewish Congress' community relations committee, acknowledged there were some individuals in Canada with ties to extremist groups. But, he added, "I'm not sure there is a major problem here.

"I don't think Canada is a significant base of extremist activity. Within the Jewish community, there is very little to indicate there's much activity ... I have not heard much rhetoric here in Canada that Rabin should have been killed."

In Montreal, David Sultan, director of community relations for Congress' Quebec region, and others were unanimous in their assessment that there is no evidence of any organized extreme-right activity in the community.

"In Quebec, there's nothing like that," Sultan said. "Just expressions of differing opinions."

Still, divergent views emerged as to how the climate of rhetoric has been affected since Rabin's assassination.

> *'Our leadership has not taken a very deep look inward...'*

Rabbi Reuben Poupko, who is often identified with the "right" and has helped Yesha (the organization representing settlers in Judea, Samaria and Gaza) organize "humanitarian" fundraising in Montreal, detects "a very strong current of skepticism" about the peace process.

At the same time, such dissent, in his view, has "never been as charged here as elsewhere."

It is true, he said, that since the assassination, "everyone, left and right, has taken a step back to carefully dissect language and rhetoric."

But "I'm very proud that the nationalist camp has conducted its dissent within the community.

"The tone has been civil."

That view was not necessarily shared by Dr. Frank Guttman, long active in Montreal with Canadian Friends of Peace Now, who claimed rhetoric had bordered on the "extreme."

Guttman said that while the level of rhetoric has "toned down" since the assassination the most-often heard voices in the community still come from "self-appointed leaders who have been pro-Likud" and who seek to create the impression that most Montreal Jews are against the peace process.

In Guttman's mind, a scientific survey of the community would reveal support for the process at 70 per cent, in line with the level in the United States.

Reuven Schultz, executive director of the Labor Zionist Alliance, said the level of charged rhetoric in Montreal has definitely softened since the assassination, if not necessarily attitudes about the peace process itself.

"Last March, in the Cavendish Mall, I heard someone say, 'Kill Rabin.' Now, I think people have become more cognitive and prudent about what rhetoric can mean," he said.

Former Congress president Irving Abella said anyone engaging in provocative rhetoric connected to the Rabin assassination should be exposed and shunned by mainstream community organizations.

A disturbing trend had developed in Toronto before the assassination; Rabin was vilified and the peace process attacked, he said. In addition, Congress meetings and meetings of other pro-Israel groups were disrupted by opponents of the peace process "and the community didn't react."

Simon Rosenblum, co-president of Canadian Friends of Peace Now, recalls that "on occasion [people] have come and tried to disrupt our activities in the last year."

Prior to one banquet, demonstrators tried to hinder the arrival of guests by blocking traffic, while at another event two years ago cosponsored with Congress, "they were there trying to disrupt the meeting."

The slogans being shouted indicated their views were those of the extreme right, Rosenblum said.

"Parts of the right had escalated the language here in Toronto" and "you could hear from time to time the word 'traitor.' " The assassination has made everyong "walk on eggshells" and the rhetoric has toned down, he said.

Rosenblum suggested that both the left and the right have in the past used excessive rhetoric, indicating a lack of respect for opposing viewpoints.

Peace Now had hoped to cosponsor a town hall meeting with the Jewish Action Coalition, which supports settlers in Judea and Samaria, to "find common Zionist ground and develop respect for each other's views," Rosenblum added.

Former Congress official David Satok believes "both lay and religious leadership have not done enough in the past to condemn the vitriolic debate about the peace process.

"Our leadership has not taken a very deep look inward to see how they were partially responsible; [nor did they] delegitimate those who called Rabin and Peres traitors and murderers. The climate of verbal violence and violent language leads to violent acts, as we have witnessed."

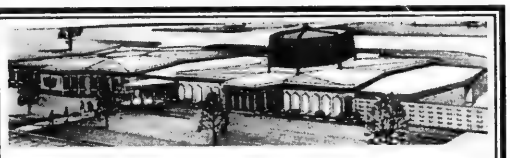
He referred to Congress, where he held significant positions on the national and regional levels, as failing to discuss a resolution that would have called for civility in public discourse and for allowing right-wing groups to set the agenda on Israel and the peace process.

He pointed to B'nai Brith Canada, which "for all practical purposes has turned into a branch of Likud Canada" for publishing in *The Tribune* a "cartoon of Rabin as a dressed-up gauleiter overseeing a concentration camp of settlers."

Abella echoed that critique, saying, "That was the sort of thing that was beyond the pale for the mainstream Jewish community."

Satok also criticized *The Canadian Jewish News* for giving "copious publicity to anti-Israel demonstrations and right-wing speakers."

Yesha "polarized the community by their meetings which consisted of diatribes against Rabin and the Israeli government," Satok added.



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7-9 p.m.			The Teaching of the Book of Genesis (in English) *Rabbi H. Sacknovitz*	Learning and Teaching Yiddish *Ellie Kellman***
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Health news

The heartache of Alzheimer's is no joke

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — You've all heard the jokes.

"I can't find my keys — I must have Alzheimer's."

"You forgot her name? You must have Alzheimer's."

Alzheimer's disease, though, is no joke. For about 20 per cent of people over 80, a percentage which rises every five years after age 65, it robs its victims of a happy old age, of dignity, of independence, of years of life itself.

It takes its toll in money, health and emotional peace on those who love and those who care. It breaks families apart.

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disease of the brain, the most common cause of dementia in the aged, Dr. Morris Friedman, director of behavioral neurology at Baycrest Hospital, told *The CJN*.

It usually begins with memory loss, progresses to language impairment, empty speech (speech without content) and difficulties with orientation and visual perception.

In the early stages, the personality does not change, Friedman said, a finding which differentiates Alzheimer's from other forms of dementia.

The person has trouble organizing information and focussing attention. Ultimately, he or she may begin to wander or may become aggressive. Cognitive impairment worsens, until the person can no longer function independently, eventually requiring total care.

While Alzheimer's disease is not in itself fatal, death comes from other complications, such as pneumonia.

"The average life span is about eight years after onset," Friedman said.

There is no way to determine who will get Alzheimer's disease, although recent research suggests a genetic component, and possibly some relationship with aluminum.

A new drug, Tacrine, recently approved for use in the United States, appears to give some temporary improvement, but it has serious side effects and requires close monitoring.

But for now, the bottom line is chilling in its simplicity: there is no prevention and there is no cure.

Institutions like Baycrest and organizations like Senior Care offer many services to Alzheimer's sufferers and their families, including assessment, symptom treatment and advice, and different kinds of support and care at different stages of the disease.

Margaret MacAdam, senior vice-president for social services at Baycrest, said families need help planning for the future. "They realize that this is not a short-term illness, but one that could unfold over a number of years."

The Samuel Lunenfeld Special Day Care centre offers a variety of programs, including fitness, reminiscence groups, arts and crafts, music and supervised outings.

The Frank and Vilma Martin Respite Program allows Alzheimer's patients to stay in Baycrest for a week or a month, so that the caregivers can go on vacation or to a simchah.

"It is a welcome relief," MacAdam said.

January is Alzheimer's disease month. At least for a while, let's skip the jokes.

Baycrest lab technologist Judy Sulev uses a glucometer to measure the blood-sugar level of Sam Romberg of the Royal Canadian Legion, General Wingate Lodge. Looking on is Lodge member Al Labovitch.

Diabetes is a 'self-help' disease

TORONTO — It is quite common for people to develop diabetes in their later years. In fact, mature-onset diabetes affects more than 10 per cent of people over age 65.

The bad news about diabetes is that if left untreated, it can seriously threaten health and well-being. The good news is that, although living with diabetes can be challenging, it is a "self-help" disease — which means you can take control of the situation and continue to lead an active and enjoyable life.

The health experts at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care say the most effective way to deal with diabetes is to maintain a healthy diet, visit your doctor regularly and ensure your blood-sugar levels are at a healthy level. This is done by testing a drop of your blood with a small machine called a glucometer, or blood-sugar meter.

The General Wingate Lodge of the Royal Canadian Legion has helped Baycrest diabetes patients by donating funds toward the purchase of glucometers.

"We depend on community support, like that of the lodge, to help us meet our patients' needs," says Judy Sulev, a lab technologist at Baycrest. "We are very grateful for their contribution."

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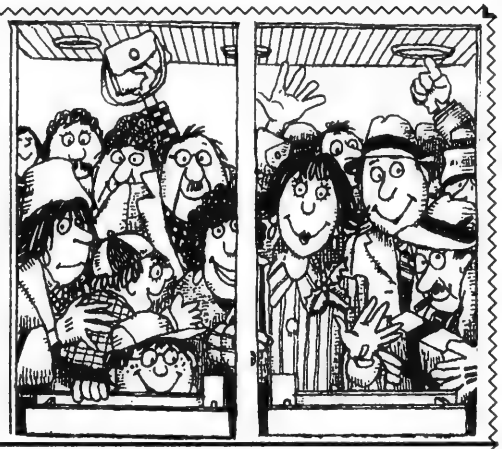

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Christopher optimistic about Israel/Syria talks

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM - U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher last week expressed pleasure with the "very good progress" made during his meetings with Israeli and Syrian leaders.

After conferring with Prime Minister Shimon Peres in Jerusalem, Christopher announced that the Syrians had agreed to broaden the scope of the talks by bringing in a senior military adviser, but not the chiefs of staff.

Israel Radio reported that IDF Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan would be joining the Israeli negotiating team.

"Experts will be added where necessary," he said, when asked by reporters why the Syrians had not agreed to include economic or water experts. "Now it's time to discuss the military field."

Christopher said that "the challenges cannot be minimized" but expressed hope the leaders of both countries would "do everything possible to achieve peace this year.

"I am optimistic and hopeful," he said, noting that Israel and Syria have reached "a more meaningful dialogue." He added that the United States "would be there at key points ...to help." Christopher repeated his statement, made in Damascus last Friday, that "a new threshold had been crossed" and said the talks will resume in Maryland.

"This visit [of Christopher] moved things ahead and things are moving. It's very important progress," Peres said.

"We have a partner for peace talks," Peres said, "But there is a long list of weighty issues" still to be discussed. As for the time factor, Peres said: "Our major concern is not the speed of the negotiations but the content, which will have to face the test of time."

In Damascus, Christopher had said Hafez al-Assad had agreed to continuing secluded talks by a "core group" of negotiators in Wye Plantation in Maryland, combined with periodic visits by Christopher himself to the Middle East to confer with Israeli and Syrian leaders.

Last Saturday night, Peres said that for the first time there is a chance to discuss normalization with the Syrians and to raise the possibility of a comprehensive peace in the region.

He said that for five months the Syrians had not agreed to add a military expert to the delegations.

"There is a change for the better," he said. But he stressed that not all the outstanding issues had been resolved.

Foreign Minister Ehud Barak, who met earlier with Christopher, said that only after Christopher's next visit to the region would it become clear if Syria is "a partner for peace," and that patience was required to resolve a 50-year-long dispute.

The negotiations should not be tied to the date of the elections in Israel or the United States, he added.

Canada boosts aid package

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS — Canada is donating $70 million in aid to Palestinians over the next five years.

The sum is an increase over the $55 million over five years that Canada pledged in 1993 as part of the international aid package to Palestinians in the territories.

It's part of a promise of $1.76 billion in aid announced last week by 50 donor countries and organizations, in the days leading to the first Palestinian elections, scheduled for Jan. 20.

Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Ouellet said the money will help improve conditions in the West Bank and Gaza, which in turn, will help secure peace.

Canada's donation will be used mainly to help resettle refugees, improve education and health care and help rebuild the infrastructure in the West Bank and Gaza.

So far, $27 million of Canada's donation has already been given to the Palestinians.

Of the new amount, $3 million will go the Palestinian Authority's so-called "peace fund," which helps pay for salaries and equipment as well as a clean-up program in Gaza, while $2.5 million will go toward building and repairing sewers and water works.

The pledges surpassed PLO leader Yasser Arafat's hopes for assistance and reinforced his political stature prior to the elections.

At a one-day conference last Tuesday, donor countries and organizations also promised to pay an additional $500 million in funds previously committed, but not yet paid.

The total package will be disbursed between now and March 1997.

Monitoring team announced

OTTAWA — Canada is sending an 11-member team to monitor the Jan. 20 Palestinian elections.

The team includes five Liberal members of Parliament: Carolyn Parrish, Colleen Beaumier, Ovid Jackson, Roger Gallaway and Shaughnessy Cohen.

The others are Michael Lynk, an Ottawa lawyer who has been a human rights observer in the territories; Baghat Korany, a political scientist and Mideast specialist at the University of Montreal; Suehila el-Kateb, a coordinator for the International Development and Refugee Foundation; Michael Shenstone, an Arabist and former Canadian ambassador to several Mideast countries, his wife Susan and their daughter Barbara, who works for CARE Canada and is an expert in election monitoring.

They will be augmented on election day by the staff of Canada's embassy in Israel, as well as by Judy Thompson, described as a "technical adviser."

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The Pretoria Hebrew Congregation will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in March 1996.

The festivities will take place during the weekend of March 15, 16 & 17.

These will include: the Friday Evening Shul Service conducted by our guest Cantor Asher Hainowitz and choir as well as the Chief Rabbi of South Africa, Rabbi Harris.

The Saturday Morning Shul Service also conducted by Cantor Hainowitz, choir and Rabbi Harris followed by our traditional brocha and shiur by our resident rabbi, Rabbi Druian.

Saturday evening will include the opening of an exhibition of South African Jewish art, together with a display of Pretoria Hebrew Congregational pictures and memorabilia (including the Shul, Rachel Spero Nursery School, the Talmud Torah and Carmel School). During the evening Cantor Hainowitz will give a recital of well-known songs.

The festivities will culminate in a family luncheon at Wingate Park Country Club on Sunday. At this luncheon we will have as guest speaker an overseas Chief Rabbi.

As this event will also serve as a reunion for many ex-Pretorians now living elsewhere, please make every effort to attend.

If you have any pictures and/or memorabilia that you would like exhibited, or if you have any questions please contact Julian Grabman, Community Director, P.O. Box 840, Pretoria, 0001 South Africa. Phone 012-344-1551, fax 012-660-2456.

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NEW BRANCH - OVDA A.P.

CJN Purim Art Contest

It's time again for our second annual Purim Art Contest. We are asking students in elementary schools to submit drawings of the pageantry and the drama of the story of Purim.

Who can enter: Children from grades 1 to 6 inclusive are eligible. The children of *CJN* employees are not eligible.

Prizes: The judges will choose one drawing from two different contestants in each grade. These "winning" drawings will be published in *The CJN* Purim issue. In addition, each of the 12 children whose drawings have been selected will receive a prize worth $25.00.

How to enter: You may submit as many drawings as you want. However they should not be smaller than 5 by 7 inches. Please paint, draw, or color bright, colorful, evocative art. You can draw on any paper you wish, but keep in mind we are looking for pictures which will show bright colors well. You may use markers, crayons, paint or pencils. And you can even give them a title.

Please send us your name, address, phone number, school and grade along with your drawings.

You may mail or deliver your drawings to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3A1. If you want us to return the pictures to you, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5:00 pm on Monday, Feb.19, 1996.

We will undoubtedly receive many wonderful submissions from children all across the country. But only 12 of the drawings will be chosen for publication. The judges will base their decision on a number of factors such as: the use of color, the imaginative quality of the drawing, and the way it tells part of the story of Purim. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and quality of submissions received.

How the Winner will be announced: The children whose pictures are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of Shabbat on Friday, Feb. 23, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning pictures will be published in *The CJN* of Feb. 29, 1996. Have fun and good luck.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Iraq battered but Saddam still rules

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

Iraq marks the fifth anniversary of the Gulf War this week, a battered outlaw nation whose ruthless leader, Saddam Hussein, reigns supreme.

Despite crippling United Nations economic sanctions which have brought misery, malnutrition and national humiliation, and in spite of the embarrassing defection of his two top aides last August, Hussein appears in full command of the one-party regime he has presided over since 1979.

Since his accession to power, he has led Iraq into two major misadventures.

In 1980, he dragged Iraq into an eight-year war with Iran which ended in a stalemate, claimed the lives of 105,000 Iraqis, caused widespread property damage, forced the cancellation of ambitious development projects and plunged the country into debt to the tune of $80 billion.

Barely having recovered from this calamity, Iraq invaded, then annexed, Kuwait, whose oil fields he coveted. Hussein's ill-conceived brinkmanship triggered a war which pitted an essentially Third World country against a powerful coalition of combatants spearheaded by the United States.

For Iraq, the Gulf War — "the mother of all battles," as Hussein flippantly put it — was an unequivocable catastrophe. It left much of Iraq's armed forces in ruins and devastated its industrial infrastructure. It wreaked havoc on its people and sparked civil insurrection in the guise of Kurdish and Shi'ite rebellions. It buried the idea of Arab nationalism. (It also reinvigorated the Arab-Israeli peace process.)

The outcome of the Gulf War should have driven Hussein and his cohorts out of Iraq in disgrace. But Hussein, a strong-willed survivor who has never been loath to purge and kill rivals, prevailed over adversity.

He remains firmly entrenched for a number of reasons. He controls the Ba'athist party, the armed forces and the security apparatus. The opposition is in disarray, unable even to agree on a common program of action. And Hussein successfully portrays himself as the guarantor of Iraq's honor and unity.

By clever manipulation and constant repetition, Hussein has shifted the blame for the UN embargo to the West, while convincing most Iraqis that without him at the helm Iraq would be partitioned by its hostile nighbors.

With Western no-fly zones in the north and in the south off-limits to Iraqi aircraft, Iraq effectively has been carved up. But the regime has used this loss of sovereignty to its advantage, harping on the theme that Hussein is a bulwark against Iraq's wholesale disintegration.

That message has not fallen on deaf ears. Last October, shortly after the United States once again accused Iraq of massing troops menacingly close to Kuwait's border and dispatched troops to the region as a deterrent, Iraqis in a referendum re-elected Hussein as president.

The margin of victory — 99.9 per cent — was, of course, implausible. What can one expect in a police state where fear permeates the political culture? But even when this factor is included in the equation, the average Iraqi has been brainwashed to believe that there is no viable alternative to Hussein.

A Sunni Muslim of humble rural origins, Hussein was born in the village of Takrit in 1937. Raised in the home of an uncle who participated in the 1941 Rashid Ali uprising against the British, Hussein became a member of the Ba'ath party when he was 20.

When the first Ba'athist government was overthrown in 1964 after only a year, Hussein was arrested, spending two years in jail before escaping. Not long afterward, he was appointed secretary-general of the Ba'ath by Ahmad Hassan al-Bakr, a relative who staged a coup in 1968. A year later, Bakr named Hussein vice-chair of the Revolutionary Command Council, the regime's primary decision-making body. Within several years, as scholars agree, Hussein emerged as the real force behind the Ba'athist government, which helped modernize Iraq.

A social welfare system was created, a campaign against illiteracy was launched, the legal status of women was upgraded, the oil industry was nationalized and land reforms were undertaken.

In short, the Ba'ath improved the lives of many Iraqis and imposed a sense of nationhood on Iraq, riven by religious and ethnic differences.

But there was a price to pay. Iraq slid deeper into dictatorship, particularly after Bakr's resignation in 1979, and minorities — from Kurds to Jews — were further repressed.

All the while, Iraq — which has participated in several wars against Israel and which lobbed 39 Scud missles at Israeli cities during the Gulf War — lavished billions of dollars on building a large army and airforce.

The purpose was clear. First, Iraq sought to assume the leadership of the Arab world after Egypt's peace treaty with Israel. Second, Iraq hoped to fill the vacuum in the Persian Gulf following the Islamic revolution in Iran.

With the acquiescence of the West, Iraq came close to fulfilling these objectives. By failing, Iraq squandered vast resources, isolated itself and impoverished its population.

Today, bound by a regimen of sanctions which will not be lifted until it complies with all UN resolutions, Iraq is a nation under siege. But Saddam Hussein, the author of Iraq's greatest triumphs and misfortunes, is alive and well, thumbing his nose at the West.

The Week in Israel

Jan. 8

• Prime Minister Shimon Peres accepted the resignation of the head of the General Security Services. *(Later in the week, in developments unprecedented in Israel, his identity – Carmi Gillon – was publicized, as was that of his replacement, Maj.-Gen. Ami Ayalon.)*

• *Yediot Acharonot* reported that, in a meeting with hundreds of residents from Efrat, minister without portfolio Yossi Beilin stated that the government will try to keep most of the settlers under Israeli sovereignty.

Jan. 9

• *Ha'aretz* reported the government and the Palestinian Authority agreed that the IDF will temporarily leave the Palestinian areas of Hebron and concentrate itself within the city's Jewish neighborhoods on the day of the Palestinian elections. Palestinian policemen in civilian clothes and the international observers will remain in the Arab neighborhoods.

Jan. 10

• King Hussein arrived in Israel on his first ever official visit. He attended a ceremony at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital to rename its trauma centre in memory of the late prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin. *Ma'ariv* reported that the Jordanian delegation included Qatar's Ambassador to the United States.

Jan. 11

• President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Shimon Peres represented Israel in Paris at the memorial service for Francois Mitterrand. Peres was one of the few non-family members at the private funeral.

Jan. 12

• A Gallup poll published in *Ma'ariv* stated that 37.2 per cent of the public supports a call for an early election; 22.1 per cent is opposed; 23.9 per cent is indifferent; and 16.8 per cent couldn't make up their minds.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• A special exhibition entitled Jerusalem, A Capital For All Times, opened at the Bible Lands Museum in collaboration with Bezalel Acadamy of Art and the Hebrew University. King David's capital in Jerusalem is compared to seven other capital cities of the ancient world. The exhibition is scheduled to remain open until the end of the year.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Israeli security chief a hero

[Cont'd. from page 1]

After a particularly damaging raid which cost Israel seven dead and a number of prisoners, then defence minister Moshe Dayan ordered an appropriate response. The target chosen was Green Island, a fortress built by the British on a coral outcropping a mile off the Egyptian coast near the southern approaches to the canal.

A compact 100-metre-long fortress bristling with guns and protected by heavy artillery on the Egyptian mainland nearby, it was as difficult a target as could be chosen. Anti-aircraft guns would make any helicopter assault suicidal, while boats attempting to reach the island with assault troops would likely be blown out of the water before they reached it. It was decided to use naval commandos who would swim underwater to the island and attack at night.

Ayalon was one of the young officers on the assault team's second squad. The first squad's task was to emerge silently from the sea and overcome the Egyptian sentry posts on the water's edge. The second squad would then scale the roof of the fortress where the anti-aircraft guns and other heavy armament were emplaced. That is where the main battle would be fought.

Other commando squads would follow. With the fortress' heavy guns neutralized, boats would bring ashore fighters from an elite reconnaissance unit to finish the job.

The attackers achieved surprise and quickly established a beachhead. The second squad raced forward with Ayalon in the lead. In the brief time it had had to prepare the operation, the attack force experimented in swimming underwater with a collapsible ladder to be used in negotiating the 2.5 metres to the roof, but it had proven awkward swimming with it over a long distance. Instead, a tall squad member named Jacob was designated to serve as a ladder. Ayalon was to be the first to mount. Climbing onto Jacob's shoulders, he cautiously lifted his head over the edge of the roof.

There were two light anti-aircraft gun positions nearby, one to the right and one to the left. The positions were surrounded by concrete walls behind which sentries could be made out. A heavy machine gun covered both. Once he climbed onto the roof, Ayalon would be totally exposed. He pulled a smoke grenade from a pouch and hurled it toward the machine gun, but the grenade failed to explode. When Ayalon raised his head to see what had happened, his face was cut by ricocheting shrapnel.

Recovering quickly, he threw another grenade, but this too failed to explode. The water pressure at the depths to which the heavily loaded men had descended during their underwater approach to the island had rendered many of the grenades inoperable. If Ayalon was to make his move it would have to be without cover.

Taking a deep breath and counting to three, he vaulted onto the roof and headed for his target, the gun to the left. His partner, a young commando named Zali, was right behind him, scrambling over Jacob's back onto the roof. The pair threw grenades into the gun position. This time the grenades exploded. The commandos entered firing their Uzis, killing the two Egyptians inside. Another team mounted the roof behind them and took the right-hand gun position.

The boats carrying the second wave were delayed and the small number of commandos who had reached the roof came under mounting pressure. A burst from the machine gun severed two fingers on the hand of Zali, a talented flutist.

According to the detailed plan drawn up before the attack, the pair were to remain in the gun position until the second wave had passed them. However, the delay in the reinforcement's arrival and the murderous fire being delivered by the Egyptians prompted Ayalon to continue forward. "Can you shoot?" he asked his wounded partner. The answer was affirmative.

The two men bounded forward to an empty position closer to the machine gun. From there they threw grenades that finally silenced the gun, but not before Ayalon was wounded a second time when grenade fragments cut into his leg.

By the time the second wave reached the roof, half the men in the first wave had been killed or wounded.

Leaning on a comrade, he managed to make his way back to a rescue boat. He would receive the Medal of Valor for his performance on Green Island.

Agreement on free trade

[Cont'd. from page 1]

It allows both Canada and Israel to export products containing American components, she noted. "It also paves the way for an eventual trilateral agreement with the U.S.," she added.

"With a population of approximately 5.5 million, Israel does not offer a very large market for Canadian products," noted Yehuda Raveh, president of the Israel-Canada Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "However, Canada can benefit greatly by using Israel as a bridge to reach Europe (with which Israel has a free trade agreement)," he said.

The American computer giant Intel uses Israel to export to Europe, he said. "There is no reason why Canadian companies can't do the same."

MASHGICHIM REQUIRED

The Kashruth Council of Toronto requires Sabbath observant individuals to serve as mashgichim for the summer of 1996 at facilities operated by the Jewish Camp Council of Toronto: Camp Northland-B'nai Brith in Haliburton, and Good Fellowship Lodge near Parry Sound. The positions require the individuals to live at these facilities; room and board are provided, along with transportation if required. Although only one mashgiach is required at each site at a particular time, the summer can be divided into successive duty periods covered by different mashgichim.

Additional work is available for periods throughout the year at Maple Lake Resort near Parry Sound, mostly for weekend groups, with some advance preparation time required. Individuals are welcome to apply for either or both of summer and year-round duties.

Candidates should be familiar with the requirements of hashgacha in a kitchen which serves both dairy and meat meals.

Following interviews with the Jewish Camp Council, suitable candidates will also be interviewed by the Kashruth Council.

Please send resumé with covering letter stating position(s) preferred to: The Jewish Camp Council of Toronto, 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 200, Downsview, Ont. M3H 5V3. Attention: Ellen Nash, Executive Director.

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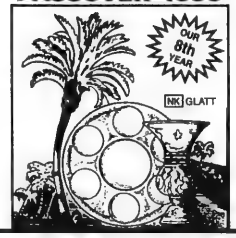

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Jordanian theatre company brings 'gentle' satire to Israel

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — King Hussein made history with his visit to Tel Aviv last week. But his look-alike beat him to it by over a month.

Feature

Hisham Yanis, an accomplished impersonator of "His Majesty" and Nabil Sawalha, a fellow actor from Jordan, made history of their own in November, becoming the first Arab theatre company to ever perform in Israel.

The two actors — the stars and scriptwriter of Jordan's Ahlan Theatre Company — have presented their satirical look at the Middle East to audiences all over the world. But until now, they performed in Arabic mostly to Arab theatre-goers (including stints in Montreal and Ottawa in 1993).

November marked the first time that Nabil and Hisham — as they are known throughout Jordan — brought their irreverent impersonations of Arab and Israeli leaders to Israel, in an English-language presentation of *Peace, Oh Peace.*

"Why is is that everyone who wants to establish a new world order has to practise in the Middle East?" quipped Nabil at the opening of an evening that was not just a show, but an encounter between former enemies.

"I've never felt so apprehensive before a performance," he told *The CJN.* "I didn't sleep all night thinking about it."

And for good reason. Some people would say that the Jordanian actors must have a lot of chutzpah to present an unflattering portrait of Israelis at a theatre in Tel Aviv.

Take the way they depicted Israeli opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu. His solution to the Palestinian problem? "It's like photography. Shoot first and then see what develops."

Or Israeli negotiator Elyakim Rubinstein, whose idea of an important environmental issue is the impact of Jordanian pigeon droppings on Israeli tourism.

"The play is definitely done from an Arab point of view," says Nabil. "I'm bringing Israelis another perspective, but without bitterness. I'm laughing at Israelis and at ourselves."

Indeed it's not only Israelis who are the butt of jokes in this show. Yasser Arafat, who cannot pronounce the word "peace," repeatedly calls for a new era of "piss." When a Lebanese leader says, "In my personal opinion," he is abruptly cut off by his overbearing Syrian colleague who reminds him that "you have no personal opinion."

There are scenes where Muslim, Christian and Jewish fanatics bicker over who is better in God's eyes, while Israelis and Palestinians debate who has suffered more.

Pervading it all is a sense of the futility of war.

"Why did President Bill Clinton have tears in his eyes when he signed the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty in the Arava desert? Was it emotion or just sand in his eyes?" asks a journalist in one scene.

"Neither," explains Jordan's King Hussein, played by Nabil. "He had a look at the Arava, saw no trees, no water, no greenery, nothing at all and cried: 'What have these lunatics been fighting for?' "

The audience loved it. "It wasn't always comfortable to hear jokes about yourself," said one Israeli spectator. "But it was like watching someone make fun of *all* the kids in the neighborhood. It was nice to finally feel included in the neighborhood."

The company has now performed the same show in front of Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian and Western audiences.

"People seem to laugh at the same spots no matter what their nationality is," Nabil notes. "But we do make small changes depending on the audience. In Israel, Scud missiles jokes do not go over well. The subject cuts too close to the bone. Among Palestinians we tone down the jokes about Arafat."

Even "gentle" political satire is not tolerated in anything but a democracy, says Hisham. Jordan and the Palestinian Autonomy areas are the only Arab entities where the troupe has performed.

"We could go to many other Arab countries," says Hisham. "The problem is that we would never come back!"

Performing in Israel was a deeply disconcerting experience for the two Jordanian actors. For Hisham, it marked the return to the land he left in 1948.

"I was one year old when the war [with Israel] began and my family lost their home and fled to Jordan," he recalls.

During this visit, Hisham returned to the place where he was born — now a police station in the Israeli town of Beit Dagan. "I had hoped to find my birth certificate. I still don't know when I was born, except that it was during the eggplant harvest of 1947. But I couldn't recognize anything."

For Hisham, who has built a successful career in Jordan, it was a moment of reconciliation with the past. "I had grown up with this rainbow-like picture of the home we left behind. This visit shattered that myth.

Now, says Hisham, he no longer fantasizes about a home that does not exist. "I feel completely at peace with my identity as a Jordanian citizen of Palestinian origin."

Nabil, who was born in Jordan, also describes the visit to Israel as disconcerting. "You are a product of your own society, and for me that means that Israel is the one that invaded our land and displaced our people," he says.

So why visit at all?

"We have to deal with another reality — the existence of Israel and the fact that we have made peace," he explains. "We feel that talking with Israelis is better than turning our backs. Through understanding, we can forge a durable peace. But not all Jordanians can deal with this new reality. It's too much for some of them."

In fact, Nabil and Hisham's visit to Israel proved too much for many Jordanians. The country's writers union expelled them and hundreds of angry Jordanians called the theatre company vowing to boycott their performances.

The response of the Israeli audience only reinforced the conviction that they had done the right thing. The thunderous standing ovation left Hisham speechless and nearly in tears.

"I was so moved I couldn't say a word," he recalls.

At the second curtain call, Hisham recountedd, Nabil blurted out to the audience: "You're making history!"

"I suddenly realized what an incredible moment this was."

It was a moment in which Israelis found they could laugh at themselves — even when it's a former enemy who is telling the jokes.

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Israel Bonds lowers rates

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – The interest rates on Israel Bonds will be lowered in an effort to be more competitive with money the Israeli government can raise in commercial markets.

The international organization announced what it called substantial decreases mainly in the bonds being sold with floating interest rates.

"We've reduced interest rates by having a larger spread below the prime rate than before" as a reflection of "our sensitivity to Israel's cost of raising money," said retired Gen. Nathan Sharony, president of Israel Bonds in New York.

Given its improved economic standing, "Israel has succeeded in raising money at a cheaper rate in the commercial market, so we had to adjust," Sharony said. "The government shouldn't pay a prohibitive price."

Israel Bonds offers to Diaspora Jews securities issued by the government of Israel and provides investment capital for the development of Israel's economy.

The reductions follow complaints by some Israeli politicians in recent years that the rates of the bonds made them burdensome to the government. The complaints angered many in the Diaspora establishment.

For Sharony, such remarks reflected a failure to understand that the bonds area an important connection to Israel for Diaspora Jews as well as " a safety net for a rainy day."

"No one wants to lose that," he said. "Irrespective of what Israel's economic or political situation is, this constituency always buys bonds, and in worse times, they buy more," he said.

Finance Minister Avraham Shochat praised the announcement, according to a statement issued by Israel Bonds.

"Israel should not give up an important source of income, one that is not dependent on economic and political fluctuations in the Middle East and the international capital market," he said.

Some of the changes include a drop in the floating rate bond with a fixed maturity date of Jan. 31, 2003, from the American prime rate minus 0.75 per cent to the prime rate minus 1.5 per cent. The interest rate will not exceed eight per cent.

The interest rate on the economic development bond will go down from 0.75 per cent to 0.70 per cent.

A member of the extremist group *Chai Vekayam* reads from the Decleration of Independence of Theocratic Israel.

Documentary examines Israel's polarized society

By JOSEPH SERGE
TAB news Editor

TORONTO – Is Baruch Goldstein a mass murderer or a martyr? Did Yigal Amir act alone or was he influenced by the Kach movement and other right-wing organizations?

These are some of the questions director Yeud Levanon tries to get answers to in his documentary *119 Bullets + 3*, airing on CBC Newsworld Jan. 21 at 8 p.m.

Levanon, a die-hard Tel Avivian, travels to the territories in the West Bank and gains the confidence of the religious settlers living there. Over 1 1/2 years he interviews leaders of the extremist organizations after first the Hebron massacre (119 bullets) and later Yitzhak Rabin's assassination (three bullets).

Flipping back and forth between Tel Aviv and Hebron, the documentary shows how polarized Israeli society has become. The hawks and doves are as different as day and night – as Tel Aviv and Hebron.

Among the extremists interviewed in Hebron are Yehuda Etzion, who recently completed a jail term for planning to plant a bomb at the Dome of the Rock Mosque, and Baruch Marzel, Rabbi Meir Kahane's successor.

Levanon's bias in his documentary is evident and at the end he returns to Tel Aviv, to what he calls "the real Israel." Still, *119 Bullets...* is an informative look at the different sides threatening to launch Israel into a civil war.

A campy relic of a bygone era

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

World War II produced a plethora of Hollywood war movies. Rather than being subtle, they were invariably bombastic, even propagandistic, the cinematic equivalent of popcorn: edible but unfilling.

The North Star, to be screened by Vision TV on Jan. 18 at 8 p.m., is a prime example of the genre.

Released in 1943, at the height of the conflict, it was directed by Lewis Milestone, written by Lillian Hellman and scored by Aaron Copland. Featuring an all-star cast (Anne Baxter, Dana Andrews and Walter Huston), *The North Star* is the story of a village in the Soviet Union, circa June 1941, which defends itself against a Nazi incursion.

The Russian burg, replete with singing and dancing peasants in ethnic garb, is positively bucolic.

The mood darkens when German planes strafe the village. But as black smoke rises, the villagers sing the *Internationale* in inspirational style. The pro-Soviet feel of the film, which was in keeping with the temper of the times, would prove to be an embarrassment just several years later, during the hysteria of the Cold War.

The Nazis are not portrayed in strictly monochromatic fashion. Yes, they are the bogeymen, the cruel conquerors who literally bleed the hapless children of the village to replenish their army's blood supply. However, one of the Nazi doctors (Erich Von Stroheim, the Jewish refugee from Nazi Germany) seems to possess redeeming qualities.

Characterized by over-the-top acting and vivid cinematography, *The North Star* is a somewhat campy relic of a bygone era, permeated with the uplifting but naive message that mankind should put an end to war.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Music for A Sunday Afternoon: Senya Trubashnik, oboe, and Anna Trubashnik, mezzo soprano, are the featured artists in *From Shtetl to Broadway*, a concert at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York, Jan. 21, 3 p.m. Tickets $5.

*****

Honey Novick in Concert: She's been called "one of Canada's premier avant-garde vocalists" and "a musical philosopher who really delivers the beef." Honey Novick explores her musical roots in concert as she performs selections from her latest CD, *Rising Towards The Seraphim*. The CD is a diverse collection of Yiddish songs that range from traditional tunes to early social protest songs to original compositions.

Novick, accompanied by Brahm Goldhamer on the piano, performs at The Music Gallery, 179 Richmond St. W., Toronto, Wed. Jan. 31, 8 p.m. Tickets $10 (includes post-concert glass of wine). 416-204-1080.

*****

Cleveland Duo: This band, composed of violinist and pianist Carolyn Gadiel Warner (formerly of Toronto) and her husband, violinist Stephen Warner, and guest saxophonist James Umble, play a variety of classical works as well as contemporary pieces by Canadian composers Ben Steinberg and Oskar Metawetz.

Walter Hall, Edward Johnson Bldg., U. of T., Jan 18, 8.p.m. Adults, $10. 416-978-3744.

*****

Jewish Film Society: The Toronto Jewish Film Society, in conjunction with the Cinematheque Ontario, presents *Martha and I* at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall, Sunday Jan. 21, 7.30 p.m.

A woman's decision to adopt her new husband's nephew in pre-WWII Czechoslovakia coincides with the rise of Nazism in Europe and threatens the family's well-being and safety. Directed by Jiri Weiss, *Martha and I* received best actor and best actress awards at the 1990 Venice Film Festival.

Society members are advised to show up by 7 p.m. as tickets ($7.50 for non-members) go on sale to non-members at 7.15. In German with English subtitles; restricted. 416-924-6211.

*****

Books & Bagels: A writer and film producer originally from Winnipeg, Martin Waxman is scheduled to read from *Everything in Winnipeg Begins in a Car* at Toronto's Bloor JCC on Jan. 28, 11 a.m. The reading also features Stuart Ross, author of more than 25 books, who is planning to present some recent poetry and fiction, and talk about his experiences in the literary underground. Members free, non-members $8.; 750 Spadina Ave. at Bloor. 416-924-6211.

*****

"Is Big-Ticket Theatre Really Dead?": A pitched rhetorical battle has been waged in the *Globe and Mail* recently between drama critic Kate Taylor and theatre entrepreneur Garth Drabinsky over the issue of whether *Sunset Boulevard* and the big-ticket theatrical business in general is losing steam in Toronto.

Eye On Arts couldn't hazard a guess without poring over box-office ledgers. But we note that Drabinsky's previous production of *Show Boat* certainly isn't losing any steam. Drabinsky's Livent, which took its acclaimed production of *Show Boat* to Broadway 15 months ago, grossed more than $1.15 million (US) in sales there during the last week of 1995, a record for highest single-week box office gross in Broadway history.

As well, a Livent production of *Show Boat* opened last month at the new $25- million Ford Centre For the Performing Arts in Vancouver. It also recently set a local box-office record, grossing $1.18 million in a single week.

A third Livent production of *Show Boat* is scheduled to open March 14 in Chicago.

*****

Spotlight on El Al: Watch for the upcoming episode of the Canadian television series *Yellow Brick Roads*, which takes an in-depth look at El Al Israel Airlines. A 30-minute segment of the show traces the birth of the airline and the many challenges it has faced in its nearly five decades of operation.

As well, the show highlights Operation Magic Carpet and Operation Solomon, the historic airlifts of refugees to Israel, and offers a peek inside El Al's massive kosher kitchen in Tel Aviv, the world's largest. Shot entirely in Israel, the program also features historic footage of early Israel and some pioneering flights made by El Al in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

To be aired nationally on CBC Newsworld in the spring.

*****

In Brief: Seiji Ozawa conducts the Boston Symphony, playing Beethoven and Richard Strauss, at Roy Thompson Hall, Toronto, Feb. 6 at 8.30 p.m.

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Guide a must for snowbirds

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Our frigid winter climate drives increasing numbers of Canadians down south. And as baby boomers head toward their retirement years, there will be still more snowbirds flocking to the warm climes of Florida, Arizona and California.

To enjoy your vacation in the United States with complete peace of mind, you should obviously be well informed with regard to money management, tax laws, exchange rates, medical insurance and real estate.

The Canadian Snowbird Guide (McGraw-Hill Ryerson, $19.99), written by Douglas Grey, can help you master these issues.

Grey, a fount of knowledge, covers all the bases.

He paints a picture of the snowbird lifestyle. He explores the sometimes arcane world of financial planning. He deals with immigration, customs, housing and insurance. He explains tax codes, wills, trusts and estate planning. He advises you how to choose lawyers, accountants and financial planners.

Last but not least, Grey tells you how to find further information about the topics that interest you.

By any yardstick, *The Canadian Snowbird Guide* falls under the category of required reading. If you're into sun, sand and surf, take the time to read this useful book. Grey really knows his stuff.

JOB SEARCH

Lisa Galet's monthly column, normally in this space, will return Feb. 1, as part of the regular advice-columnists' rotation normally found at the back of the paper.

TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

The Snowbound Traveller: Travel Talk recently utilized Air Canada's great weekend getaway fare: Toronto to New York, return, for $110 plus $50 in taxes. While in New York, a big snowstorm descended over much of the eastern U.S. seaboard, and almost all commercial flights were cancelled. Because of the storm, our four-day trip was extended against our control for another day.

Passengers who are bumped off their flights due to airline overbooking are routinely given hotel accommodations, and often complimentary meals, taxi vouchers and discount coupons for future travel. But when flights are cancelled due to inclement weather, no amenities are offered.

Like many stranded travellers, Travel Talk was subjected to hearing *Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow* and other seasonal melodies for nearly half an hour while waiting to speak by phone to an Air Canada representative to reschedule our departure.

Despite the duress that they certainly must have felt, all airline staff we encountered were unfailingly courteous. The next day, La Guardia Airport was a zoo as flights continued to be delayed and cancelled. Despite being nearly swarmed by disgruntled passengers, Air Canada staff exuded a most impressive display of composure and efficiency. By evening, many flights were resuming, and Air Canada brought in a couple of large airbuses to get stranded passengers to their respective destinations.

It so happened Travel Talk had good reason to stay in Manhattan that extra night: to attend the Society of American Travel Writers' (SATW) annual party. It took place in the well-appointed drawing room of the 100-year-old former Villard Mansion at Madison Avenue and 51st Street, which now serves as the main public spaces of the deluxe New York Palace Hotel.

As partygoers mingled at the SATW gathering, Travel Talk noticed a woman sitting alone beside a frosted, leaded-glass window, gazing out wistfully at the seasonal colored lights and the spires of nearby St. Patrick's Cathedral. Outside, snow was swirling as in a handheld paperweight. With snow blanketing the streets, Manhattan seemed a picturesque wonderland. One could almost picture graceful horses and buggies instead of the messy gridlock of buses, taxis and limos.

The tableau seemed almost like a scene from *It's A Wonderful Life* or *Miracle on 34th Street*. And the sitter? None other than Tania Grossinger, whose parents established and operated the legendary Jewish resort Grossinger's in the Catskills for many years.

*****

Delta Fares to Hawaii: Delta Air Lines is offering special low round-trip fares to Hawaii from seven major Canadian cities. As low as $439 return, the fares represent savings of 40 to 50 per cent off regular advance purchase excursion fares. The special rates are in effect from now through March 31. Contact your travel agent or Delta at 800-221-1212.

*****

Biking in Israel: Freewheeling Adventures, a Nova Scotia travel company specializing in adventurous cycling tours, has traditionally focused on scenic regions in Atlantic Canada, Scotland and Ireland. The company offers excursions along Nova Scotia's South Shore, Evangeline Trail and Cabot Trail, and cycling, hiking and kayaking adventures in Newfoundland, P.E.I, the Magdelan Islands and the Gaspe region of Quebec as well.

In Northern Ireland, the company offers an Antrim to Donegal route and an Ulster Ramble, and has also designed an itinerary along Scotland's Western Coast. In its latest brochure, *Freewheeling Adventures* is offering Israel: A Personal Aliyah for some time in the fall of 1996 or the spring of 1997.

"You will journey in desert and oasis, in valleys and over mountains, along the shores of three seas, in the present and in the past. You will use your bicycles, your feet, and most of all your senses, to really appreciate Israel," the brochure says.

For more information or a copy of the brochure, contact Freewheeling Adventures, R.R. #1, Hubbards, N.S. Canada B0J 1T0. Phone 902-857-3600; fax 902-857-3612.

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Former hoopster inducted into Mac U hall of fame

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Back in the days when Bert Raphael wore a younger man's clothes, he was better known for setting records than for examining his clients' insurance records.

On the basketball court, Raphael centred the McMaster Marauders' hoops squad and was named to the CIAU all-star team. Over his three-year career, he became the first player to score more than 300 points in a season for McMaster.

Prior to that, he held the school records of 14 free throws in a game and 37 points a single game. Playing for Central Collegiate in Hamilton, he set a record of 64 points in a single game and he played on four consecutive city championships.

Bert Raphael is all smiles as he views the display of his playing days at McMaster University.

Raphael, who long ago hung up his Air Jordans in exchange for barrister's robes, was recently recognized for his hardwood performances, by being inducted into McMaster University's Basketball Hall of Fame.

The presentation read: "Bert's reputation as a player with a soft scoring touch was well-deserved. For three years, he filled the net with a deadly shooting arsenal, hitting several team milestones.

"Some of his records lasted more than a decade ... In his final season, Bert's leadership earned him the team captaincy."

Looking back on his salad days in the late 1950s, Raphael said that at six foot four, he was considered a big man to play centre. "Now, I'd be lucky to be a guard."

In later years, he admired the elegance and ability of Dr. J (Julius Irving), though in his day, he said, "I couldn't dribble. But I had a great jump shot."

The late writer Gary Lautens once called his jumper "a cobra's kiss," he recalled.

Though he was offered a medical scholarship at Western if he continued to play basketball, part of the deal included strapping on the pads and playing for the football team. After getting bounced around at a pre-season trial, he decided to hang up the cleats and he chose to pursue another career.

For the next four years, he played for the Osgoode Hall Owls while studying law. Since then, he's become a successful lawyer specializing in insurance matters; he's been named Queen's Counsel; and he's been awarded the Law Society's medal for distinguished service to the profession.

He's also known for championing human rights and for advocating legal sanctions against Nazi war criminals.

Raphael said he got tremendous satisfaction from being named to the McMaster Hall of Fame, considering that at the time he played, McMaster was a Baptist school and, as far as he knows, he's the only Jew in the Hall.

His one regret was that he never got to play for Canada in the Maccabiah Games.

Raphael maintains his ties to the sport. He's an avid Raptors fan and a season ticket holder.

His three brothers also took to the hardwood. Brother Bob played for McMaster, his brother Jerry suited up for Waterloo Lutheran and brother Stan ended up playing for Yeshiva U.

Surprisingly, their father knew very little about basketball. When Bert once asked him to come watch him play a game in February, his father wanted to know whether they'd be playing indoors or outside, Raphael recalled.

American footballers go 'bowling'

Place-kicking brothers pummel the pigskin

By HARLAN C. ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — Jewish players in pads played key roles for their teams as America enjoyed its annual winter football binge — the bowl season.

Five college athletes, two of them place-kicking brothers, took to the field for U.S. colleges in bowl games from coast to coast.

Sophomore Adam Abrams of the University of Southern California (USC) and senior Eric Abrams of Stanford University are their teams' place-kickers. Southern Cal beat Northwestern 41-32 in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., while Stanford lost to East Carolina 19-13 in the Liberty Bowl in Memphis.

A third Jewish kicker to pummel the pigskin is Kevin Kopka, who laces up his cleats for Notre Dame (ND). The Fighting Irish lost 31-25 to Florida State in the Orange Bowl.

Freshman Mike Rosenthal, a six-foot-seven, 290-lb. offensive lineman, also played for Notre Dame.

The fifth Jewish player who went bowling is Scott Slutzker, starting tight end for the University of Iowa, which humbled the University of Washington 38-18 in the Sun Bowl in El Paso, Tex.

Eric and Adam Abrams are the sons of the former Lauren Kramer of Buffalo and her husband, Dr. Jeffrey Abrams, a graduate of the University of Buffalo medical school.

Eric, the senior of the two, was chosen to the second All-America team by United Press International and was also named first team Academic All-Pacific 10 Conference. He was slated to handle the kicking duties in the Senior Bowl, the annual showcase of draft-eligible players for professional scouts and football fanatics.

During his four-year career, in which he led Stanford in scoring each season, Eric made 52 of 74 field goals and 126 of 131 points after touchdown (PATs).

His total of 282 points makes him Stanford's highest scoring player ever and number nine in Pac-10 history (seventh among kickers). This year, he made 16 of 28 field goals and was two for two in the 40-49 yard range. He was one for two from outside 50 yards.

A finalist for the Lou Groza Award, presented to the nation's top place-kicker, Eric also excels academically, registering a 4.0 scholastic average.

His brother Adam, a sophomore scholastically but a freshman in athletic eligibility, didn't have quite the season enjoyed by his older brother. He was hurt for much of the year and played in only five of 11 games. He made three of four field goals, the longest from 41 yards, and was good on 16 of 17 PATs.

Kopka, a strong-legged freshman from Hollywood, Fla., handled the kickoffs for Notre Dame.

He started the season handling the Irish's field goals and PATs but he struggled and had to give way to a more experienced kicker.

Altogether, he made 27 of 29 PATs and was good on six of 11 three-pointers, the longest from 45 yards. He's expected to be the starting field goal kicker for the Irish next year.

Rosenthal, his teammate, is already being touted as a future All-American and probably has the most professional potential of the five.

At Penn High School in Granger, Ind., a suburb of South Bend, where Notre Dame is located, Rosenthal had an outstanding career.

He was named to the high school All-America first team by *USA Today*, *Parade*, *SuperPrep*, *Prep Football Report* and *Blue Chip Illustrated*, was named top offensive lineman nationally by *SuperPrep* and second by *Bluechip Illustrated*.

The *Detroit Free Press* named him to its "Best of the Midwest" team, the only unanimous selection in the team's seven-year history.

His high school team was 30-3 during his three-year stint there.

As a college freshman, he started three games because of injuries to starters Chris Clevenger and Mike Doughty, and he logged 100 minutes of playing time, top among backup linemen.

"He's going to be great, an All-American before he's finished," said John Heisler, ND's sports information director. "Next year he'll definitely be one of the five best offensive lineman we have."

Rosenthal started for the Irish in wins over Air Force and USC and in the loss to then top-ranked Ohio State.

Slutzker, a two-year starter at Iowa, stands six foot five and weighs in at 249 lbs. He has an excellent chance of being drafted in 1996.

A native of Hasbrouch Heights, N.J., he was named a pre-season third team All American by one football magazine.

Last year he was the Hawkeyes' second best receiver with 27 catches for 379 yards, a 14.1 yard-per-catch average, to go with two touchdowns.

As a high school senior, he caught 38 passes for 737 yards, place-kicked and returned punts.

Last year, against Rose Bowl foes Penn State and Oregon, he had 13 catches for 270 yards and one touchdown. He was named ABC-TV's player of the game against Michigan.

* * *

Notre Dame just keeps on recruiting Jewish athletes. In addition to their gridiron stars, ND has point guard Doug Gottlieb playing for its basketball team, while last year, Gus Ornstein was the football team's backup quarterback before transferring to Michigan State.

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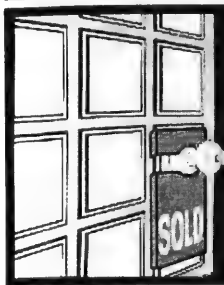

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2 Custom beauties 3,800 sq. ft., 4+5 bdrms, fin. bsmt, spa, skylight, custom kitchens & more! *Allen Sidofsky

"WILSHIRE" MINI MANSION $409,900
Beautifully decorated 3,845'! Offers welcome! *M. Millstone

BEAUTIFUL LOT ON THORNRIDGE — ONE OF A KIND!
Among million $$ homes, renovate an old bungalow or build your dream home! *Cila Fleischmann & Sarah Tamin

"WILSHIRE" FAB NEW HOMES
Incredible value! 9 ft. ceilings, deep 145' lots, summer possession. From $300,000 + and up! *Michael Millstone

HILDA & YORK HILL $339,000
Fabulous renovated home with 153' deep lot, excellent finished lower level, gourmet kitchen, 2,500 sq. ft. *Michael Millstone

BATHURST & CLARK — FABULOUS LAY-OUT!
4 Bdrms on quiet crt, dble gar, fin. bsmt, extras++ *Ted Waxman

ABSOLUTELY IMMACULATE! BATHURST-CENTRE
This house is a 10+, dble garage, large kit & family rm, prof. finished bsmt with sep. entry, great value! *Cila Fleischmann

"SPRING FARM" $219,000-$278,900
Fantastic 3 bdrm home on large lot, features appliances, ceramics, finished basement & more! *Allen Sidofsky

YONGE & CLARK — STUNNING FREEHOLD TOWNHOME
Open concept, white kit, hdwd flrs, steps to bus! *Sarah Rovet

BATHURST MANOR! $249,900 — VALUE ++
Large 3 bdrm, dble garage, fin. bsmt w/sep. entry. *Ted Waxman

STUNNING STARTER HOME AT BATHURST & CLARK
Quiet cres, new upgraded brdlm, fin. bsmt w/self contained kitchen, steps to everything! *C. Fleischmann & S. Tamin

LESLIE & STEELES — EXECUTIVE TOWNHOME
End unit, raised 3 bdrm bungalow, hardwood, air, large principal rooms. *Ted Waxman

YONGE & CLARK — PERFECT STARTER!
Carries like rent @ $1,200/mo with 25% down & a 5 year mortgage! Det. 3 bdrm, ensuite. Must sell! *P. Waisglass

CONDOMINIUMS

CLARK & YONGE "CONSERVATORY" — MUST SELL!
Magnificent 3 bdrm suite about 2,600 sq. ft., with marble french doors, hardwood +++ Don't wait! Call *Sarah Rovet

CLARK & YONGE — A REAL BARGAIN!
2 Bdrm apartments + solarium, parquet floors, won't last! Open for offers! *Sarah Rovet

BATHURST-TORRESDALE "THE COURTLAND"
Approx. 1,500', 2 bdrms, corner unit, large kit., balcony, air, locker & ensuite laundry, value + @ $139,900. *Ted Waxman

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

SEARLE-WILMINGTON
Ranch bungalow, 3 bedroom, family room, plus huge finished basement apartment.

BATHURST - STEELES
First time buyer, 3 bedroom detached home, 3 baths, finished basement, appliances, air, garage. Move-in Condition.

Sally Rosen, Century 21 Smith Ltd.
(905) 884-4425

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Willowdale Executive Beauty on cul-de-sac, 4000 sf, 3 lvls, 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bth, gourmet kit, lrg w/o to multi-level deck, prof. decor. & landscpe, upgrades thruout house, every imaginable feature. Walking dist. to priv. boys & girls schls & elem. schls. Must be seen, priv. $551K. 416-225-1396 for appt.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Atkinson-Clark, off Spring Gate. 4 bdrm, 3 bth, Feb. or Mar. $1450+, 905-881-5011.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Glencairn/Bathurst, 2 bdrm, lrg kit, nr TTC, shops, 787-8133

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

DAVID BURSTYN
CAPTAIN CONDO

7601 Bathurst - 1 bdrm. SOLD

Thornhill/Greenlane - 4 bdrm, 144 ft. deep, wood floors, ceramics, 55oz. bdrm. $278K

RE/MAX REALTRON REALTY INC.
(416) 222-8600

Bathurst/Antibes, 3 bdrms, 2 full bths, ensuite laundry, parquet, corner, facing ravine, sec, sauna, Shabbos elev. 661-1665

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875

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Gary & Gayle Mitchell
Associate Broker *Sales Representative*

'BATHURST FINCH 1ST AD $109,000. 1 Bedroom condo in prime "Forest Hills" South exposure. Unbeatable value! Heddy Blaug 449-2020. The Prudential Sadie Moranis Realty, Independently Owned Broker.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

GIDEON WAICHENBERG
Condominium Specialist

Primrose - Bathurst & Steeles, 2 br, very clean, 2 wr. Appl., locker, $167,200.
For Rent - Primrose 2 br, 2 wr. Avail Mar 1, $1,290/mo.
For Rent - 3 br house with a fin basement, garage. Avail Feb. $1,350/mo.
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RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/Eglinton, bright, attractive 2 bdrm, nr synagogue, ldry, prkg, $1200 incl. 486-8675

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bathurst/Sheppard, 2 bd., new appl, priv. ent, prkg, 633-0276.

Bathurst/Steeles, bsmnt, non smoker, suit 1, no pets, $500 incl., 905-881-3432.

Glencairn subway 1 br+ bsmt, n/smoker, washndry 781-1235.

Lawrence Plaza, one bdrm. bsmnt, redecorated throughout, $600 incl., Mickey, 222-4843.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/York Downs, bsmnt bach apt., n/smoker, 631-7738.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THESE BARGAINS ARE SOLD!
Skymark II: Upgraded, 2 b.r. + sol, 2 park. Reduced to $185K.
Skymark Classic: Open concept 2 b.r. + balc. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung**THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST,** 441-2003/24 hrs. on call. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

A FABULOUS BUY! Condo Yonge/Steeles, 3 bdrm., 2 baths, 2 pkg spaces, indoor pool, balcony, motivated vendor! Only $140,000. **SUE SILVERBERG 905-889-2200** Homelife/Bayview Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bathurst/Torresdale, lux. condo, 2 bdrm, sol, 2 bth, lrg liv/din, 5 appls, pool, Shabbos elev, indoor prkg, 416-229-9125.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bayview/Greenlane seeks n/smoking prof., share luxury condo $650 incl. 905-886-4563.

Cozy, 2 bdrm home, Bloor-Dufferin, $500, fem., 532-8949.

Need a roommate to share large 2 bdrm, 2 bth, condo-style apt, Yonge & Finch, 24 hr sec., Sabrina 416-730-9515.

Would like to share my 2 bdrm, 2 bth apt. in Don Mills with Canadian born or European lady, 416-467-5761.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Yonge-Lawrence, immed., quiet, n/smoker, student/fem., to share small, private bi-level house. Reno'd, lrg bach.-size space with priv. bth, sep. ent, brdlm, prkg, yard, lndry, cable, ref, $495 incl. Min 6 mo. term. Unique, must see. 488-8641.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, Deerfield, lrg 1-1 1/2 condo, fully reno'd, 4th flr, CAC, new appls, mirrors, patio, golf, extras. Worth $50K, asking $35K. 1-305-570-9401.

Century Village, West Palm Bch, 1 bdrm corner, 1 1/2 bth, CAC, $21,500 US, 787-6943.

LONGBOAT KEY, on the Gulf I SELL the **beach, bay or golf course** condos & homes. Call 1-800-354-8136 ask for **Janis Collier, Palmer Realty**

Palm Beach condo 2 bdrm, 2 bths, newly prof. decorated, South Ocean Blvd. 24 hr security, 2 balconies, with views of intercoastal & ocean, heated pool, $137,000 U.S. firm. 407-588-6382.

Surfside, N. Miami Bch, 1 bdrm conv, 2 bths, furn, ocean-front, nr. synag. 305-868-4671.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Lauderhill, 2 bdrm, 2 bths, all amenities, shopping, 2 mos. min., $1000 mo US, 536-2907.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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Call Judi Haber, Lang Realty Inc.
Avail. Immediately
1-800-766-7066

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson 4 bdrm apt, fully furn., Knesset view. From Feb. 1/96 mthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Netanya, luxury furn. 2 bdrm condo avail Jan. 15 to Mar. 15, $1000 mo. US. 905-731-1919.

185 OUT OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Palm Springs, resales, leases, 100s of vacation rentals to choose from. (800) GO2-PALM **"THE RENTAL CONNECTION"**

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Investors wanted or loan needed for Import & Export business. 416-657-1102.

Looking to purchase retail business or partnership. Fax: 905-669-8404.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

P/T office assistant, Thornhill Reform Jewish Org., Mon, Wed, Fri., Wordperfect req., Fax resume: 905-709-1895, attn: Helen

TELEFUNDRAISERS
Make a difference helping to raise funds for needy charities. We require friendly, outgoing people at our central location. Guaranteed hourly wage + bonus. Call now, 416-966-2300.

247 DAY CARE

Babysitting avail, full/part time, exp, refs., 4 mos & over, safe, warm home, kosher, Bathurst-Clark area call Barbara Goldwasser, 905-881-5433.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

2 Polish cleaning ladies with exp. avail, call 665-9241, eves.

Babysitting/cleaning, 9 - 2:30 pm, 486-0444, 785-5128 after 7

Cleaning lady available very good service, 766-6579.

Cleaning lady with exp. avail. Fri, Sat, & Sun. 416-444-6692.

Cleaning lady, exp., refs., avail Mon-Sat., Edyta, 244-7835.

Cleaning lady, offices, houses, apts, excel. refs. 416-241-5000.

Cleaning, apts, houses, sm offices, exp. Elizabeth 630-5927.

Exp. cleaning lady looking for day's work. 248-2464.

Exp. woman seeks position to work with elderly, call 650-1363.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
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- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

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Experienced cleaning lady available, speaks English & Polish, Margaret, 248-9511.

HCA, 10 yrs. exp, to care for elderly, handicapped, 249-7580.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Housekeeper, cook, live-in, mature, reliable. 416-285-4344

Lady, HCA, to care for elderly/infirm. Refs. live in/out, avail. immediately. 416-782-6888.

Live-out, reliable caregiver for elderly. Good companion, excellent cook. 416-663-4683.

Nanny/cleaning lady avail. part-time, refs. 416-248-6295.

Need a nanny? No finder's fee-Intern'l Domestics 651-2929.

P/T cleaning, care of elderly, exp., refs., 763-7594.

R & R Domestic Services
Employers to sponsor housekeeper/nanny from overseas free of charge. M. Rittner 416-661-4998, 416-661-8335.

Young, reliable honest woman available to clean houses & apts. Eva, 633-0455.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Companion/domestic, female, live-in for elderly lady, kosher home, refs., 481-1920.

Health Care Aide, wkends cert., exp. refs, bondable fem., kosher cooking & housework, for lady with dementia, physical strength, Enq imp. 255-0855.

Nanny req., 2 children, 3 yrs. & 2 mos, live in, 905-771-0199.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Cert. HCA, seeks F/T or P/T care of elderly, refs. 657-8430.

Experienced health care aide to care for elderly in their home, nights or day shift, live-out, refs. avail. 265-2130/253-6346

HCA, exp, for elderly, private care, priv. home, avail immed. 269-0726, S. Peters, after 6 pm.

HCA avail, care for elderly, home/institution. 905-686-7821.

HCA avail., live in or P/T, reas. rates, refs., 398-9118, lv. msge

Registered Practical Nurse (RNA), 16 yrs exp., seeks family for employment, can travel. 905-886-1844.

Health Care Aide with TLC for elderly, call 242-5702.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Alina's International Service
I can help you to find a partner in your life. Call Alina 736-9999 English, Russian, Hebrew. All ages.

Driver & car for seniors, appts. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable rates, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Singles Registry. Select your own dates by viewing biographies/photos. Over 900 members averaging an engagement every 7½ wks. 398-7068.

JEWISH CONNECTIONS
Meet people you would ***NEVER*** expect to find in an Introduction Service! 661-7154.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Community recreating Jewish life in the town of Burgpreppach/Unterfranken, Germany is searching for a picture of the synagogue. Please contact: A. Strigl, 425-7873.

270 PERSONALS

Loan/financial support needed for Jewish medical student, study at foreign university, practise in Canada. Box 6690 CJN.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Depressed man, 45, bearded, fat, unemployed and who doesn't want to be married is looking for female companionship. Box 154, Station P, Toronto, M5S 2S7.

Gentleman, recently widowed, retired, average height, average weight, in good health, non smoker, financially independent. Wishes to meet female counterpart 60+. Box 6692 CJN

If you are a Traditional Nice Guy, 60-69, who loves life, would you like to share same with me. Non smoker please. Box 6315 CJN.

Older male, unflappable, with empathy and wit, seeks exotic younger woman with panache and a flair for the unusual, for a close intimate relationship. Reply to Box 6548 CJN.

Prof., div., Jewish mom, rich in values, educ., intelligent with warmth, beauty & good life to share seeks smart, caring, honest man. 48+. Box 6689 CJN.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

"Twas brillig and the slivey toves
Did gyre and gymbol in the wabe.
All mimsey were the burogroves
And the nome roth outgrabe."
Reply to the shade of G.L. Dodgson,
If you dare!
Box 6691 CJN.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
All persons having claims against the estate of **Jack Gula**, late of 645 Castlefield Avenue, Apt. 622, Toronto, Ontario, who died on September 8, 1995, are hereby notified to send full particulars of their claim to the undersigned solicitors of the Estate on or before the 15th day of March, 1995 after which date the assets of the estate may be distributed having regard only to the claims of which the Estate shall then have notice. **Botnick & Botnick, Barristers & Solicitors**, Unit #53, 2300 Finch Ave. W., Weston, Ontario, M9M 2Y3.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greenberg - Atkins - Martin Atkins, son of Frances and the late Lee Atkins, wishes to announce his engagement to Erika, daughter of Jan and David Greenberg of Boca Raton, Florida, January 7. 1996.

330 OBITUARIES

Dear Jesse,

I am an 85-year-old woman who appears and acts much younger than her age. My husband, with whom I spent all of my waking hours, passed away last year and my only child died almost 10 years ago. I have grandchildren and great-grandchildren, however, they are spread over North America, and unfortunately, I rarely see them. Most of my friends are either in nursing homes or no longer alive.

I miss my husband terribly and since his death I have been somewhat of a recluse and depressed. As a couple we were always on the move, but were also content to be just the two of us. What should I do?

S. B.

Dear S. B.,

It sounds as though you and your late husband shared a special relationship. As you say living alone is painful. In fact, coping with bereavement is a difficult task and few people can do so alone. Seeking help is a sign of strength and can ultimately provide a means of coping with your loss.

There are resources available in your community. Firstly, I suggest contacting your local Jewish Family Services, synagogue or municipal community centre. They may refer you to a bereavement support group for seniors like yourself. Attending such a group can provide you with an opportunity to share your feelings with others experiencing a similar loss. Here you can attain the support and understanding you need, as well as learn how to cope during this difficult time.

You describe yourself as an active lady who is young at heart. Keep in mind your local community centre, YMHA and synagogue often offer seniors a wide variety of activities specifically geared to individual needs and interests. These can take the form of lectures, discussion groups, outings and various other recreational activities.

Finally, with your vitality and energy you might want to consider exploring volunteer work. You have a lot to offer in this regard and there exists a constant need for volunteers in the community.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

338 SHIVA CATERING

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9665 BAYVIEW AVE. (905) 508-7878

330 OBITUARIES

GRUNBERG, Samuel - On January 8, 1996, in Toronto, Samuel Grunberg, beloved husband of the late Sarah. Devoted father of Todd and his wife Sharon, and grandfather to Lee and Neil. He will be sadly missed. If desired, donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation will be appreciated.

330 OBITUARIES

Morris Weintraub on December 29, 1995, late of 3636 Bathurst St. #302
Samuel Webber on December 28, 1995, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W. #103
Moses Thalenberg on December 30, 1995, late of 345 Sherbourne St.
Gertrude Mandell on December 31, 1995, late of 56 Dunloe Rd.
Sylvia Fisher on December 31, 1995, late of 111 Ridelle Ave., #702
Ida Pulver on December 31, 1995, late of 645 Castlefield Ave. #615
Kael Shriar on December 31, 1995, late of 40 Homewood Ave. #2707
Mary Cogan on December 30, 1995, late of 3000 Bathurst St. #1512
Sandra Berger on January 1, 1996, late of 42 Kennard Ave.
Marion Smail on January 1, 1996, late of 333 Clark Ave. West #611
Illeane Segal on January 2, 1996, late of 29 Huntington Park Dr.
Abraham Nielkin on January 3, 1996, late of 3650 Bathurst St.
Margaret Lazarovits on January 3, 1996, late of 21 Helena Ave.

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Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
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This ad courtesy of "The Elegant Garage Sale"

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN SELLS FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (Eglinton) 767-1655

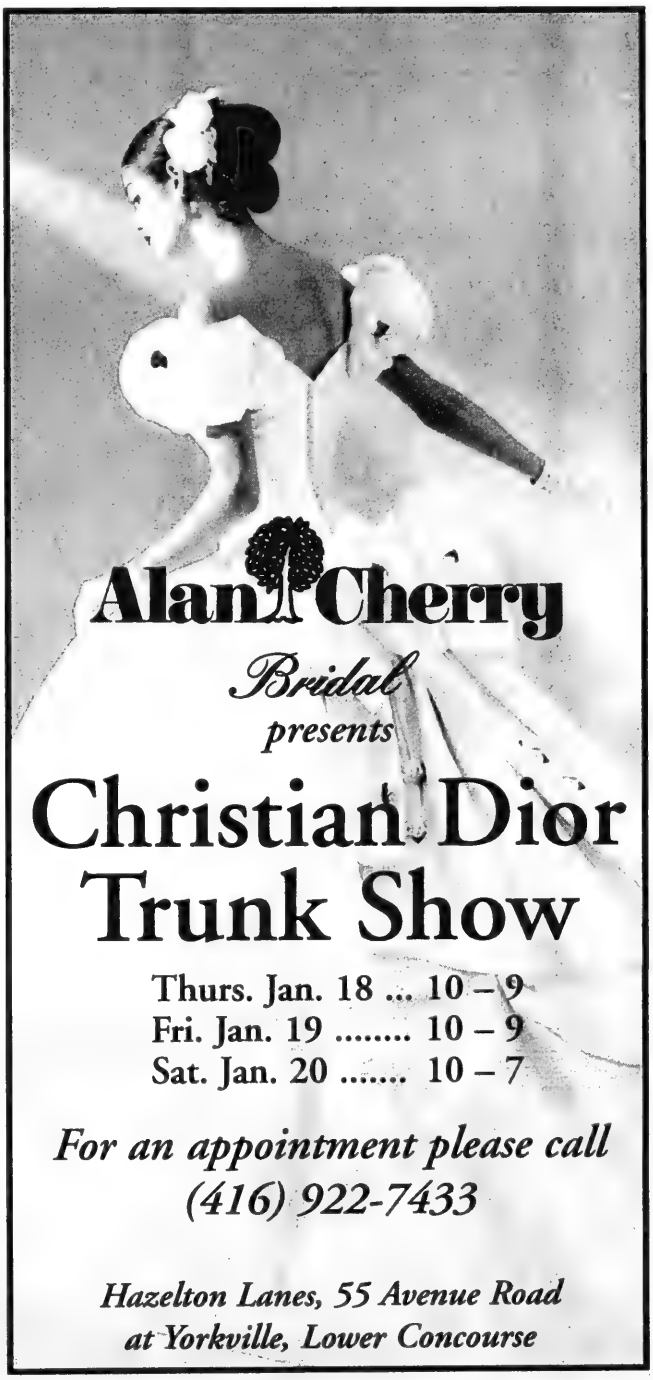
PSARI PLAKI (GREEK BAKED FISH)

3 lbs. bass or whitefish, sliced	1 cup tomatoes, whole
2 med. onions, chopped	1/2 cup white wine
1/4 cup parsley	1/2 cup tomato juice
1/2 tsp. garlic powder	1/3 cup olive oil
salt and pepper	1/4 cup lemon juice

Put fish in greased pan. Sprinkle with onions, parsley, garlic powder, salt & pepper. Top with tomatoes. Pour wine, juices, and oil over fish. Bake 1 hr. at 350°. Serves 6.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!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Thurs. Jan. 18 ... 10 – 9
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The Weekly FOOD GUIDE

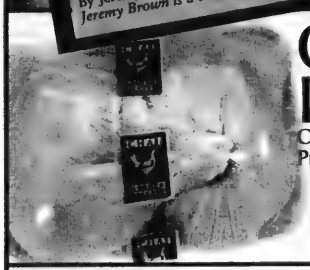
Torontonians rank high as consumers of coffee and the good news is that there is an increasing range of coffee for you coffee drinkers. You'll find a wide array of coffees, everything from General Foods' new International Coffee line to the well-known favourites, Folgers, Nabob, Maxwell House, Melita, Medaglia D'Oro and many others.

The General Foods line has 13 varieties, ranging from Belgium Hazelnut to Bavarian Chocolate in 225g to 240g tins, at $4.99.

We also have from Schirmer Kaffee, of Leipzig, "Traditions" coffee, fine ground for filters, in a beautiful 500g reusable container illustrated with a wintery scene of Dresden circa 1750 at $9.99.

And have you discovered the carousel of fancy coffee beans? Some 24 different kinds of roasted beans such as Bavarian Chocolate, Sambuca Espresso, to the newest treat, Black Forest Cherry Liqueur.

By Jeremy Brown
Jeremy Brown is a broadcaster and food writer.



CHICKEN LEGS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario, Fresh
1.69 LB
3.73 kg

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POTATO SALAD
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400 g Tub 1.49 EA

FIVE ROSES
FLOUR
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2% PARTLY SKIMMED MILK
4 L Bag 2.99 EA

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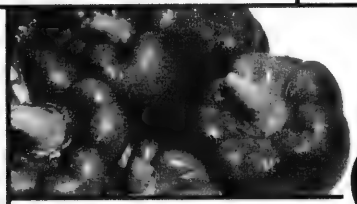
Product of Ontario
Cut from Canada A/AA Grades Beef, Fresh
4.49 LB
9.90 kg



GREEN PEPPERS
Product of USA, Florida
No. 1 Grade, Fresh
Extra Large Size
.99 LB
2.18 kg

SPINACH
Product of USA
Fresh
10 oz Cello Bag .99 EA

MASTRO, EXTRA VIRGIN
OLIVE OIL
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SHOPSY'S
•CORNED BEEF
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•ROAST BEEF
Freshly Sliced at the Deli 11.00 kg 4.99 LB

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ALL BEEF SALAMI
Freshly Sliced at the Deli 11.00 kg 4.99 LB

BNEI-DAROM
•PICKLED HOT PEPPERS
•CUCUMBERS IN BRINE
540 g Tin 1.99 EA

SUNSWEET
BREAKFAST PRUNES
680 g Bag 1.99 EA

OPEN WINDOW BAKERY
BAGELS
Assorted Varieties
Fresh
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BOSC
PEARS
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade, Fresh
Large Size
1.74 kg LB .79

CORTLAND
APPLES
Product of Ontario
Direct from Highland Farms Orchard, Fancy Grade
Fresh
10 lb Poly Bag 2.99 EA

CABBAGE
Product of Ontario
No. 1 Grade, Fresh
Extra Large Size
.99 EA

UNICO
BEANS
Assorted Varieties
540 ml Tin .79 EA

GOLD SEAL
SKIPJACK
CHUNK LIGHT TUNA
in water
170 g Tin .99 EA

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YOGURT
•Natural •Stirred •Naturally Light
•Fruit on the Bottom
Assorted Flavours
TRAY OF 12 - 4.99
175 g Tub 2/1.00

KELLOGG'S
SPECIAL K CEREAL
375 g Box 2.99 EA

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TOMATO KETCHUP
1 L Plastic Bottle 2.49 EA

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APPLE JUICE
Pure
1.36 L Tin
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KIWIFRUIT
Product of Italy
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Large Size
2.18 kg .99 LB

.25 LB
.55 kg

CAMPBELL'S
SOUP
Cream of Mushroom
•Chicken Noodle
•Vegetable
284 ml Tin
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The Canadian Jewish news

56 Pages | Thursday, January 25, 1996 | Shevat 4, 5756 | 75c

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Volunteer program, Out of the Cold, helps those less fortunate. *Page 3*

Spielberg project 'gets much stronger' in Toronto despite lukewarm start. *Page 5*

Coast to Coast

Free Trade: Ottawa correspondent, Richard Cleroux, examines the trade deal between Canada and Israel. *Page 17*

Israel, U.S.A & the World

Sheila Finestone blames 'vitriolic language' for Yitzhak Rabin's death. *Page 27*

TAB news

Paul Peregal's expressionist paintings throb with life and emotion. *Page 45*

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Gold Medal: Canucks grab gold at Pan Am Maccabi Games in Argentina. *Page 49*

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Election results as expected

By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — In the presidential election, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat garnered 88.1 percent of the vote, Mahmoud Abbas, the head of the Palestinian Central Elections Commission, said Sunday night.

Arafat's lone challenger, Samiha Khalil, won 9.3 percent of the vote, and 2.6 percent of the votes were disqualified.

People fired guns in the air and honked car horns on the streets to celebrate the victory.

By Sunday night, winners of most of the Palestinian Council's 88 seats in the council were known. Complete returns may not be ready until mid-week.

See related stories pgs. 25, 26 and editorial pg. 8

The final makeup of the council appears to be about 55 percent Fatah, 20 percent Fatah-linked independents, 15 percent other independents, six percent Islamic and four percent left-wing parties.

Carl Lidbom, head of a 650-person observer team that included representatives from the European Union, China, Russia and Canada, said early estimates showed that some 75 percent of eligible voters participated in the election.

Winners postponed celebrations until after the *iftar*, the festive meal that breaks the fast every evening during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which began Sunday.

Arafat joked Sunday about his landslide victory, suggesting a lower rate of approval would probably have looked more democratic.

"I was looking for 51 percent,"Arafat said after a meeting with former U.S. president Jimmy Carter, who led a 40-member election observer team.

The new Palestinian legislators include Hanan Ashrawi, a former Arafat spokesperson; chief Palestinian peace negotiator Ahmed Qreia; Saeb Erakat, who organized the elections; and Imad Falouji, who broke away from Hamas to run as an independent.

Observers of the elections called the polling a success, despite several irregularities. Carter said there were some problems in the voting, but not on a scale that would have altered the outcome.

CJC MEETS PERES

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres (right) met last week with Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) President Goldie Hershon and CJC Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen. The CJC delegation, in Israel for the 10th Global Assembly of the World Jewish Congress, also met with opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu and visited the grave of Yitzhak Rabin. Peres will be in Canada to attend the Canada-Israel Committee's annual conference on March 19.

Pizza to go!

CALGARY — Rabbi Allen Saks wasn't kidding when he longed for a kosher slice of New York.

Depressed from Calgary's frigid weather and missing the Jewishness of his native Manhattan, Rabbi Saks got a boost when he discovered a magazine ad in which his favorite old haunt, Broadway's Jerusalem 2 eatery, claimed to deliver kosher pizza anywhere in the United States within 24 hours.

He dialed the 1-800 number and asked for a 4,000-kilometre order. First, though, he had to explain where Calgary is.

The next day, Rabbi Saks, principal at the Akiva Academy, sank his teeth into the gooey, cheesy heaven.

He ordered 10 pizzas, which the restaurant cut into slices and packaged specially. Federal Express made the delivery.

The order cost $300 – over half for shipping and handling – but the rabbi insists it was worth it.

Intended 'not to kill'

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – In a new twist in the investigation into Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, the student who confessed to the murder told investigators last week that he had only intended to cripple Rabin in an effort to remove him from the political arena.

Yigal Amir made the statement during a recent interview conducted in his jail cell by two investigators who were gathering information for the Shamgar Commission, the state panel of inquiry into the Nov. 4 assassination.

"I am incapable of killing innocent people. My intention was not to kill [Rabin]," Amir reportedly said.

"Paralyzing him also would have been good. That's why I did not shoot him in the head and aimed for the spine."

The 25-year-old law student also told the investigators that even on the night of the Nov. 4 peace rally in Tel Aviv, he had not known whether he would be able to carry out his plan to shoot Rabin.

Amir has not yet entered a plea to the charges against him.

He is also being tried with his brother Hagai and friend Dror Adani on charges of conspiring to assassinate Rabin, of planning attacks against Arabs and of illegal possession of weapons. They were formally charged with the offences in Tel Aviv last week.

The judges in the case postponed the date for that trial until April 17. The three defendants have until Feb. 26 to enter their pleas.

The judges also ordered that Hagai Amir and Adani be held in custody until the conclusion of the legal proceedings against them.

During the recent hearing, the attorney for Hagai Amir stated that a well-known political activist in the territories had acted as a go-between for Yigal Amir to obtain rabbinic approval for the assassination.

The lawyer refused to name the alleged go-between.

The Israeli media reported that the person was Benny Katzover, a leading activist in the Yesha Council, which represents Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Katzover denied the claim, saying that he had met Yigal Amir a few times during protests in the territories, but that he had never been any kind of mediator.

INSIDE

Education: 15 pages of informative articles on Jewish education. Pages 29 to 43.

Arafat urged to amend covenant — Please see page 25

The News In Brief

CANADA

Alan Rose Fund Launched

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has established the Alan Rose Fund for International Human Dignity, in memory of the organization's former executive vice-president, who died last year.

Donations to the fund will help support lectures, publications, relief shipments to needy communities and other creative options, according to CJC president Goldie Hershon.

Summer Experience

TORONTO — Six outstanding science students will be chosen to represent Canada this summer at The Bessie F. Lawrence 28th International Summer Science Institute on the campus of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot from July 9 to Aug. 9.

The program is open to top students who will be entering university in September 1996 to pursue studies in science.

For more information call Edie Bayer at 416-733-9220. Application deadline is March 1.

ISRAEL

Orders for Rabin Medals

JERUSALEM – Orders for specially-struck medals honoring Yitzhak Rabin are being taken through the Canadian representative of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corp.

There will be two gold issues, one in 24 karats, the other in .750 fine gold (18 kt). Mintage of the two will be limited to orders received prior to Jan. 31.

Orders for a proof .999 silver must be received before March 31.

Bronze and copper-nickel editions, and sets are also available.

For information call 514-484-5201.

Amir Petition Rejected

JERUSALEM — Tel Aviv District Court has rejected a petition by Yigal Amir to postpone his plea hearing for three months or until the Shamgar Commission releases its findings.

Amir, through his lawyer Jonathan Goldberg, argued that conclusions reached by the commission may influence the case.

Bill Defeated

JERUSALEM — Tsomet's bill calling for the early dissolution of the Knesset and elections in July was rejected last week 52-31, with five abstentions.

Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal, who spoke on behalf of the government, proposed enacting a law which would require elections to take place no later than 45 days after an early dissolution of the Knesset.

1995 Casualties

JERUSALEM — Fifty-one soldiers fell in action during 1995, 23 of them in Lebanon, according to the annual report submitted by OC Manpower Branch Maj.-Gen. Gideon Sheffer to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence committee.

The number of suicides, 43, was the same as in 1994. Twenty soldiers were killed in accidents of different types.

Compensation Sought

TEL AVIV — Norway's tiny Jewish population wants the Norwegian government to pay for Jewish property seized by the country's Nazi colaborationist regime, according to the chief rabbi.

Internet Censorship

JERUSALEM — Hoping to combat unlimited use of the Internet by hate groups, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre is asking Internet access providers to censor materials that "promote racism, anti-Semitism, mayhem and violence."

Internet providers have a moral obligation not to supply hate groups with a platform for "their destructive propaganda," the centre reported in Los Angeles.

77,000 Olim In 1995

JERUSALEM — Last year some 77,000 olim came to Israel, according to figures from Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal.

Of this total, 65,000 arrived from the former Soviet Union.

Transport Agreement

JERUSALEM — Jordan and Israel signed a long-awaited transport agreement last week at a ceremony at Beit Gavriel, on the shores of Lake Kinneret.

Under the agreement, it will be possible, within a month, to drive directly into Jordan via existing crossing points at an estimated cost of $35 to $50 a person.

Meeting Palestinians

JERUSALEM — Despite strong objections from Israeli officials, Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van Mierlo met last week with Palestinian officials in eastern Jerusalem.

Mierlo's talks at Orient House, the Palestine Liberation Organization's de facto headquarters in eastern Jerusalem, disrupted what was otherwise described as an amicable and productive visit to Israel by a delegation led by Dutch Prime Minister Wim Kok.

Settlers Removed

JERUSALEM — Israeli security officials last week forcibly removed Jewish settlers who were living illegally in apartments in a Kiryat Arba neighborhood.

Police broke down doors and windows to enter the buildings, which had been earmarked to house border police after the Israel Defence Force redeployment from parts of Hebron this spring.

WORLD

Pope's Message

ROME — Pope John Paul II rejoiced in the progress of Middle East peace, but warned that differences about the status of Jerusalem could put the peace process in jeopardy.

In his annual State of the World address, the pontiff also condemned anti-Semitism and deplored the longstanding tensions between Christians and Jews.

The pope also reiterated the Vatican position that Jerusalem should be a unique, multireligious entity.

Weizman Visits Germany

BERLIN — Israeli President Ezer Weizman, on a four-day visit last week to Germany, said it was difficult for him to be here, where he heard "voices crying to me from the earth" from the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

The trip is the Israeli president's first to the reunited Germany. The visit broke a deadlock over financing the $137.2 million in annual pensions for East European Jews.

Yozma

NEW YORK — The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel will run its Yozma internship program for the second year.

For the fall of 1996, Yozma will expand to seven full-time, 10-month internship positions within the Jewish community for eligible alumni and finalists of the Bronfman Youth Fellowship program.

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Temple volunteers, students help homeless

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Most people reading this article today can count on having the following:

- A roof over their heads;
- A bed;
- A meal;
- A winter coat, boots and gloves.

For Toronto's homeless, such amenities are harder to come by. One response to what has become a growing problem is Out of the Cold, a volunteer-run, privately funded program held at some two dozen Metro churches on a rotating basis. At least two locations are open nightly from the beginning of November to the end of March.

This year for the first time, a synagogue has joined the program. Every Monday, a contingent from Holy Blossom Temple heads to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, just east of Roy Thomson Hall, to offer hands-on assistance.

Of 150 temple volunteers, 30 to 40 show up each week. They are joined by a dozen students — from a pool of almost 50 — from the social action committee of the University of Toronto's Jewish Student Union.

Working in shifts, together with the church volunteers, they cook, set tables, serve, clean up and socialize with up to 200 dinner guests, an assorted crew of the down-on-their-luck and the hopelessly destitute.

It's just after 6 p.m. The doors have opened and guests (the only term the volunteers use) are signed in one at a time. About half will spend the night.

They range in age from early 20s to 60ish. About 90 per cent are men. Some are obviously needy, with missing front teeth or shabby clothes reeking of alcohol. A few are indistinguishable from the volunteers. There are natives and people of color. Two guests in recent months have identified themselves as Jewish.

Many of the faces have become familiar to Rev. Michael Barnes in the four years St. Andrew's has been part of the program. A big, burly man with a full greying beard, he greets the guests warmly, but demands compliance with house rules.

"There's no smoking and no drinking. If they have a bottle, we'll take it from them and give it back in the morning," he states. Weapons are also prohibited, but he's never seen any, he adds.

On entering, guests can browse the racks of donated clothes — among them this evening two fur coats — or help themselves to hearty sandwiches to take the edge off their appetites. A more substantial hot meal will be served later.

The outlook is grim for Toronto's poor this year. There are an estimated 3,800 homeless people, and recent provincial welfare cuts have made even cheap housing increasingly unaffordable.

Student volunteers Alana Balaban (left) and Naomi Rifkind share a lighthearted moment with two guests at the Out of the Cold program. [Frances Kraft photo]

"It's a growing problem," says Rabbi Dow Marmur. "We as citizens have a responsibility [to respond]. Holy Blossom has a long tradition of social involvement. It's kind of natural for us."

"This is supposed to be our mentoring year," said psychologist Freda Muscovitch, a member of the temple's social action committee and the driving force behind its involvement in Out of the Cold. She now serves as Out of the Cold project leader and is working on a feasibility study examining ways in which Holy Blossom can run an independent Out of the Cold project next year.

Although congregation members responded enthusiastically to the call for volunteers, there was apprehension about working so closely with the homeless, said Muscovitch. Few if any street people are seen in the area of the synagogue, on Bathurst Street south of Eglinton Avenue.

After one session downtown, volunteers' preconceptions vanished, Muscovitch noted.

"Street people does not mean being a thief or alcoholic," says Carlos, a 35-year-old El Salvadoran who's been homeless for two years, working odd jobs when he can get them. "I prefer to eat here than to rob a store and go to jail."

For Terry, a personable 33-year-old, the future has become brighter. He just landed a job at an automotive plant. It's not his first time at St. Andrew's and he chats with two student volunteers like they are old friends.

"These girls are smiling, they're nice and they help everybody," he says. "All the [volunteers] make you feel pretty good. That's important."

It's apparent that street life eats at one's dignity. "You learn to defend yourself pretty good," said Terry, who found that his relationship with his girlfriend sparked resentment in some situations.

Ken's future — in his eyes — looks bleaker than Terry's. "I have no future," he said bluntly. Embittered by 15 months on the street, where he was the target of a racially motivated attack, he is well-spoken and obviously educated.

After leaving university — two semesters short of a degree — he landed a job from which he was eventually laid off, he said. Now off the street, but working sporadically like Carlos, his future remains uncertain.

"Out of the Cold accepts that some of these people will remain homeless," says Muscovitch. "It doesn't attempt to change society, but it does give respite."

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- Talmud

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Seeking to serve the community

Recently, I was asked to speak about the challenges faced by *The CJN* in providing news of Israel to the Jewish community. I used the opportunity to explain to the audience the parameters within which *The CJN* operates. To complement the column I wrote in this space two weeks ago on Key Issues Facing the Jewish Press, it may be worthwhile to repeat that explanation.

As all publications, *The CJN* functions within two distinct but different types of operational parameters. The first are the policy parameters established by the Board of Directors. The second are the de facto, pragmatic considerations arising from the day-to-day business of running a paper and establishing annual budgets.

The policy parameters are not theoretical guidelines. They are an actual statement of the Board of Directors committed to paper. The basic policy and purpose of *The CJN* is "to serve the Jewish people in Canada, in Israel and in all its habitations." Everything about the paper starts from this point. We regard this mandate as a high responsibility.

Of course, how the newspaper truly serves the community is by attempting to inform it in the best, most reliable and most comprehensive manner that it can. The better the community is informed, the more likely it is to be healthy, strong, vibrant, and confident, or, as the directors have expressed, "spiritually alive, intellectually alert, socially responsible and economically secure, and thus a great asset to Canada and to Jewish communities throughout the world, including Israel."

In fulfilment of the paper's mandate to better inform the community, covering the news and providing instructive and interesting features for the readers, the editor has a wide discretion. Assuming the editor acts with integrity, awareness and sensitivity, that discretion is fettered, essentially, only by the second set of parameters, namely, the de facto ones.

What are these de facto parameters?

First and foremost is the fact that the paper is a weekly. I commented on this factor two weeks ago in this space. "The stories and columns are generally written at least one week before they are read. Therefore, to compete with television, radio and the dailies, we must cover the stories which are of special interest to our community, as well as provide a different, more focused angle to the stories that these media do cover."

The second factor is the paper's size. The Toronto edition of *The CJN* averages between 40 and 48 pages each week. The Montreal edition is slightly smaller. As a result, it is physically impossible to publish each week all the stories that "deserve" to be published. Indeed, many more stories are written than appear on the pages of the paper. But there is simply not room to print them all.

This is unfortunate for a number of important reasons, but two are especially compelling. We are unable to provide an even wider menu of news, stories and features to our readers. And we are unable to cover the many interesting events emanating from the hundreds of organizations in the community. Inevitably, we must disappoint many organizations whose news stories fail to appear in our pages.

We attempt to deal fairly and evenhandedly with all the organizations. It is therefore the policy of the paper that we will not provide news coverage both in advance of the event and of the event itself, unless it contains an overwhelming news value. This may occur, for example, as a result of the identity of a speaker or the subject matter of the event or the numbers involved in the event. When we do have space available in the paper, we try to provide coverage of an event either in advance or following the event, but not both.

The core activity of *The CJN* is providing the news credibly and comprehensively. This will never be compromised.

But there are readers whom we have not yet "reached" and to whom we believe we have something stimulating, entertaining, informative and occasionally, even inspiring to offer. Thus, *The CJN* is a work-in-progress, experimenting gradually with new ideas, new features and new columns for the readers.

The mandate of the paper, as ordained by its directors, is to inform the community as well as it possibly can, to help ensure that it is "spiritually alive, intellectually alert, socially responsible and economically secure."

This is not only their instruction to the editor; it is also the editor's commitment to *The CJN*'s readers.

* * *

Worthwhile Reading

Slavery and Jews: exchange of correspondence, the *Atlantic Monthly*, January 1966

Four individuals correspond with Winthrop D. Jordan, the author, in the Sept.'95 issue of the *Atlantic Monthly* of a review of a book published by The Nation of Islam entitled *The Secret Relationship Between Blacks and Jews,* purporting to prove Jewish involvement in and responsibility for the black slave trade.

In his article, Jordan generally dismisses the historicity of the work. The letter writers, however, take Jordan to task for even reviewing the work, thereby lending it the stature which might suggest that it warrants review in the first place.

Even without having read the initial Jordan article, the exchange is interesting and informative. "Some books are just not worth talking about, and some books are not worth the dignity of a scholarly review. Some books deserve only the dignity of the big round file. *The Secret Relationship* is one of them." MBD

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IN SUPPORT OF YIDDISH

About 100 people attended a recent parlor meeting in support of the Yiddish Studies program at the University of Toronto. Shown, from left, are Marvin Schiff, a member of the Committee for Yiddish Studies at U of T; program director Prof. Jacques Kornberg; and committee chair Bayla Chaikof.

Greater Toronto Area

Holocaust survivors respond to Spielberg's project

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The number of Holocaust survivors in Toronto responding to director Steven Spielberg's videotaping of wartime testimony is increasing.

As of last week, the number of interviews done here surpassed 1,000, "a definite improvement" over a few months ago, when the Los Angeles-based organizers of the global project said the response in this city was disappointing.

The taping of survivors' testimony has "gotten much stronger" in Toronto, said Ari Zev, director of research and training for Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation.

"We want to stay [in Toronto] as long as we can," he said.

There had been talk of shutting down the project here if things did not pick up.

The foundation was set up here and in other cities in late 1994 as part of the director's plan to commit to film the stories of as many Holocaust survivors as possible.

Toronto was among the first cities to have an office. The others were New York, Miami, Jerusalem and Los Angeles. Since then, taping has also taken place in Sydney, Paris, Warsaw, St. Petersburg and a dozen other cities.

The 1991 federal census showed there were just under 13,000 Holocaust survivors in the Greater Toronto Area.

That means just over seven percent of Toronto survivors have come forward to be taped for the Spielberg project. Los Angeles is the leader in the number of interviews done, at just over 2,000. New York is a close second and Toronto third overall.

About a dozen interviews have taken place in Montreal. There are some 800 survivors registered for taping, from cities across Canada.

The number of interviews done worldwide is approaching 10,000.

But Janet Klein, the foundation's Toronto regional coordinator, told *The CJN*, "We would like more [local interviews]. The window of opportunity is closing quickly."

The Toronto office conducts an average of 20 interviews a week, she noted.

The foundation eschews advertising and overt publicity. The project depends mainly on media exposure and word of mouth.

Klein noted that some survivors may not want to repeat their stories after they have already done so for the Toronto Holocaust Remembrance Committee's Oral History Project, which has recorded the experiences of some 400 Toronto survivors over the past 10 years.

But she's imploring more survivors to come forward, in order to make the global project as complete as possible.

The project employs trained volunteers as interviewers and state-of-the-art video and sound equipment.

Trained volunteers

Many will recall Spielberg's 1994 Oscar night pledge "not to allow the Holocaust to remain a footnote in history."

Spielberg himself is said to have contributed $3 million to the project. Additional funding has come from MCA-Universal, NBC, The Wasserman Foundation and Time-Warner.

The foundation estimates that the entire project will cost more than $60 million (US).

Volunteers, many of whom are survivors themselves, staff the toll-free telephone lines in the foundation's headquarters near Universal Studios in Los Angeles.

Once a survivor registers with the headquarters, the name is given to a local office, where the interview is arranged.

When an interview is completed, the tape is sent to Los Angeles, where several types of copies are made, including high-quality CD-ROM.

Cataloguers watch each interview, cross-referencing key words and subjects — such as specific camps, ghettos and towns.

Interviews with survivors are supplemented by documents, photo albums, maps and optional appearances by the survivor's family. None of the testimony is edited and every survivor receives a free VHS tape of his or her interview.

The video archives will be available at five different institutions: New York's Museum of Jewish Heritage; The Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles; the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington; the Fortunoff Archive for Holocaust Testimonies at Yale University; and Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.

Spielberg's goal is to collect and process 50,000 testimonies by the end of 1997 and have an online, multimedia database of close to 150,000 interviews by 2004.

The number of survivors in the world is estimated at between 250,000 and 350,000. Zev believes it may be as high as 400,000.

Those working on the project say that in a few years, all the data will be available via home computers.

Plans also call for the production of documentaries, books and CD-ROM applications for schools, in which students will virtually "walk through" a concentration camp barrack, see different faces and click on a face to hear that person's story.

The visual history project includes all Jews who lived under Nazi rule in Europe between 1935 and 1945. Under this broad definition, Jews who left Germany as refugees before the outbreak of war are also classified as survivors.

In addition, Spielberg said he wanted to interview Righteous Gentiles who hid or rescued Jews, and Allied soldiers who took part in the liberation of the camps, in order to "see the Holocaust from every single perspective."

To register, call the toll-free number at 1-800-661-2092. The mailing address is P.O. Box 3168, Los Angeles, Calif, U.S.A., 90078-3168.

— *With files from JTA.*

Collecting Yiddish books

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It was a lucky day for Robert Goldenberg, volunteer *zamler* (book collector) for the National Yiddish Book Centre in Amherst, Mass.

He picked up seven large cartons of Yiddish books that had lain unread in the attic of a Toronto home. In the boxes, he discovered the complete works of Sholem Aleichem (28 volumes), 10 volumes of Mendele Mocher Seforim, the works of Jules Verne in English and Karl Marx's *Das Kapital* in Yiddish.

Another time, Goldenberg, 60, a retired high school teacher, drove in from his Fort Erie home to collect 12 volumes of Yiddish plays, including several by S. Anski, author of *The Dybbuk*.

As the regional *zamler*, Goldenberg and his wife, Penina, don't mind driving to Toronto and any reasonable distance beyond, to collect books for the centre, which distributes them free to teachers and students in many countries, including England, Spain, Italy, Germany and Russia.

"I will pick up and deliver the books to the centre at no charge," Goldenberg said. "We visit the centre often and besides, we have a friend in Buffalo whose daughter works in Amherst."

In fact, the Goldenbergs belong to the Mamaloshen Maven Yiddish conversational group in Buffalo, and like to come to events sponsored by the Friends of Yiddish in Toronto.

His car has *zamler* on the licence plate, while his wife, a well known Yiddish singer, has *klezmer* on hers.

"The only people who have ever asked us what our license plates mean are customs officers at the border," Goldenberg said.

The Goldenbergs may be contacted at 15 Highland Ave., Fort Erie, Ont., L2A 2X6. Phone 905-871-1098.

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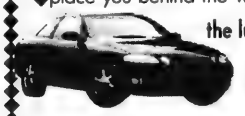

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Greater Toronto Area

Judges named to Ontario Court, Court of Appeal

Michael Moldaver, Marc Rosenberg join appellate division

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Practising law was something Michael Moldaver always wanted to do and something his parents always encouraged him to pursue.

His older brother Joel preceded him into the legal profession and Moldaver "always looked up to him as someone I admired and followed."

A longtime specialist in criminal law, Moldaver joins colleagues Marc Rosenberg of Toronto and Louise Charron of Ottawa as recently-appointed judges of the Ontario Court of Appeal.

Prior to the appointment, Moldaver served as a judge of the Ontario Supreme Court.

Before joining the bench in 1990, Moldaver practised criminal law in Toronto. From 1979-83 he was with the firm Greenspan, Gold, Moldaver.

Michael Moldaver

"I was absolutely thrilled, ecstatic and honored" to be named to the appeal court, Moldaver told *The CJN*. "For a kid from Peterborough, it's a dream come true.

"I had hoped for it. I love the law and I love working with the law. Hopefully, I will help in the development of the law in this province," he said.

Rosenberg, who has practised law since 1976, was working as counsel for the Ministry of the Attorney General, public law and policy section when he was named to the High Court.

He has lectured on evidence at Osgoode Hall Law School since 1986 and he has headed the section on criminal procedure for the Bar Admission Course since 1991.

From 1987 to 1990, Rosenberg served as director of the Criminal Lawyers Association and he has collaborated with Greenspan in editing *Martin's Criminal Code* since 1978.

The appointments of Moldaver and Rosenberg bring the number of appellate judges to 18. They were sworn in on Jan. 26.

Moldaver comes from a family steeped in the Jewish tradition. "Our family was Conservative and we went to shul Friday night and Saturday morning," he said.

Joan Lax

His father, Irving, was in the scrap metal business and his mother, Ruth, was active in home and school committees and the local synagogue, the Beth Israel.

Moldaver's brother, Joel, is past president of the shul, while a second brother, Pesach, is a teacher at the Beth Jacob seminary for girls.

His uncle, Isadore Black, is a community leader in Peterborough while another uncle, Aaron Black, and his cousin Howard Black, are active at the Beth Tzedec Congregation in Toronto.

"Obviously I have a great affinity to the Jewish community," Moldaver said.

* * *

About 25 years ago, Joan Lax was teaching school at Northview Collegiate and considering a career change.

Her husband, Clifford, was practicing law as were several of her male cousins and "it seemed this would be a challenging career to pursue."

Lax applied to law school in Toronto and was called to the bar in 1976. After practising for 10 years and serving as assistant dean of law at the University of Toronto for another 10, Lax was recently named a judge of the Ontario Court of Justice (General Division).

"I felt great excitement," she said on hearing of the appointment. "Also great fear. It's a tremendous responsibility. Being a judge is being a public servant. I feel I have a responsibility to the people of Ontario, to serve them well, to be fair and compassionate."

Lax specialized in civil litigation while a partner at the firm of Weir and Foulds. In 1986, she took the assistant dean position at the U of T, where she also lectured on courtroom techniques.

In 1991, she was elected a bencher of the Law Society and she has chaired its committee that oversees Legal Aid clinics.

Her husband, Clifford, serves as president of the Advocates Society, which made for a situation that must have been unique in the annals of law in Ontario.

Traditionally, the president of the society addresses new judges when they are sworn in and this time, the president's spouse was among those being addressed.

Asked whether any friendly rivalry related to their profession had ever developed between the spouses, Joan said, "We've been married 27 years. We've learned to share a lot of things, a home, a family, a profession and one another."

Members of a Toronto synagogue, the Laxes are also supporters of the Baycrest Centre.

Correction

We inadvertently omitted a key word in the concluding paragraph of Martin Lockshin's essay "Orthodox Jews must do some soul searching" in last week's issue. It should have read: "Orthodoxy should take steps to dissociate itself from its practitioners and leaders who advocate and teach positions that might lead to vigilante behavior. This should be done **not** only in order to make it easier for people like me to identify with the group. It should also be done before another Goldstein or Amir arises from Orthodox ranks..." We apologize to the author and to the readers.

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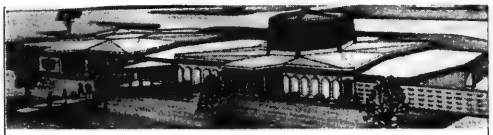

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Shalom Food Project funds children's breakfasts

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Breakfast, courtesy the Shalom Food Project.

TORONTO — "I always knew I could send people to a church," says Miriam Kalushner, remembering her experience as a hotline volunteer about four years ago for the non-profit organization FoodShare of Toronto, on whose board she also served.

When callers asked where the nearest food bank was, Kalushner was troubled by the lack of synagogue locations.

"I felt it was important for Jews to have a [hands-on] presence in the anti-hunger movement."

(Although Mazon Canada was formed in 1986 as "a Jewish response to hunger," its main function is to fund hands-on responses such as food banks, not to operate them.)

While Kalushner referred callers to food banks when appropriate, FoodShare focused more on giving people an alternative, with projects like breakfast clubs and community kitchens.

"Food banks are very much a band-aid situation," says Kalushner.

With all that in mind, Kalushner became the driving force behind the Shalom Food Project, which initiated and continues to fund the Plaut Manor Breakfast Club.

The club is housed in Plaut Manor, a 97-unit subsidized apartment building on Eglinton Avenue near Keele Street, that was a project of the social action committee of Holy Blossom Temple.

Since it began in April 1994, the club has provided breakfast three days a week for one to two dozen children who live in the building. There is a nominal fee and no child is ever turned away.

Breakfast always includes cold cereal, fresh fruit, milk and juice, followed by a cooked entree such as pancakes or eggs on toast. Sometimes the cook bakes muffins.

"When we can, we try to send them off with a snack," said Kalushner.

A paid cook and a team of volunteers, all of whom live in the building, run the program.

"We wanted to offer a program which would empower people," says Kalushner. Tenants who are involved include senior citizens, the physically and mentally disabled and single mothers.

"Welfare cuts will have an enormous impact on the need. This is why we want to raise more money," Kalushner adds, noting that a second project is in the works.

Although the tenants have done some of their own fundraising, the Shalom Food Project provides the greatest amount through private donations, a grant from the provincial government's child nutrition program and another from Mazon.

Darchei Noam Congregation has collected a "sizable" amount for them, and Loblaws has been a corporate donor of needed supplies.

The program costs approximately $600 to $700 a month to run.

"They are beginning to get donations themselves. For them to run it completely on their own would be our ultimate success," says Kalushner.

Jews part of Buddhist groups

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jews make up 30 percent of some Buddhist groups in the United States; however, the actual number of Jews who have switched to Buddhism is not that large, an expert said here recently.

Roger Kamenetz, a well-known poet, was one of eight Jews who went to Dharamsala, the exile headquarters in northern India of the Dalai Lama of Tibet, at the request of the Dalai Lama, who wanted to know the secret of Jewish survival in exile.

An Orthodox rabbi, Irving Greenberg, and his wife, Blu Greenberg, an Orthodox feminist, were among the group, as was Paul Mendes-Flohr, professor of Modern Hebrew Thought at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, who brought a Torah as a gift.

Kamenetz, a slim, bearded professor of English at Louisiana State University, spoke to a sold-out audience of 250, mostly young people, at North York Central Library, under the auspices of Kolel, a liberal learning centre.

"His message is very important to me," said Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Kolel director.

Thirty per cent of the American Jews in Buddhism (JUBUs as he referred to them) are academics, Kamenetz said.

In his book, *Jews in the Lotus*, Kamenetz wrote he is not a Buddhist, but his research into eastern spirituality has changed him from a secular Jew to one interested in prayer.

Asked at the meeting why Jews are attracted to Buddhism, he said, "Jews do not feel as threatened in taking on Buddhism as in converting to Christianity."

The Dala Lama's advice to the U.S. group, Kamenetz said, was to open wider the doors of Judaism and apply its traditions in a way to bring more benefit to Jews.

Jews need the equanimity offered by Buddhism and there are many ways that Judaism and Buddhism can benefit from each other, he said.

He hedged his answer to a woman who asked if it is possible to be a Buddhist and a Jew.

"A more interesting question is what new opportunities for Judaism are there in Buddhism?" he said.

The Dalai Lama was well aware of the differences in the Jewish delegation, which included members of the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform wings, Kamenetz said, because there are similar differences among his own followers.

"At one point, he turned to consult with others in his retinue," Kamenetz said, "and smiling, he turned back to us and said, 'They agree with me, they're the Orthodox ones.' "

When a Dalai Lama aide stressed that the Tibetan leader favors decorum in discussions and long pauses between replies, Kamenetz said, "He was told that we Jews have a signal when we're going to speak — we interrupt."

On a more serious note, he said the delegation fell silent when the Dalai Lama asked about the role of the Diaspora now that there is a State of Israel.

Kamenetz said he was asked to join the group visiting the Dalai Lama because of his lifelong friendship with Dr. Marc Lieberman, a Buddhist and San Francisco ophthalmologist.

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Election results

Election day in the West Bank and Gaza came and went without disruption. As of this writing, the precise results are not known, but based upon early reports, Yasser Arafat and his candidates won the vast majority of votes cast by almost one million voters, representing close to 90 percent of those eligible to vote. The 88-person legislative council will be comprised mostly of Fatah-endorsed members from the PLO. Arafat is the council's *ra'ees*.

These results were expected. The election process imposed by the Palestinian Authority and the virtual absence of any real opposition candidates essentially ensured the electoral outcome. Thus, to the constitutionally mature cultures of the West, the elections may have been less than a full exercise in democratic freedom. But to the constitutionally embryonic culture of the West Bank and Gaza, it was more than has ever been experienced there before. Thus the truly significant result of the elections is not in the breakdown of final voting patterns, but rather in the possible breaking away, eventually, from the non-voting, non-democratic, violent, despotic and dictatorial practices that rule throughout the region. To be sure, elections for a legislative council of circumscribed domestic authority by a constituency without democratic experience or memory does not transform that society into one which is loyal to the rule of law and democratic principles. And it certainly does not allow its neighbors, yet, to forgo the construction of fences. Therefore, to put too fine a polish on the holding of the elections would be a form of self-deception; but to ignore even the minimal degree of polish that these elections represent, would be a form of self-imposed blindness.

In the recent issue of the *Jerusalem Report*, Isabel Kershner reports that "some Palestinians, as well as foreign observers, are convinced that the elections, and the council that will be formed, hold the seeds of a new era of Palestinian democracy." Only time will tell whether seeds of democracy were indeed planted last Saturday and if so, whether Palestinian behavior proved to be a hospitable climate.

Time has proven, though, that the inclination to go to war is diminished between democracies. Thus, it is in the interests of everyone striving for peace in the region to try to ensure that the seeds of Palestinian democracy take root and hold, though it may take many years.

The newly elected *ra'ees* of the legislative council can prove to the world, and more importantly, to Israelis, that he is indeed interested in nurturing democracy and not simply in planting a dangerous irredentist state alongside Israel's narrow waist, by taking immediate steps to revoke all the offensive and hateful provisions of the Palestinian National Covenant calling for Israel's destruction. He has promised to do so within 60 days of the election.

The elections have been held. The soil has been made ready. New winds are blowing. The sun of a better dawn has arisen. We are all watching.

Election coverage

We cannot conclude our observations regarding last week's election without commenting on its particularly disappointing coverage in last Sunday's *Toronto Star*. The *Star*'s reporter decided to make purported Israeli army intimidation a key focus of the story rather than the elections themselves. He began the second paragraph of his story with a bold assertion about " Israeli army intimidation in this tense city." In the middle of the story, he quickly but revealingly glossed over a violent incident directed at a young Jewish girl. "In Hebron, known as a Hamas stronghold, a Palestinian stabbed a 15-year-old settler, lightly wounding her." The absurdity of referring to the 15-year-old as a "settler" betrayed the writer's bias. For him the term "settler" is akin to "outlaw," or worse. We are left to wonder, what is the writer's cut-off age to qualify a child as being "settler"? If a 15-year-old is a settler, would a child of 12 or 10 or 8 years old also be a "settler"?

By presenting as fact what should have been presented as allegation, by failing to provide any, let alone appropriate context for the presence of such large numbers of soldiers in Hebron, by focusing the story on and filing it from the most delicate location in the West Bank, and by using "loaded" vocabulary, the reporter betrayed his own biases. He thus left his story bereft of the bare minimum required of good reporting: balance, fairness and integrity.

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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Jan. 22, 1847, Reverend Abraham de Sola, newly arrived in Montreal from England, began his tenure as rabbi of the Shearith Israel Spanish and Portuguese Congregation, a post he held until his death in 1882. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

'Still missing the point'

In its editorial of Dec. 21, 1995, entitled "In 1996," *The CJN* cautioned us that "If Quebec separates, Canada ends." This, it continued, "must be stated over and over again, because some people are still missing the point." An article published in the same issue of the paper, "We must prevent the destruction of Canada," also repeated this warning.

Although I live in that part of Canada which doubtless would feel the effects of Quebec independence more severely than any other part of the country, I am indeed one of those "still missing the point." Even if Quebec were to depart, Canada would, in size, population, economic strength and various other indicators, remain one of the world's larger and more prosperous states, comparable to, say, Australia. There is no reason to assume it could not survive simply because one of its 10 provinces chose to go its own way.

Do you mean to suggest that Canadians in the rest of the country cannot conceive of retaining their sense of nationhood without Quebec? Are you implying — for this seems to follow logically from your premise — that we would be absorbed by the United States? Do you really think Vancouver would immediately become indistinguishable from Seattle, Toronto from Buffalo, and Halifax from Boston, in a Canada without Quebec? If so, I can only conclude that you must think anglophone Canada a very weak hothouse plant, one so delicate and artificial it cannot survive without the occasional infusion of Québécois francophone culture.

On the contrary, without the endless and divisive "national unity" debate that has preoccupied us for some three decades, to the detriment of other pressing economic and social issues, a case could be made that Canada would become a stronger nation, and not at all one which would disintegrate and presumably, become absorbed by our southern neighbor. We would be spared the ceaseless quest for more powers by Quebec nationalists — including those in the provincial Liberal party as well as *péquistes* — and endless constitutional wrangling.

In any case, it is rather late in the day, after 30 years of accommodating and placating these people, to suddenly worry about "losing the country." The Chrétien government, like every one of its Liberal and Tory predecessors since Lester Pearson's administration, adheres to the doctrine of Canada as a compact between "two founding nations." As anyone who has taken an introductory course in political science is aware, being defined as a nation in the modern world, includes the right to "national self-determination," or sovereign statehood. Lucien Bouchard, for one, has learned this lesson well.

As for our Jewish compatriots in Quebec: I am a former Montrealer, who in 1982 co-authored an article in the *Jerusalem Post* regarding the potential crisis facing our community in that province, for which I was not only denounced by the nationalist newspaper *Le Devoir*, but also chastised by the leadership of the Quebec region of Canadian Jewish Congress; they were pressured into denying that there was any serious problem facing Jews and other non-French Canadian "ethnics." I drew the appropriate conclusions and, like thousands of other Montreal Jews, left the province.

Prof. Henry Srebrnik
University of Prince Edward Island
Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Education 'craps' out at casino

I am disturbed by the effect casinos are having on students. I recently visited the Montreal casino and noticed a disproportionate number of university students at the tables. Like myself, most of these students cannot afford the losses that they will inevitably incur.

It appears to me that students are the victims of these "high stakes" games. Students are easily lured to casinos with false visions of achieving the "American-Canadian Dream" overnight. The casinos' close proximity to most campuses only serves to reinforce this problem. Many of the students are gambling away the money they need to attend university. Often, these funds have been provided through government loans.

Brian Ublansky
Economics student, McGill University
Montreal

Common enemy unites Jews

The assassination of Yitzhak Rabin is but a symptom of how the global Jewish community is fractured today.

How very different from 10 years ago, when secular and religious Jews stood shoulder to shoulder outside Soviet embassies and consultates and marched in Simchat Torah rallies to demonstrate their belief that Soviet Jews should be free.

We Jews won our battle with the most powerful totalitarian nation in the world. How tragic that we need a common enemy in order to be united.

Wendy R. Eisen
Toronto

500 Jewish students at McMaster

I would like to correct a statistic in an article (*CJN*, Jan. 4) about the formation of a Jewish Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity at McMaster University. The report said that "McMaster has a student population of 15,000 of whom only an estimated 125 are Jewish."

In fact, the Jewish Students Association has 125 students on their mailing list. However, we estimate that there are between 400 and 500 Jewish students on campus.

Sheila Freedman
McMaster Jewish Students Association

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

A daughter remembers a momentous debate

By SHIRA HERZOG

Like many significant events, the historic debate between Israel's ambassador to Canada, Yaacov Herzog, and renowned British historian Arnold Toynbee, came about almost by chance.

On Jan. 28, 1961, Herzog was called by a journalist who had been present at a guest lecture given by Toynbee at McGill University earlier in the day. Toynbee, the reporter said, had compared the treatment of Arab civilians by Israel in 1947 and 1948 to the Nazis' treatment of Jews, and he wanted a reaction from Herzog.

The 39-year-old ambassador was indignant, offended and pained by the analogy. He immediately called for a retraction by the senior historian, or as the alternative, for a debate between them at the same location.

The following day, Toynbee accepted the challenge to a debate, but responded that he would be leaving Canada on Feb. 1. Herzog agreed to debate him on Jan. 31, and spent the next 48 hours studying Toynbee's copious writings on history and civilization. I was 8 years old at the time, and I recall the tension-filled weekend that preceded the debate.

The Canadian Jewish community responded to media reports about the planned event with concern and apprehension. Community leaders urged Herzog to withdraw his challenge, although Toynbee had refused to retract his statement, in a meeting with the same Jewish delegation. Herzog's superiors in Israel, including then-foreign minister Golda Meir, said nothing at all and their silence spoke volumes about their concern over the outcome of the contest. Herzog, for his part, was convinced that the analogy could not be left unanswered, as it undermined the moral foundations of Israel's being, and also diminished the unique evil that the Holocaust of European Jewry represented.

On Jan. 31, the debate took place at McGill's Hillel House before a packed audience and it was later broadcast on CBC Radio. For Canadian Jewish students who were present, it became an unforgettable, formative moment in their development as Jews and Zionists. The debate speaks for itself. Herzog challenged not only the objectionable analogy, but also Toynbee's questioning of the Jewish people's historic right to Israel and his description of the Jewish people as a "fossil" nation. He was logical, eloquent and relentless in his pursuit, and never once betrayed the sea of emotion that was swirling beneath his calm exterior.

He felt obliged and privileged to defend his people, his state and his heritage, and he did so with pride, dignity and reason. Among those present, the consensus was that Herzog clearly had the upper hand on all three issues of substance.

The debate unleashed a flood of congratulatory reactions in Israel and Canada. Israel Radio broadcast it with simultaneous translation into Hebrew, and letters, telegrams and editorials hailed the ambassador's achievement as a seminal moment in the history of the young state.

For Herzog, the debate became the first of a series of encounters and conversations with Toynbee over a decade, in which they pursued their dialogue on history and morality. In 1968, Herzog told an audience about his exchange with Toynbee shortly after the 1967 Six Day War.

Toynbee said: "When I heard your soldiers at the Western Wall on the radio, I began to grasp the nature of your bonds with this city of Jerusalem and this country."

"I asked him," continued Herzog, " 'How did you understand? The BBC broadcast the event in Hebrew. The soldiers don't speak English. How could you understand them?' "

Toynbee replied, "In such things, I have historical antennae. I heard the voices and I understood."

In rereading the debate a generation after it was held, I was struck by two thoughts. The first is the distance we have travelled as a people and as a nation since 1961. The debate was held in Israel's 13th year of independence, when the morality of its cause and the justification for its very existence were still challenged — long before the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza and the reunification of Jerusalem. At the time, Israel faced not only the threat of war by its Arab neighbors, but a moral and legal assault from prominent quarters in the western world.

The second is the relevance that Herzog's words continue to have, even in a changed world and for a new generation, for whom the polemics of the past are at best a memory. Herzog's defence of his people's honor and his state's origins rings passionate and true even as Israel is embarked on the road to peace with its neighbors — a peace for which he prayed and persisted in all his diplomatic endeavors.

Ambassador Yaacov Herzog

For Israel and the Jewish world, the lasting legacy of the Herzog-Toynbee debate is the price invoked by the successful challenge to the indictment that was lodged against the Jewish people from an academic rostrum of world repute. The gauntlet had been thrown down before the Jewish people and the truth of history, and a young ambassador picked it up on a public platform and confronted Toynbee as his equal.

For me, there is an additional, personal legacy that is no less important — the manner in which the debate was conducted and the spirit of mutual respect that prevailed throughout an intellectual and spiritual contest of the deepest import.

Postcript: After Herzog's untimely death in 1972, Toynbee wrote to Herzog's wife, Pnina, to express his condolences. He noted the civility, tolerance and understanding that had characterized their dialogue over the years, although they often disagreed on matters of substance.

Shira Herzog is a regular columnist with The CJN.

The transcript of the debate is more than 25 pages. The following excerpt from their exchange is a "taste" of the conviction and the fire in the Ambassador's words.

The second point is that through the experience of this Holocaust in Europe, our will was strengthened to do everything in our capacity so that never again would such a tragedy befall our people. But how can the two events — the destruction of one-third of our people and the Arab refugee problem created through a war started by the Arabs themselves — be mentioned in the same breath? Should we pass an amendment to Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations on the right of self-defence: an amendment to say that if you are attacked you may resist, but remember, no matter what you suffer in the process, if the man attacking you suffers, you will be condemned by history as having been affected by Nazi influence.

* * *

As a diplomat representing my country, and my experience in this field is in contemporary times, I have not studied history as deeply as you have. I would ask you in all objectivity as a historian: our concept of our life down the ages — I could sum it up in a verse from the Psalms, *"Lo amut ki echyeh va'asapper maasey yah,"* "I shall not die but I shall live!" A fossil does not die, but he also does not live. Here we part ways. And as we live, and through our survival down the ages we see the hand of Providence, we have the sense of survival under Providence and we move ahead as we pray for spiritual fulfilment.

Here lies the basic difference between us. You say: "You do not die (why is not clear) but you do not live. No continuity in terms of creative life and thought. You sort of slipped out of the stream of civilization to some remote island and got stuck there. Now and then your voice is heard as it shrieks at the passing ships."

We say: "No, we have been in the stream. We have been in the stream in a distinctive sense: in our survival, in our prayers and in our hope, in our attachment to our land and in our belief in the fulfilment of immortal prophecy." But that is an issue and I am not a historian. As I say, others are debating this with you.

But I would ask you, as a modern Israeli representing my country and one who has seen the country coming to life and independence, from the academic historical analysis point of view, as you scan the pages of history, is there no significance in the following facts, which cannot be denied:

Number 1: Of all the ancient peoples of the Middle East, we are the only one living in continuity today in the Middle East, speaking the same language, practising the same religious faith.

Rabbi Johanan Ben Zakkai, to whom you devote much attention, he and Rabbi Akiva and Bar Kochba — if they were to come to life and could live with us — would not find a dichotomy that snapped them asunder. There is a continuity of experience.

Number 2: After this passage through the Valley of Death down the ages — and you yourself have described in your book the corpses and ashes of the Diaspora — we have come to life in our time. We have come to life without rancor, despite all the past, between us and our Arab neighbors. I can assure you that you will see this if you come to Israel. There is no rancor, there is no hatred. There is grief, but there is a hope for peace every day, and there is a confidence that it will come. Nor is there rancor to nations across the world. This very vitality of life, of survival without rancor, this too, I would submit, has a certain significance in terms of historical analysis.

Number 3: After these thousands of years we have assembled people from 70 lands. The Yemenites from the remote deserts of the Yemen, who were cut off from the main stream of civilization for over 2,000 years, Jews from Morocco, Jews from East and Western Europe's Nazi death camps, Jews from the remote hinterlands of India have all come together, and they have founded a common nation spontaneously. Has that link no vitality? Was that a fossil? Is that how a fossil reacts? All these particles of the fossil have come together. We feel as one.

Finally, the question of democracy. After all this experience we are the only viable democracy in terms of the Israel-Arab complex in the area. The fact is that today many new nations from Africa and Asia look to us for guidance and cooperation, and they find in our experiment and in our enterprises something that draws them.

So we do have a message for the world and not, sir, as you suggest, that our message ceased some 2,300 years ago. What I am trying to say is very vividly expressed by Professor Lewis Mumford in *Conduct of Life*. He says: "The binding force of an ethical force based on purpose has been dramatically confirmed in the history of the Jews. Its practical consummation in our time perhaps merits our special note."

We believe that our survival is an index of the supremacy of spiritual over material value. We believe in all humility and thanks to a merciful Providence that it has a relevance to the broad experience of mankind today. I would ask you, sir, in all respect, if you don't think all these elements have any basis on which you could possibly reconsider your concept of us as a fossil, non-creative, but which suddenly fell out — neither dead nor alive these past 2,000 years?

Opinions

'Fashion tips' — all in one sitting

By VIVA PRESS

I confess. I was eavesdropping on total strangers. I know it is impolite, but I'm sure I'm not the only one who does it. To justify it, eavesdropping is just another form of listening. I learned in one of my print classes that to listen in on conversations can be a useful tool, a tool that helps journalists to develop a story. *The Canadian Reporter*, a manual that deals with news writing and reporting techniques, claims that listening is an essential skill that journalists need to develop when collecting news.

By Viva Press

I think the act of eavesdropping would not be considered so disreputable if it did not already have a pejorative connotation. To eavesdrop is to be privy to a conversation that is not meant for one's ears. But if one were to separate the act from the resonances that have grown around the word, it might even be acceptable. If I overhear other people's conversations, I'll listen to them. I don't publicize the fact that I'm listening, but does that necessarily mean I'm listening in private?

For those of you who have never eavesdropped or listened to another person's conversation, I'd like to tell you that it can be very interesting. I have learned a lot about others in this way.

Since the act of listening is considered distasteful and even dishonest, one must not show any emotion when listening in.

Let me explain why I bring this topic up. When I was in New York for two days in mid-December, I found myself deeply engrossed in someone else's conversation. At the time I did not think I would use it as material for an article; rather I was surprised that the topic under discussion could reach such heights that I had to continue listening.

After spending four or five hours on my feet at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, I walked for a few blocks up Fifth Avenue to the Jewish Museum to see an exhibition of Russian Art. The museum was packed.

The exhibition, Russian Jewish Artists in a Century of Change 1890-1990, chronicles the last 100 years in the history of Russian art and Jewish culture. Many of the paintings portrayed the changing attitudes towards the Jewish artists; they were both accepted by their Russian compatriots and also rejected during the course of the political and social upheavals of this 100-year period. The exhibition took me two hours to view and my feet were in dire need of a rest.

A vacant seat on a cushioned bench called out to me. The bench was situated between the entrance and exit of the exhibition, which one followed in a circular path. While I sat on the bench and leaned against the wall, I could not help but overhear the conversation that was taking place a couple of paces away from me.

Four people, all elegantly dressed, were talking. The two men wore stylish pants and button-down shirts. Both women were wearing slacks and sweaters and had mink coats slung over their arms.

Their exchange did not sound frivolous in any way; rather they were discussing their topic in depth and with great seriousness.

Of course, I missed the first words, but what caught my attention was when one of the women exclaimed that a mink coat should not be worn with jeans. Her husband agreed. The other couple, however, maintained that a mink coat was perfectly compatible with jeans if it was a short mink and the jeans were of light color.

The first woman, not wanting to insult her counterpart, said she would personally never wear jeans with a mink but conceded that under certain conditions, the second woman was right. The caveat she added was that the person wearing the short mink with jeans had to be skinny.

I was intrigued that this topic of mix 'n' match jeans and mink could actually become the basis of such a heartfelt discussion.

Consensus was reached that dark jeans and mink must not be worn together, that long mink and any colored jeans are unacceptable, but that jeans and mink should preferably not be worn together at all. And they all agreed adamantly, woman one and two having compromised on an area of potential conflict, that if one wants to wear jeans then one must be skinny and wear a short mink with light colored jeans, but definitely no mink at all with stone-washed or tapered jeans.

Can you imagine what I might have missed if I wasn't eavesdropping? I got all of my fashion tips in one sitting. I have the jeans. All I need is the mink — well, a faux mink.

The first woman then said that she and her husband should go finish the exhibit as the museum was soon closing. The second woman and her husband responded with their goodbyes, saying, "It was nice meeting you."

Nice meeting you? They didn't even know each other but had managed to establish a rapport discussing mink and jeans.

My feet still hurt. I sat and waited a little longer. I thought about the paintings I had seen and wondered if perhaps I would overhear another conversation that would give me tips on sore feet.

Doubts about Song of Peace

Just before Yitzhak Rabin was murdered, the crowd had chanted *A Song for Peace*. Immediately after the assassination, singing it was believed to be an expression of solidarity with the peace process and what the late prime minister had stood for, a kind of second national anthem.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Unfortunately the text of the song does not qualify for such high honors. Written in Hebrew by Yaakov Rotblit, it does indeed express a deepfelt longing for peace — and no one can quarrel with that.

Unfortunately, the English translation distorts the original, apparently because the translators thought that Diaspora Jews might be offended by some of the words Rotblit had written. Thus, the author wrote one thing; the translation fudges it when it comes to religion.

'Softening' the content

The fact is that Rotblit wrote a straightforward secular song, the kind one would hear in the old socialist kibbutzim: Prayers will not get us what we really need and singing the songs of Hallel (by the Psalmist) will bring no one back from the grave. The author makes his point succinctly and the success of the song mirrors the large number of secularists in Israel. For them, prayer and God hold out little hope for success. You had better forget about them and do what you must for yourself.

However the translators did not think it politic to render the Hebrew according to the author's intent. In one line they translate: "So sing a song for peace. Don't whisper your wish." But the Hebrew doesn't say, "your wish;" it says, "Don't whisper a prayer."

I object to the "softening" of the song for the benefit of the Jews ignorant of Hebrew. Let secularists read in it what they want, while believers know that prayer enlarges our capacity to do what we can accomplish.

Which leads me to a related subject, the widening gulf between the religious and non-religious portions of Israel's public. That gulf has existed for a long time and many of us have feared that the real problem the nation faces is not its external enemies, but its internal division. Subsequent to the assassination of Rabin by a student of Bar-Ilan University (an Orthodox institution), anyone who could be called "religious" was demonized as a potential murderer or an accessory to the deed.

Wearing or not wearing a kippah is of course not indicative of a person's character or politics. Ever since 1967, I have believed that ruling another people was not a fit occupation for modern Jews, and I have therefore supported the peace process as a matter of principle. I have no quarrel with those who believe that the holiness of the land comes before all else — I respect their belief, but it is not mine. This difference however must be fought out with words and arguments and not with insults from either side.

That is another reason why the *Song for Peace* is not a fit medium for expressing the national hope of the Jewish people.

Jews must 'agree to disagree'

By ILAN GEWURZ AND DANA DEMB

What would we do if we could travel back to the time before the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, with the knowledge that we have at present? More than just preventing the actual assassination attempt, would we be able to create a reality in which such an act would not be possible?

CAMPUS VOICES

Sitting down and talking rationally to Yigal Amir would probably have done little to change his convictions. However, a true dialogue between groups with different political or religious beliefs might have created a climate free of finger-pointing and the feeling of marginalization experienced by some groups. Perhaps in a reality of mutual respect and civil discourse, the tragedy would have been unimaginable.

In the immediate aftermath of the assassination, Jewish communities around the world realized the danger in the "us and them" mentality, and the issue of Jewish unity took centre stage. Many political and religious leaders initially responded to the divisions within the community by calling on the Jewish people to begin a process of soul-searching. Sadly, however, the discourse has been characterized predominately by hateful finger-pointing which has only served to accentuate the divide that already existed within Israeli society.

Perhaps the reason these calls for introspection did not bring about a transformation in intra-commual relations is that introspection in itself is not enough. Self-reflection within a group that shares beliefs and perspectives will not better the relations between groups with opposing political or religious agendas. What is needed here is not unity of vision, but unity of mutually accepted "rules of the game." We should seek a shared framework within which Jews from all walks of life can "agree to disagree."

Through a process of honest communication and personal interactions, we can step beyond the stereotypes which are intrinsic in the "us and them" mentality. As Jews we must respect each other's opinions and know that while we may not agree, we are bound to one another by a shared past and a common destiny. Clearly the covenant that unites us is far more significant than the differences which divide us.

The process of communal healing begins with openness and readiness to listen to the views of others, and a recognition that different ideas are not necessarily illegitimate ideas. We must transcend our stereotypes. An Israeli prepared to trade land for peace should not be written off as a traitor; a settler should not be branded a religious fanatic. It is by truly listening to the perspectives of others and understanding their concerns that we can develop respect, despite disagreement. This can best be achieved though face-to-face Jewish-Jewish dialogue.

There have been some attempts, both in the Diaspora and in Israel, to create such dialogues. In Montreal, for example, a panel discussion titled **Peace** in the House of Israel, was held in early December, organized by the Tiffereth Beth David Jerusalem Synagogue, along with the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research (CIJR) and in association with Israeli consul general to Montreal, Daniel Gal. The panel brought together Jewish intellectuals representing different views along the political and religious spectrum, to address the many tensions facing the Jewish people and the State of Israel. The success of the event demonstrated that it was possible to exchange differing perspectives in a respectful, constructive setting.

Efforts to expand the process of Jewish dialogue have reached the student level as well. At a recent intra-community student meeting, we quickly realized how much we had to learn from one another. In explaining why she had come to the dialogue group, one student said she could not identify with religious Jews and often felt herself resenting them. She said she hoped to gain insight into a religious student's perspective. Throughout the discussion, the need for many of us to adjust our previously conceived stereotypes was apparent. The dialogue helped us begin to confront some of these dangerous brandings.

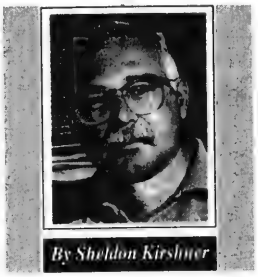
Through the mutual understanding and respect which these sorts of dialogue create, we can dare to harbor the hope that the deep divisions within Israeli society and Jewish Diaspora communities will be narrowed.

Ilan Gewurz and Dana Demb are students at McGill University.

The Kirshner File

Authors examine Spain's multicultural past

For centuries, Spain was the most tolerant nation in Europe. But in the 14th century, Spain changed drastically, becoming a bastion of intolerance as the Inquisition took root.



By Sheldon Kirshner

The chief victims of this astonishing transformation were the Jews. They had long enjoyed the fruits of Spanish society, particularly under Muslim rule.

Under the threat of death, Jews were forced to convert to Christianity en masse. The final indignity, the mass expulsion of Jews, occurred in 1492.

These catastrophic events are described with verve by Erna Paris, a Toronto writer, in a splendid new book, *The End of Days* (Lester, $28.95). It is not the only volume on the subject to have been published recently.

The Origins of the Inquisition (Random House, $70), a scholarly and formalistic tome written by Benzion Netanyahu, the father of Benjamin, the leader of the Likud party, is also available.

Paris did not choose her topic accidentally, as she recounted in an interview. Social and political upheavals fascinate her. Ten years ago, for example, she wrote *Unhealed Wounds: France and the Klaus Barbie Affair.*

Paris began her investigation of the Inquisition in 1986, in the midst of finishing a book about Israel, *The Garden and the Gun.* Three years later, Paris — who reads Spanish fluently — went to Spain for further research.

Originally, she had flirted with the idea of completing *The End of Days* by 1992, the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of Spanish Jewry. In retrospect, she is glad she failed to meet this deadline. For *The End of Days*, she now believes, probably would have been buried under an avalanche of books marking Columbus' voyage to the Americas in 1492. "I wanted my book to be something permanent rather than something for just the year 1992."

Clearly, Paris has succeeded. *The End of Days* is compellingly readable and accessible, marked by thorough research. "I could have written 10,000 pages," she said. "But I had to be ruthless with my material. I wanted a popular book. I had to throw out all kinds of wonderful, tangential stuff."

One of its dominant themes is the extent to which Muslims, or Moors, enriched and enlivened Spain. Paris juxtaposes the Moors, who championed liberalism and multiculturalism, with that of the Visigoths, a barbarian tribe from the north whose 300-year reign was characterized by a fidelity to ethnic exclusivity and anti-Semitism.

And, as she pointed out, the Golden Age of Spanish Jewry, from the 10th to the 12th centuries, coincided with the apogee of Muslim dominance on the Iberian peninsula.

"It's a fabulous multicultural model," said Paris, referring to Muslim Spain. "There was no coercion to assimilate."

But the pluralistic character of Spain was successively challenged by two hostile forces — the Spanish Visigoth-Christian clergy and the fundamentalistic Almohad Arabs from North Africa.

Yet, contrary to myth, the Christian monarchs who gradually reconquered Spanish territory from the Muslims did not immediately persecute Jews and Moors. Indeed, they initially adopted the tolerant policies of the Muslims and, as Paris notes, relations between the three groups were "amiable and easy."

The seeds of intolerance were sown by a confluence of factors: attempts by pious Christians to "purify" a church which had lost its moral authority; accusations of poisoning wells levelled against Jews amid the ravages of the Black Plague; attacks on Jewish tax collectors in the service of kings; endemic political instability; and, last but not least, efforts to unify Spain.

As anti-Semitism seeped into secular politics, the growing ethnocentric mood was fanned by two influential clerics — Ferran Martinez and Vincente Ferrer.

The intolerance, which climaxed in 1391 and peaked again in 1420 before exploding in 1492, prompted 600,000 or more Jews to convert. These figures are, however, impossible to verify, Paris said.

The converts, some of whom became exceedingly rich and powerful, were known as Conversos, New Christians or Marranos. One such convert was Pablo de Santa Maria (Solomon Halevi), who had been the chief rabbi of Burgos before being appointed the bishop of that city.

Even Ferdinand and Isabella, who signed the expulsion order in 1492, valued and employed New Christians in their administration, Paris observes.

Netanyahu explains that the mass conversions of Jews, beginning in 1391, created a new social entity in Spain. Legally freed from restrictions that had limited the Jews' economic activities, the converts entered fields which had been hitherto exclusively occupied by Old Christians. As a result, they aroused jealousy and resentment.

The hatred of the Conversos was exacerbated by the belief that they were false Christians clinging to Jewish rituals and customs. Torquemada, the grand inquisitor and himself the scion of Conversos, was convinced that the Jewish presence in Spain was inimical to Christian purity. Jews, he believed, were luring back Conversos to Judaism.

In fact, the majority of New Christians did not integrate well and in reality, were neither Christians nor Jews. "It is certain that most of them were extremely reluctant to stop performing *all* the commandments, and even more so to take part in Christian rites and ceremonies," writes Netanyahu.

Taken as a whole, however, the Conversos were "devoutly Christian" and happy to be so, until they became the object of vicious persecution, he comments. "So Christianized were [the Conversos] in their own eyes that they failed to see why they should be called *New* Christians."

According to Netanyahu, Jews viewed the converts as "perverts, opportunists and careerists."

Both Paris and Netanyahu argue that the widespread animus against the Conversos was also a function of blood and race. "Purity of blood" (*limpieza*) turned into a national obsession. As Paris observes: "Blood purity cracked open the fundamental medieval notion that baptism alone determined who 'belonged' to the majority culture and who did not."

Eventually, virtually all Conversos were tarred with the brush of "Jewishness." Between 1481 (when the Inquisition clicked into place) and 1520, writes Paris, most of the famous Converso families which had occupied the highest positions and had intermarried with the Old Christian aristocracy were destroyed.

As for the Jews who had steadfastly resisted conversion, Ferdinand and Isabella protected them until the very last moment. But on March 31, 1492, the royal couple succumbed to the blandishments of the zealots and signed the Edict of Expulsion.

When the numbers are added up, Paris said, one-third of Spanish Jewry converted, one-third were murdered and one-third emigrated. With the Jews gone, the Conversos were less vulnerable to the Inquisition, whose ultimate objective was to purify the faith against heresy and to unify Spain. Not until 1834 was the Inquisition finally abolished.

Paris, whose book launch was co-sponored by the Spanish government, claims that interest in the Inquisition runs high in Spain today. This is the case, she said, because Spain wishes to recover the glory of its multicultural past and because it has become somewhat fashionable to trace one's ancestry to Conversos.

Paris regrets that the tide has turned against multiculturalism in Canada. Perhaps, she cautioned, we're heading into an era of intolerance, the likes of which engulfed Spain over 600 years ago.

The End of Days and *The Origins of the Inqusition*, therefore, stand as a warning that the social harmony Canadians presently enjoy and take for granted is not carved in stone and can be eroded.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Jan. 25, is deadline for Feb. 8 issue and Thursday, Feb. 1, is deadline for Feb. 15. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax. 424-1886.

Thursday, Jan. 25

JERUSALEM'S CITY HALL

The Inside Story on the Designing of Jerusalem's New City Hall, with the city hall's architect **Jack Diamond** discussing the process of winning the $100-million design contract and challenges of blending his design with the surrounding streetscape, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue. Non-members $5.

ISRAEL AND THE UN

Bialik parent education committee presents **Anne Bayefsky**, professor of law, University of Ottawa, speaking on Israel and the UN Human Rights Agenda: Has the Peace Process Made a Difference?, 8 p.m., 12 Viewmount.

Friday, Jan. 26

REFORM MINYAN

Downrown Reform Minyan Shabbat service, 7:15 p.m., Bloor JCC, Room 204. 928-1784.

Saturday, Jan. 27

HAVDALAH SERVICE

Beth Torah Synagogue havdalah service for families 6:15 p.m., light supper and entertainment to follow; $5 per family. 782-4495.

Sunday, Jan. 28

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Information session for students (18 plus) interested in volunteering as a medic for Magen David Adom this summer in Israel, 6 p.m., Israel Aliyah Centre, 3995 Bathurst St. Suite 300. 633-4766.

BREAKFAST MEETING

At Temple Sinai, **Dr. Abel Ickowicz** discusses Understanding Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder. Services 9:30 a.m. followed by breakfast then program at 10; $3

GENERAL WINGATE

General Wingate branch, Royal Canadian Legion 256, general members meeting 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 31

THE PEACE PROCESS

Chabad Lubavitch of Markham sisterhood features **Moshe Ronen**, chair, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, speaking on Israel — The Peace Process, Unity and Debate, 8:30 p.m., 55 Guardsman Rd., Thornhill. $3.

RUTH MATAR LECTURE

What Kind of Israel For Our Children? Public lecture by **Ruth Matar**, founder and co-chair with her daughter-in-law **Nadia** of Women for Israel's Tomorrow (Women in Green), 8 p.m., B'nai Torah Synagogue, 465 Patricia Ave.

And What Else Is New...

THREE JEWISH TENORS

Musica Beth Tikvah's new season commences Sunday, Feb. 4, 8 p.m. with Three Jewish Tenors, cantors **Benjamin Maissner** and **Ephraim Sapir** of Toronto and **Yaacov Motzen** of Montreal. Second concert, **Jascha, Julian,** and **Marianna Milklis** Sunday, March 24, and third concert, the Israeli National Kibbutz Choir Tuesday, May 7. Ticket information, 510-1777.

OUR MUSICAL LEGACY

Temple Sinai Choir under the direction of **Ben Steinberg**, along with **Cantor Thomas Schwartz** and guest Israeli singer **Shelly Ovdat**, present a program of song, in obervance of Jerusaelm 3000, Friday, Feb. 2, 8:15 p.m., temple.

THE ABC OF KOSHER

Pride of Israel adult education series, The ABCs of Kosher: Everything You Wanted to Know, with **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich** continues Wednesdays, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m., at the synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

[Cont'd. on page 13]

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Hostess Potato Chips
Assorted Varieties
150 g bag
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Assorted Varieties 175 g cup
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Product of U.S.A., Size 72's
Case $11.95 or
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Frozen, Chicken Turkey or Beef
250 g pkg.
1.59

Tide Laundry Detergent
Assorted Varieties Ultra 6 L or Original 12 L box
8.77

Cottonelle Bathroom Tissue
White
12 roll pkg.
3.77

Streits Soup Blends
Assorted Varieties
6 oz. cello pkg.
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Sweet Red Peppers
Product of Mexico, No. 1 Grade, 3.51 kg
1.59 lb.

Kosher DELI

Strub's Dill Pickles
Regular
1.5 L jar
2.99

Peri's Beef Salami
1.27/100 g
5.79 lb.

Streits Egg Noodles
Fine, Medium, Broad or Extra Broad
375 g pkg.
.99

Kosher BAKERY

Chocolate Fudge Layer Cake
700 g
5.99

Celery Stalks
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade, each
.99

Whitefish Fillets
Fresh
11.00 kg
4.99 lb.

Peri's Potato Salad
.33/100 g
1.49 lb.

Zoglos Malawah Pastry
1 kg pkg.
4.99

Kaiser, Onion, European or Submarine Buns
Fresh Baked
4/1.00

Hass Avocadoes
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KOSHER AREA CLOSED FRI. 2:30 P.M. & SATURDAY We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 12]

VEGETARIAN SEDER

Jewish Vegetarian Society of Toronto annual Tu b'Shevat seder, Sunday, Feb. 4, 6 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue. In conjunction with Beth Tzedec Vegetarian Group and Canadian Jewish Vegetarian Association. Reservations **Evelyn Dorfman** 485-9164.

AT BETH TIKVAH

Legends of Jerusalem, **Rabbi Wayne Allen**. Learn how Jerusalem came to play a central role in Jewish and Islamic theology and literature, and gain new insight into Jerusalem's unique aspects, Mondays, 8 p.m., Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, and March 11. No fee.

A Look Into the City of Jerusalem — Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, **Stanley Morais**, Israel Government Tourist Centre in Toronto, three-part series focusing on the transformation of the city from 1948 to the present, Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14. No fee.

MELAVA MALKA

Melava Malka featuring **Tehilla Rapps**, Jerusalem Reclamation Project, with a multi-media presentation on the history of the Jewish presence in the Old City of Jerusalem, as well as present day presence; and discussion of investment opportunities, Saturday, Feb. 3, 8 p.m., Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. Reserve 229-2600.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel, Mississauga: Jan. 26 and 27, Shabbaton, **Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz**; Sunday, Jan. 28, Brotherhood Breakfast series on sports theme; Friday, Feb. 2, Invite Your Neighbor service, 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 3, Sisterhood Pot Luck Dinner, **Rabbi Lawrence Englander** speaker; Torah study group Mondays 12:30 p.m.; Friday services Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 16, 23, 8:30 p.m.; Saturday services Jan. 27, Feb. 10, and 17, 10 a.m.; family services Friday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 24, 10 a.m. Tuesday minyan with breakfast 7 a.m. 905-820-5915.

AISH HATORAH

Organ Transplants and Banks, **Dr. Michael Kirzner**, Monday, Jan. 29, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W.

Suffering and the Holocaust: Where Does G-d Fit In?, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamensky**, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 8 p.m. Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

BEAT THE WINTER BLUES

Shoshana chapter, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, hosts a fundraiser for Canadian Hadassah-WIZO's Women for Women Project featuring Crossroad Jam, a rockin' blues and boogie band, Saturday, Feb. 3, 8:30 p.m., Black Swan Tavern, 154 Danforth Ave. $15 (in advance or at door). **Robin Perlmutter** 905-764-7251.

PARENTING WORKSHOP

Jewish Family & Child Service group, Parenting the Difficult Teen, for parents with extremely acting out teens to learn more appropriate responses. Topics include letting go and setting limits, parents' rights and responsibilities, and feeling better about yourself as a parent. Begins Jan. 30. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

SJA EVENTS

Secular Jewish Association's (SJA) Intertalk, a support group for intercultural couples, Sunday, Jan. 28, 10 a.m. SJA Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. Bring refreshments to share. Non-members $8.

Tu b'Shevat Family Festival, Friday, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m., Banbury Community Centre, 120 Banbury Rd. Bring snacks to share.

For more information on both events, call **Eva** 905-889-7450.

AN EVENING OF TRIVIA

An Evening of Trivia, sponsored by Parents' Association of Associated Hebrew Schools, Saturday, Feb. 3, 8 p.m., Kamin Education Centre, 300 Atkinson Ave., Thornhill. Tickets $18. **Leslie Friedlander** 905-882-7519 (Danilack); **Sally Zigler** 638-5417 (Hurwich); **Karen Baron** 905-881-4722 (Kamin) or **Sandy Meisels** 905-660-4638; tables of 10 only **Sharon Wrock** 905-731-6854.

JERUSALEM SINGLES TOUR

Israel Aliyah Centre is sponsoring a singles spring tour to Israel especially designed for those 22-35. Subsidized rate $2,100, half board, 12 days. **Miri** 633-4766.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Fathers Talk About Single Parenting for fathers not living primarily with their children, begins Feb. 5; Living with Teens, begins Jan. 31; Widows/Widowers, daytime, begins Jan. 31; Adult Children Losing a Parent, begins Feb. 5; For Women Only, daytime, begins Feb. 5. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800.

FAMILY-TO-FAMILY

Community Integration Program (CIP) seeks Canadian families to reach out to recently-arrived Jewish families from the former Soviet Union, through the Family-to-Family program. Be a link for a Russian family and help them discover their Jewish heritage. Call Bathurst Jewish Centre CIP 636-1880, ext. 380, or 636-2316.

DAYTIME YIDDISH CLASSES

Learn or renew and refresh your knowledge of Yiddish. Classes by an excellent Yiddish teacher begin Feb. 12 at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Beginners 1-3 p.m., Intermediate 9:30-11:30 a.m. Information and pre-registration for these and evening classes, **Sylvia Lustgarten**, director, committee for Yiddish, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. 635-2883, ext. 155.

For Seniors

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Feb. 1 is entertainment and movie *The Best of Ed Sullivan*. Also, Tuesday, Jan. 30, Singing and Swinging concert by North York Choir. 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: dance with live band Sunday, Feb. 4, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; party trip to Le Park, Tuesday, Jan. 30; Thornhill Square, Monday, Feb. 5; Purim party March 5; Buffalo, March 14; Atlantic City April 15-19. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: annual Tulip Time Festival trip to Ottawa, May 14, 15, 16, seven kosher meals, touring, entertainment; Catskills trip to Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

At **Lifestyle Retirement Communities Forest Hill Place**, 645 Castlefield Ave., **Doug Haddow** lectures on Current Events, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2 p.m. Reserve **Marlene White** 785-1511.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Let's Focus on Vision with **Carol Kalchink** from CNIB, Thursday, Feb. 1, 1:30 p.m.

VISIT (Volunteers In Support In Touch) and Dial-A-Friend — There is no need to feel alone or isolated. A daily reassuring telephone call or a friendly social visit is available at no cost. Experienced volunteers are able to communicate in a variety of languages including Yiddish, Russian and English. **Judi Egelnick**.

Valentine Dance Wednesday, Feb. 14, 7-10 p.m. with **Morris** and **Rachel Kastoryano** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**. Until Jan. 31, members $7, non-members $9. As of Feb. 1, members $8, non-members $10. Tickets at Information Desk.

Movie *Sunset Boulevard* Sunday, Jan. 28, 2:30 p.m.

Dance to music of Creative Band Sunday, Jan. 28, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Songs in many langauges with **Lorenzo Popesko**, Wednesday, Jan. 31, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

Bathurst Jewish Centre Senior Adult Services Alaska cruise July 14-23, includes pick-up, airfare, meals, entertainment, gratuities aboard the Star Princess, visit to Anchorage and Vancouver, taxes, transfers, service charges, cancellation and medical insurance and more. **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Centre Camp at BJC is accepting registration for 1996 camp season. Register in full before Jan. 1 and receive a 10 per cent discount. Centre Camp is accredited with Ontario Camping Association. 636-1880, ext. 378.

Special needs programs for developmentally disabled teens and adults begin January at BJC. **Trish** 636-1880, ext. 265.

BJC Athletic Department new '96 Martial Arts program with **David Saretzky**. Call athletic program director **Joe Moniz** 636-1880, ext.357.

Good Age Club at Bloor JCC presents Legal Issues of Concern to Seniors, with lawyer **Anne Reynolds**, Thursday, Feb. 1, 2 p.m. Members $1, non-members $2. **Judy** 924-6211.

CHILDREN RAISE FUNDS

Bialik Student Council recently conducted a successful Children to Children Tzedakah project to raise money for needy Toronto children to attend Winter Camp at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. Bialik Student Council co-presidents Karen Born (right) and Tamara Shulman (centre) present a check to Gordon Wolfe, executive director, Jewish Family & Child Service.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A special memorial service was held recently by the second generation committee of Wierzbniker Friendly Mutual Benefit Society to mourn the loss of family and friends who perished in the Holocaust and to bring the tiny suburb of Starachowitce to life. Pictured here are three generations (from left) Nancy Kleinberg, survivor; Hedy Chandler and Rebecca Tenenbaum Mandel, committee members; and Noah Tenebaum and Devora Tenebaum, grandchildren of survivors.

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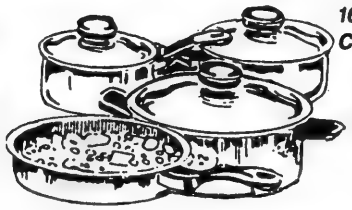

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Tickets: General: $15. — Seniors & Students: $12. — Children under 12: $5.

Tickets also available at...

NEGEV 3507 Bathurst St. 781-9356 | ISRAEL'S 897 Eglinton Ave. W. 256-1010, 441 Clark Ave. (905) 881-1010 | MATANA 248 Steeles Ave. W. Unit 6, Thornhill

Jewish Life

No need for religious Jews to apologize for who we are

By JULIEN BAUER
Special to The CJN

I am a Jew, I am a religious Jew, I am a Zionist Jew, and if you expect me to apologize for what I am, you are in for a very long wait.

Guest Voices

A few years ago, I used to say these words as an opening remark when presenting a pro-Israel viewpoint to hostile audiences, a mixture of anti-democrats, leftists, Third-Worldists, PLO admirers, Israel bashers. Most of the listeners understood the message. In my worst nightmares, I never anticipated that, one day, I would use the same words with Jewish audiences.

The assassination of Yitzhak Rabin has created a situation where Religious Zionism is under attack, guilty for all our problems, and should "cleanse" itself from its belief system.

The media present the late Rabin as perfect, above humanity. Forgotten is the fact that his peace process was a gamble, both legitimate and legitimately criticized. Forgotten is his role in the division of the Jewish people by dismissing and insulting his opponents. Forgotten is the fact that Rabin was the first prime minister of Israel who did not attend and did not send ministers to attend funerals for civilian victims of Palestinian terrorism. Forgotten is the real Rabin, a human being with qualities and weaknesses.

A new dogma teaches that all Religious Zionist Jews are collectively guilty for Yigal Amir's act of murder. So well accepted is the concept of collective responsibility that some Israelis have chosen to discriminate even against kipah-wearing soldiers trying to hitchhike. The pressure is so intense that leaders of Religious Zionism feel obligated to buy space in the *New York Times* to explain why they have to atone for their presumed guilt.

To be a Religious Zionist has become a liability. It is neither religiously nor politically correct. The only correct Orthodoxy, if there is any, is the ghettoized anti-Zionist kind. Black hats, maybe; knitted kippah, No. The only politically correct attitude is to accept, without any reservation, the Labor-Meretz vision. To disagree, to criticize, or even to ask questions, is tantamount to being a heathen or a schismatic.

In such an atmosphere, it is not easy to keep one's sanity. I will try. I do believe that Rabin's assassination was an abomination. I do believe that being religious and Zionist does not make me a killer or an accomplice to murder. I do not need sanctimonious advice about the unity of the Jewish people.

Well before the assassination, I was engaged in Montreal in pro-Israel activities with people I was supposed to be at odds with, or so I was told. How can you work with people who eat non-kosher food on Yom Kippur? How can they work with someone who wears a kippah? My answer was, and is: How can I not work with Jews who share a sense of ahavat Israel, of love of the Jewish People? I did not say *al chet* (I am guilty) then, and I do not say *al chet* (I am guilty) now.

My ancestors, like the ancestors of all European Jews, could have led an easy life by becoming Christians. They chose to remain Jewish. I owe it to them, and to my children, to remain, without arrogance and without shame, what I am, a Religious Zionist Jew.

Julien Bauer is a professor of political science and chair of the Module de science politique at the Université du Québec à Montréal.

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Risk of new epidemics rules against baboon transplants

By RABBI MARK DRATCH

Is baboon marrow kosher? That is the question raised by the recent transplantation of baboon marrow into AIDS-infected Jeff Getty at San Francisco General Hospital. The theory is that since baboons are impervious to HIV, the cells will work with Getty's body to fortify his immune system and fight the virus.

Comparative Law

Is it permissible to place animal parts — and non-kosher animal parts at that — in a human body? No problem. The biblical ban is only on eating foods that are not kosher; it is not prohibited to derive other types of benefits from them. (The exception to this rule is a mixture of milk and meat which, in addition to not eating, one may not cook or derive any benefit from.) Thus, pancreatic cells from pigs that secrete insulin and other porcine tissues and organs such as fetal brain tissue, heart valves, hearts, livers and blood vessels may be used.

Is it permissible to submit to hazardous or experimental medical procedures when accepted therapies have failed? May a person endanger a definite short life span (*chayei sha'ah*) in favor of a possibly successful procedure that might lengthen his life? The Talmud, Avodah Zara 27b, says yes, basing itself on the biblical account of the four lepers recorded in II Kings 8, which describes the siege of Samaria by the Syrians.

With no available food, four lepers reason that if they do nothing, they will certainly die. "If we say, 'We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the host of the Arameans; if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.' "

There are debates among rabbinic authorities as to the likelihood of success necessary to permit such procedures. One authority requires at least a 50 per cent chance of success, one accepts any significant chance as sufficient and another accepts even one in a thousand.

And how long is *chayei sha'ah*, life of limited duration? The *Ahiezer* accepts a life expectancy of six months, Rabbi Moshe Feinstein accepts a life expectancy of 12.

The larger question in the case of the baboon marrow, however, is not the danger that it presents to Getty, but the possible medical disaster it might unleash on the entire human population. Virues and bacteria that are successfully confined in the animal world may be uncontrollable when introduced to humans. HIV, for example, is a disaster that originally started in monkeys and somehow was transferred to people.

Is it proper to permit such a procedure, which has the real possibility of endangering many human lives?

Jewish law is very concerned about potential dangers to life. It permitted the violation of the Sabbath in order to extinguish life-threatening fires and to capture, and even kill, dangerous animals. It prohibited activities that were presumed unhealthy or dangerous and, while many of our activities include some degree of hazard, it allowed people to opt to rely upon ~~divine~~ protection only in those activities that are widely accepted and practised.

In addition, while there is an obligation to save another's life, no one is obligated to risk his own life in the process. There is a debate as to whether a person is obligated, or even permitted, to save another if there is a *safek sakkanah*, potential danger to his own life.

Thus, it seems to me, that while Jewish law would allow Getty to accept transplants of animal tissue, and in the final stages of AIDS to submit to hazardous, experimental procedures, it would not accept the potential risks of new viruses and epidemics to which the general population might potentially be exposed and which give rise to great concern amongst virologists and others.

Rabbi Dratch is the spiritual leader of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation in Toronto.

Jewish Life

Judaism must stress positive aspects

By RABBI ROGER V. PAVEY

Judaism is not flourishing. Many Jews, especially our young, are defecting. They retain the label "Jews," but find little meaning in it or in a faith and way of life that stopped developing with bar and bat mitzvah. And though a few find fulfilment in a return to Orthodoxy, the *baalei tshuvah* are a tiny minority.

Mainstream Jewish life is not very inspiring. It all too often seems like unending committees playing politics and obsessed with issues — like anti-Semitism, Israel, fundraising and intermarriage — that are important, but seemingly not too relevant to the need of so many of our brightest to find purpose in being Jewish, meaning in their spirituality.

Maybe we should start trying to put forward the positive reasons for staying Jewish and wanting to live a Jewish life.

There is, of course, a minority for whom this is not an issue, for whom a Torah-centred lifestyle is the norm. However, they are a minority. Most Jews do not really believe that the mitzvot are divine legislation. Respectful though they might be of their observant brothers, they have no intention of adopting such a lifestyle for themselves. To speak to the majority of Jews today in North America of a return to a halachic observance is a waste of breath.

There is another possibility.

Traditionally, the moral and spiritual values of Judaism were implicit in the act. By actually doing the mitzvah we learned Jewish theology and ethics. It was, for example, by lighting Shabbat candles that we learned such values as family harmony, rest and holiness.

However, this is no longer the case, when many, if not most, Jews do not do the act any more. Nor I think, will it become the reality again. Rather, I suggest, it might now be time to reverse the process; that is, to spell out the values we want to preserve and teach through Jewish tradition, so that, instead of the act teaching the value, the value comes to inspire the act.

Judaism is the linking of humankind with the transcendant, so that we become partners in the healing of all creation, including ourselves. Our tradition has learned values, moral and spiritual, to this end and expressed them in daily living. We must now first state those values and show clearly that they relate to the needs of Jews as individuals and in community. Then we can embed those values in the process of living by acting them out.

The tremendous riches of our traditional sources, biblical and rabbinic, are the text from which we learn how to live. This is Torah, a paradigm of values lived in ordinary life, "normative holiness."

We are now reading the Torah account of becoming free through the miracle of the Exodus that we shall celebrate in the seder. At the seder, we also begin to count down to Shavuot. For, in entering the covenant at Sinai, we become free in a richer sense. We become not just free *from*, from the slavery in Egypt; we also become free *for*, for the observance of Torah. Anyone can be a freed slave; we have to go on to become Jews.

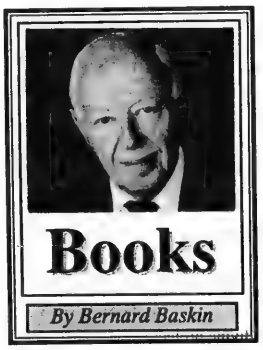
We have to discover the real freedom, which is not to do anything we want, but to explore the values of Torah and their application to life in terms of personal and communal spirituality.

Unless we speak out about the positive value of being Jewish, we shall lose our future. We must not be Jews out of fear or apathy or inertia, but because we want to be, because we have something to say to the whole world, and in doing so, we will discover the meaning of our own identity.

There are Jews who were born into the House of Israel and there are Jews who have joined the House of Israel. Every Jew must become a Jew, not by accident, but by choice; not by label, but by commitment.

Rabbi Pavey is the spiritual leader of Congregation Agudas Israel in Saskatoon.

Good books a true delight



Into a new year, this columnist wants to assure uncertain and burdened readers that no pleasure has ever been found — on a sustained level — equal to that of reading good books. They offer us knowledge, distraction, delight, strength and solace.

Some books, of course, can be read in an hour or two and returned to the shelf; others require a lifetime to savor their richness. These latter volumes should be owned and cherished — to travel with, to sleep beside, the most satisfying of all companions.

New books or old books — what does it matter? If you have not read a book before it is to all intents and purposes new, whether it was printed yesterday or 300 years ago.

We are all children of a technological age, living in a time of bewildering flux. Printing is no longer the only way of reproducing books. Reading them, however, has not changed. It is the same as it has always been since Callimachus administered the great library in Alexandria.

There is a power in some books to evoke the time and the place of their first reading. Simply by looking at them or riffling through their pages we are magically transported to a moment of initial awakening or discovery. It is good to keep such books close at hand.

A. Edward Newton wrote: "Books are for me a solace and a joy. We are told that of the making of them there is no end. Be it so. Let us rejoice that, whatever comes, books will continue to be, books that suit our every mood and fancy. If all is vanity, as 'The Preacher' says, how can we better employ our time than by reading books and writing about them?"

Above all, when does one find time for books? One finds time by taking it.

The following brief selections about books should be of interest.

• Readers may be divided into four classes: Sponges, who absorb all they read and return it nearly in the same state, only a little dirtied. Sand-glasses, who return nothing and are content to get through a book for the sake of getting through the time. Strain-bags, who retain merely the dregs of what they read. Mogul diamonds, equally rare and valuable, who profit by what they read and enable others to profit by it also. (Samuel Taylor Coleridge)

• The Laws of Books. A man should not write any accounts upon the pages of a book or scribble anything on any part of it. If one wishes to take a nap, he must first cover his books up, and not recline upon them. If a book has fallen to the ground, and at the same time some money or a sumptuous garment has fallen also, he shall first pick up the book. If a fire breaks out in his house, he shall first rescue his books, and then his other property. *Sefer Chassidon* (Book of the Pious) Regensburg, Germany (1190).

• There are 39 books in the Hebrew scriptures, 929 chapters, 23,214 verses, 593,493 words. The longest book in the Hebrew scriptures is the Book of Psalms, the longest verse is verse 9 in Chapter 8 of the Book of Esther, a 90-word description of the Persian Empire. The word Jehovah occurs 6,855 times but the name of God is not mentioned in the Book of Esther.

• Bizarre Bibles include: The Fool Bible printed in the reign of Charles I reads in Psalm 14: "The fool hath said in his heart there is a God." For this mistake the printers were fine 3,000 pounds. The Wicked Bible — 1632 — the word *not* in the seventh commandment is omitted, making it read: "Thou shalt commit adultery." This error cost the printer his ears. The Bug Bible — 1535 — reads: "Thou shalt not nede to be afrayed for eny bugges [instead of terror] by night," in Psalm 91:5.

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For further information please call Jewish Family and Child Service at 638-7800 and ask for Karen Wynnychuk at ext. 806 or Gail Solish at (905) 882-2331, ext. 25.

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Marty, Avrum bring own brand of zaniness to cooking show

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

Marty Galin (left) and Avrum Rosensweig bring a unique brand of zany humor to their cooking and food show. [Stephen Epstein photo]

TORONTO — Just before Chanukah, Avrum Rosensweig and Marty Galin appeared on CFTO TV's magazine show, *Eye on Toronto*, to give viewers some helpful hints on preparing their holiday turkey.

The two were going to demonstrate Galin's mother's tried and true recipe for stuffing and marinating a big bird.

And why not? In just a few short months, the two had made names for themselves as hosts of Talk 640's *The Marty & Avrum Restaurant and Food Show*; so clearly they had the credentials to speak authoritatively on the culinary arts.

Well, maybe. After their 10-minute stint on the show, viewers might have been led to re-evaluate whether "culinary" and "arts" should be mentioned in the same sentence with Marty and Avrum, as Galin frantically rammed stuffing into the unfortunate bird's exposed innards before dunking the turkey in *Coca Cola* and orange juice.

Cooking specialists? Not really. Charming, funny? Absolutely, as the two brought zaniness, good humor and high spirit to food preparation that serious cooking aficionados, or anyone from France, would find puzzling.

"Food is food. We don't take food seriously. It's fun," said Rosensweig as they replayed the videotape from that memorable TV appearance for *The CJN*.

Despite sharing the stage with a group of Elvis impersonators, Galin and Rosensweig stole the show with their hilarity and hijinks. They bring the same sort of humor to their weekly radio program.

Airing from 9 to 11 a.m. on Sunday mornings on AM 640, their show has been compared to TV's *Furniture on the Mend*, in which two longtime friends kibbitz as they varnish, or to Siskel and Ebert's movie reviews.

Add the Three Stooges or Lewis and Martin to the list, as fun, comedy and a lively atmosphere are the operative motifs for their program.

Of course, there are elements of seriousness in the radio show as well. The two have interviewed renowned chefs and restaurateurs, hosted theme shows, including one on Chanukah, and even gotten their guests to cook while on the air.

Since radio is notoriously poor for visuals, it's their job to be as descriptive as possible while the chefs are cooking, and to use the sizzling sautes as background sounds while on the air, they say.

People turning on their radios at 9 in the morning want to hear upbeat stuff, Rosensweig said.

"There's a lot of different things for different people," Galin said. "There are recipes, restaurant reviews, humor. Toronto used to be a meat and potatoes town. Now it's got more restaurants per capita than anywhere."

Guests on the show "really let down their guards. They come in nervous, but it's a warm, safe booth. We tell people, 'Just relax,' " he added.

"Cooking is somehow seen as highbrow or elitist," Rosensweig pipes in. "But it's not. You can have fun with it. You can bring it down to earth."

Seven months ago, Rosensweig and Galin had no idea they'd be hosting a cooking show. The two, who have been friends for 10 years, were writing a column in the magazine *Hot Toronto* when AM 640 called and asked them to be guests on a talk show. They agreed and what they expected would be a five-minute spot turned into a half-hour free-for-all, during which "we took over the show," Galin recalls.

Their timing couldn't have been better, as their appearance coincided with AM 640's decision to switch from rock music to an all-talk format. The day after their appearance, the station's programming director called and told them they'd generated a terrific response and would they be interested in a regular one-hour spot at noon on Fridays?

Rosensweig, who works as assistant campaign director for the United Jewish Appeal, and Galin, an out-of-work actor, jumped at the opportunity. They started in September and eventually were offered a plum spot on Sunday mornings.

Rosensweig, the son of an Orthodox rabbi, was "not brought up in an environment where going to restaurants was a way of life," though Galin remembers weekly outings to eat.

Galin worked as a waiter at the Organ Grinder restaurant, where his specialty was getting customers clapping and singing along to *Hava Nagilah*.

He later trained waiters in St. Louis and San Diego; so restaurant life is in his blood, if not his kishkes.

Aided by three students who provide research, logistic support and roving reports, the pair have hit on a formula for radio success — keeping things lively.

While they're basking in the success of their radio show, they're close to completing a pilot for a television program that they hope to sell. If successful, they might find yet a bigger audience for their unique brand of kitchen craziness.

STUDENTS' JUDAICA 'MUSEUM'

Grade five students at Leo Baeck Day School recently invited parents and fellow students to visit their "museum" of Judaica, prepared by Julia Minc (left) and Andrea Harris. Teacher Amy Rotenberg looks on. [Zita Gardner photo]

From coast to coast

Balanced budgets brought down in Hamilton

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The Jewish Federation of Hamilton/Wentworth & Area concluded the year on a high note, outgoing president David Steinberg said at the recent annual general meeting at the JCC.

Thanks to sour economies and a reorganized budget and allocations system, the federation balanced its budget, Steinberg said, adding he is confident the Jewish community "will survive even in these difficult economic times and that we'll be stronger for it."

Steinberg also announced that Jewish Social Services (JSS) has recently become independent of the federation.

Forced by government cutbacks to move back to the JCC from its rented quarters last fall, JSS, he said, "is now a separate corporation with its own board," with former chair Jack Leon as president.

Like Steinberg, incoming president Greorge Czutrin is a Family Court judge.

The Hungarian-born son of survivors, Czutrin immigrated to the United States in 1956 with his family. He settled in Hamilton with his wife Lynne 20 years ago.

Speaking briefly on behalf of Midrasha, the community Jewish high school now in its second year, co-chair Dr. Judah Denburg noted that 40 students are enrolled in the Hebrew course; 28 in contemporary Jewish studies and 17 in Jewish texts and history.

"Next year," said Denburg, "we're planning to have two levels."

Reporting on other committees were treasurer William Halpren; United Jewish Appeal co-campaign chair Dr. Cheryl Klein Greenbaum; Ina Frank, chair, communmity planning; and federation executive director Patricia Tolkin Eppel.

Past president Abe Szpirglas made the official presentation to Steinberg and installed the new board.

* * *

A year after being faced with a "shape up or else" ultimatum, Hamilton's JCC not only presented a balanced budget at its annual general meeting, but ended the year "slightly better than even."

"There's been tremendous improvement," said newly installed president Larry Szpirglas.

Under a "general operational framework" established in the fall of 1994 by a joint JCC and federation committee headed by federation president David Steinberg, the JCC was to operate under strict budget outlines, strive to increase membership and encourage greater use of the building by providing more and better Jewish and social programming.

As well, it was to try and obtain the zoning changes needed for the best possible use of its 34-acre property and press for an extension of the city bus route to the JCC.

"We've come a long way," Szpirglas said, "but we still have a significant way to go."

Membership has increased and better programming and the recent move by Jewish Social Services (JSS) to the JCC have led to greater use of its facilities, but more support is still needed.

Extension of the bus route has now been all but ruled out, but the transportation problem has been temporarily solved with the help of a regional transit system and car pick ups for those who need them.

Seniors and others using JSS and the kosher food bank are affected the most and the JCC is prepared to work out some arrangements with JSS, Szpirglas said.

The major remaining problem is zoning, largely as a result of neighbors' objections, which have so far prevented the JCC from obtaining the changes necessary for both full institutional use of its building and recreational use of its land.

Szpirglas said his objectives for the next year include an intensive drive to increase membership from its current 397 families to 450; greater emphasis on Jewish identity and Jewish content in programming; improving services; doing "a lot of independent fundraising;" and finally overcoming the zoning problems.

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פון ישראל אפּעל

יעדע שטאָט האָט זייַנקייט און ספּעציפישקייט; יעדע שטאָט צייכנט זיך אויס מיט עפּעס, וואָס קיין אַנדערע שטאָט האָט עס נישט. ירושלים האָט אין זיך איינגעוואָבּן אַלע שיינקייטן פון דער מדינה, ווי אויך די הערלעכע לאַנדשאַפֿט מיט איר פּרעכטיקער פּאַנאָראָמע, וואָס פֿאַרכאַפּט דאָס אויג ביים ערשטן בליק, צוהאַמען מיט איר שורשדיקן ייִדישן גייסט. אין ירושלים פילט מען, אַז מען געפּינט זיך אין דעם אויסגע-בענקטן, אויסגעוויינטן ארץ ישראל. אין ירושלים דערפילט מען די רואיקייט, ווערט ווידיקט אַוויי גוט אויפן געמיט, מען בענקט נאָך ירושלים, בעת מען געפּינט זיך אין ירושלים. אין ירושלים דערפילט איר אייער שטאָט. איז נישט קיין וואונדער, וואָס אַלץ וואָס שיין און גייסטיק גרויס איז קאָנצענטרירט געוואָרן אין ירושלים.

נישטאָ נאָך אַן אָרט אויף דער גאַנצער וועלט, וואו אַ ייִד קען אַנטאָפּן דעם ייִדישן נעכטן, אונדזערע ייִדישע וואַרצלען, ווי אין דער אַלט-שטאָט פון ירושלים, די שטאָט צווישן די מויערן וואוהין ייִדן זיינען צוריקגעקומען אין 1967. אוודאי ציט עס אַלעמען ווי מיט אַ מאַגנעט צום כותל מערבי, וואו ייִדישע נשמות און ייִדישע הערצער פון יונג און אַלט באַהעפטן זיך טאָג און נאַכט מיט דער שכינה. נישט נאָר די שטיינער פון כותל רופן אַויס אמונה און בטחון אין ס'איז זיך שווער אַפֿצורייסן פון זיי, אויך די ייִדן, וואָס שטייען צוגעשמידט צו די שטיינער, איבערוועלטיקן אייך מיט זייער אמונה, מיט זייער בטחון אין ס'איז שווער אַרומצוגעמען די אויגן פון זיי.

די יאַראיינקונג פון ירושלים אין אונדזער צייט

זיט דעם זוּרבן פון צווייטן בית המקדש איז ירושלים געבליבן טיף פאַראינקלט אין די הערצער פון די ייִדן. דורך אַלע דורות אין אונדזער גרויסן נע-נדר, איבער אַלע וועגן פון דער גאָלער וועלט, האָבן מיר אַלע-מאָל מיטגענומען מיט זיך דעם אָדענק פון ירושלים. ירושקיט האָט גע-שלאָגן טיפע וואָרצלען אין ירושלים. ייִדן האָבן קיינמאָל נישט אויסגעריסן זייערע וואָרצלען פון דער אייביקער ירושער מלוכה-שטאָט.

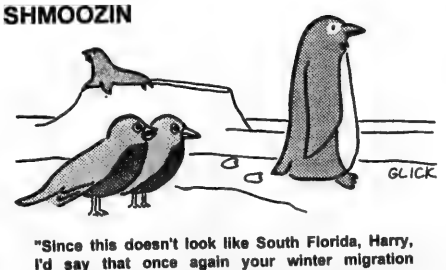
עס איז מערקווירדיק, וואָס ירושלים, די שטאָט פון שלום, איז דורכ-געגאַנגען מער בלוטיקע מלחמות, ווי וועלכע עס איז אַנדערע הויפּט-שטאָט. ירושלים איז זינט דעם חורבן פּאַרבּרענט געוואָרן 18 מאָל, און וואו-ניאָ געהאָט אויבער זיך 50 מינים הערשער און רעגירונגען.

די פּאַראיינקונג פון ירושלים אין אונדזער צייט איז איינס פון די הע-ראָישטע קאַפּיטלען אין דער ירידשער געשיכטע, וואָס וועט געליינט און געלערנט ווערן אין אַלע דורות.

דאָס איז געשען אין דעם היסטאָרישן טאָג פון כ"ח אייר תשכ"ז, דעם ז-טן יוני, 1967. ווען אונדזערע גיבורי ישראל האָבן באַפרייט די אַלט-שטאָט, דעם הַר-הבית, דעם כותל מערבי, האָבן מיר אַלע דערפילט, אַז עס שלאָגט די גרויסע גוט'דיקע שעה! מיר זיינען אַלע געוואָרן דורכגעדרונגען פון דעם באַוואוסטזיין, אַז מיר גיינען פאַרוויקלעכן דעם חלום, די בענק-שאפט פון ירידשן פאָלק פון צוויי טויזנט יאָר. און ווען עס האָט זיך אָנגע-הויבן דער קאַמף, האָבן מיר געוואוסט, אַז עס וועט מער ניט זיין קיין וועג צוריק. אַלט ירושלים וועט ווערן באַפרייט און באַייט, און וועט געווערן צו אונדזער ירדיש פאָלק, וו-ייק, אַז עס וועט קאַסטן א סך קרבנות.

איז האָט די אַרמיי פון דער ירדישער מדינה, די גיבורי ישראל, באַ-פרייט אַלט ירושלים מיטן הר הבית, מיט דעם כותל מערבי, נאָך צווי טויזנט יאָר. איצט נאָך מער ווי אין די פריערדיקע יאָרן דאַרפן מיר באַייגן די יכּובֿה, אַז קיינמאָל וועט ירושלים השלימה נישט אָפּגעריסן ווערן פון יי-ן פאָלק, פון מדינת ישראל.

ירושלים איז געווען, איז און וועט אייביק בלייבן דאָס האַרץ פון ירדישן פאָ-ק.



From coast to coast

School board split on Remembrance Day symbols

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A request by members of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) and the Manitoba Islamic Association to have other religious symbols included along with the Christian ones, at future Remembrance Day services in schools, recently sparked heated debate at a school board meeting.

"We wanted to share our perspective with the Winnipeg [Division No. 1] school board members," says Evelyn Hecht, WJCC director of community relations. "Our message was delivered. While some of the trustees were listening and prepared to consider this issue with an open mind, others unfortunately were responding to what they read in the newspapers or the phone calls they received."

The issue was brought forward by a Jewish teacher in the public school system who was disturbed by the proliferation of crosses at Remembrance Day services. While the Jewish and Islamic representatives have been framing the issue in positive terms, urging the inclusion of other religious symbols, the media have chosen to interpret the matter as a rejection of crosses in the school.

"Some of the calls have been quite upsetting," Hecht reports. "Our focus is strictly on the children, who are vulnerable and impressionable. How they are taught will determine our country's future. This has nothing to do with veterans or how others observe Remembrance Day."

Anita Neville, a Jewish member of the Winnipeg No. 1 school board, described the mood at the meeting as "somewhat inflammatory," adding, "This was not a high point in the affairs of the school division."

She describes the board as divided on the matter. "My understanding of it was not that crosses should be removed, but that other symbols should be included," she says.

"I have heard stories from Jewish parents who have had their children come home after a Remembrance Day service and ask if any Jews died in the war."

According to Hecht, Toronto schools adopted an inclusive policy on Remembrance Day and eventually moved to a generic peace symbol.

Neville reports that other delegates have asked to be heard on the matter at the board's next public meeting in mid-February. She expects a decision to be made by the end of February.

EJC president visits Montreal

By ELIAS LEVY
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Jean Kahn, one of the most well-known and influential figures of the Jewish communal scene in Europe, recently visited Montreal.

Kahn is currently president of the European Jewish Congress (EJC) and of the Consistoire Israélite de France.

In recent months, Kahn was also appointed chair of the new consultative committee on racism and xenophobia established by the Council of Europe, the administrative body of the 15-member European Union (EU). The governments of all 15 countries have appointed official representatives to this committee.

"The principal mandate of this task force is to alert the countries of the European Summit to the disquieting upsurge of racism in the countries of Europe," Kahn told *The CJN* in an exclusive interview.

Jean Kahn

The fight against anti-Semitism and racism is also a priority on the agenda of the EJC, which represents 25 Jewish communities, Kahn said, adding that those most affected are the Jewish communities still in the republics and satelite countries of the former Soviet Union.

"Since the early '90s, we have been helping these isolated and helpless communities to rediscover their cultural and spiritual identity. We have also helped them combat the virulent anti-Semitism which is plaguing them," he said.

In 1993, an information seminar on the social damages that result from racism and anti-Semitism was organized at the Kremlin for about 100 Russian members of parliament by the EJC, with the close cooperation of the Council of Europe.

In 1994, a similar seminar was organized for Russian journalists, and a few months ago, the EJC organized a study seminar in Krakow, near the Auschwitz extermination camp, for history teachers from all parts of Europe.

This story appeared in full in French in the Montreal edition of CJN *(Jan. 18). Translation by Carolan Halpern.*

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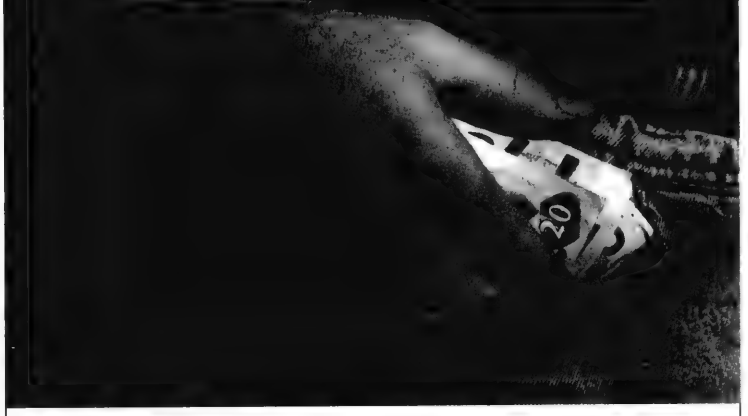

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Scenario #2

John borrows the additional $6,000 to reach his goal of making his maximum contribution of $8,100. At his combined tax rate of 42%, his tax savings will be $3,402. If he receives this as a tax refund, he can reduce his loan immediately to $2,598.

$6,000	original amount borrowed
$3,402	less his tax refund amount applied to the loan
$2,598	new loan balance

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From coast to coast

Free trade will benefit both Canada, Israel

OTTAWA — The Canada-Israel free trade agreement is probably the best thing that's happened between the two countries in years. Eventually it will be hailed as the historic agreement that it is.

The deal was announced Jan. 14 in Ottawa. It is subject to review by both governments and there are a few technical details about "specific provisions" that remain to be worked out, mainly in the area of agricultural products.

But behind the scenes, Canadian and Israeli officials are saying the deal is as good as done. Even technical issues can't stop the agreement now, they say.

The final signatures are expected some time in March, when Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres comes to Canada. The deal could go into effect as early as July 1.

Canada has been one of Israel's best friends for years, but the relationship was never cemented with very much hard cash.

Eli Yerushalmi, the chargé d'affaires at the Israeli Embassy in Ottawa, puts it more delicately. "For many years relations were friendly but had no substance."

That was a major problem. Canadians who didn't happen to be Jewish, Palestinian or Arab had less reason to care about what happened in Israel than if they had had money riding on the outcome.

The free trade agreement will help change all that. It will remove tariffs of 17 to 28 percent on most goods traded between the two countries. Those are incredible tariff burdens to doing business.

Canadian merchants trying to import Israeli jams, jellies, candy bars and even pretzels, were being hit by tariffs that completely wiped out their profits.

Israelis trying to export sophisticated electronic and technical equipment into Canada ran smack into the same tariff wall.

And Canadian furniture makers were getting beaten by Americans who have enjoyed a free trade agreement with Israel for several years.

It got so bad that at one point, Northern Telecom Ltd. began selling telecommunications equipment manufactured at its subsidiary in the south-eastern United States to take advantage of the tariff-free situation there.

Little wonder that Israeli-Canadian trade stagnated. Canada does five times as much business with Saudi Arabia as with Israel. Even Third World countries that Canada would hardly describe as "friends" rank ahead of Israel in trade with Canada. Sort of embarrassing way for two good friends to behave!

Every time an Israeli-Canadian free trade agreement was suggested, the answer came back: "Oh, but we do so little business with them." A sort of catch-22.

Meanwhile, the Americans continued to rake in the cash, their U.S.-Israel free trade agreement racking up proportionately five times the trade between Canada and Israel. With the kind of negative attitude that prevailed in Canada, it is a wonder the agreement ever came about.

Part of the credit for the new agreement has to go Dr. Henri Rothschild, director of the Canada-Israel Industries Research and Development Foundation, a kind of forerunner to the free trade agreement. It showed the way.

Part of the credit too has to go to far-sighted Canadian government officials who, right from the start, brought in Canadian Palestinian and Arab business people and showed them it was in their interest, too, that this agreement should go through. They preempted a political problem over the agreement.

That's because there's a clause in the agreement that everyone seems to have missed, everyone except Canadian Palestinians and Arabs, that is.

The new free trade deal will apply equally to the West Bank and Gaza because of the customs union negotiated recently between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

That means any Canadian Arab or Palestinian businessman doing business with Gaza or the West Bank (and there are plenty of them) will get the same benefits as anyone dealing with Israel. Little wonder the agreement presented no political problem for the Chrétien government.

This free trade deal with Israel would never have been possible without Israel's first having made peace with the Palestinians, and signing a customs union with the Palestinian Authority.

In time, the new free trade agreement may double and triple Canada-Israel trade, help increase political stability in the region and bring some measure of economic prosperity to the West Bank and Gaza. Who knows? It may even get some Canadians interested in the future and security of Israel who otherwise couldn't have cared less.

Wonderful, isn't it how a little economic self-interest can help make the world a better place to live?

MP addresses extremist group

TORONTO — Nova Scotia Liberal MP Roseanne Skoke, a vocal opponent of her own party's hate crimes legislation, last year addressed a meeting of a group connected to the ultra-right.

Skoke admits she addressed a meeting of the Canadian Association for Free Expression (CAFE), co-founded by Paul Fromm, who has long been involved with extremist organizations and has spoken at rallies of the racist Heritage Front.

Fromm was removed from his teaching job in Peel region after he was shown attending a party celebrating Adolf Hitler's birthday.

A photo of Skoke addressing the group was included on a CAFE newsletter and captioned: "MP Roseanne Skoke discusses Bill C-41 [the hate crimes law] at CAFE meeting in Toronto."

Skoke told *The Globe and Mail*: "I had no personal association with the group or any of the people at all."

She said she merely accepted an invitation for a speaking engagement, one of many on her schedule.

Canadian Jewish Congress accepts Skoke's explanation that she did not know about the organization's racist ties.

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DISCOVERY WEEK	15 ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE	16 ONTARIO PLACE	17 FAMILY KARTWAYS/ ROLLER-SKATING	18 METRO TORONTO ZOO	19 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND
WACKY WATER ADVENTURE WEEK	22 WILD WATER KINGDOM	23 WASAGA BEACH BLUE MOUNTAIN SLIDE RIDE (Overnight Trip)	24 *	25 CENTRE ISLAND	26 ONTARIO PLACE
VELOCITY ADVENTURE WEEK PART II	29 FAMILY KARTWAYS/ ROLLER-SKATING	30 WILD WATER KINGDOM	31 NIAGARA FALLS MARINELAND WET 'N' WILD WATER PARK (Overnight Trip)	1 *	2 PARAMOUNT CANADA'S WONDERLAND

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From coast to coast

Canadians slam opponents, finish second in bridge

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Here's a test of your knowledge of a popular tabletop game.

Bridge is:
a. soon to be an Olympic event;
b. a way to make a living;
c. taught as a course in high schools;
d. a game of skill and nerves;
e. all of the above.

Ask Irving Litvack that question and he should have no trouble picking the correct answer.

As non-playing captain (coach) of the Canadian national bridge team and as a proprietor of the Regal-St. Clair Bridge Club, he would be able to tell from personal knowledge that a, b and d are all correct. Thanks to education programs in Holland and China, you can add c to the mix and come up with e as the correct answer.

Litvack will be demonstrating his extensive knowledge of the mind-bending game of bridge at Harbourfront on Jan. 27 from 7 to 11 p.m. during It's How You Play the Game, the cultural facility's annual look at tabletop games.

Contacted at his bridge club in Lawrence Plaza, Litvack pointed out that Canada in recent years has joined the world's elite when it comes to competitive bridge, winning a silver medal at the recent World Bridge Competition in Beijing, China.

Canada's mostly Jewish team exceeded expectations to get to the final round versus the powerhouse U.S. team. They succumbed to fatigue and frayed nerves before bowing out.

Canada's team consisted of Torontonians Fred Gitelman, George Mittelman and Litvack along with Montrealers Eric Kokish, Joseph Silver, Mark Molson and Boris Baran.

With Molson the only non-Jew on the team, Litvack is at a loss to explain why Jews make up 6/7 of the Canadian contingent. His only explanation? "Jews are always card players," he said.

Gitelman, who at age 30 is about 20 years younger than his teammates, agreed: "A lot of kids in Jewish families play cards while growing up. The earlier you play bridge, the better you get at it."

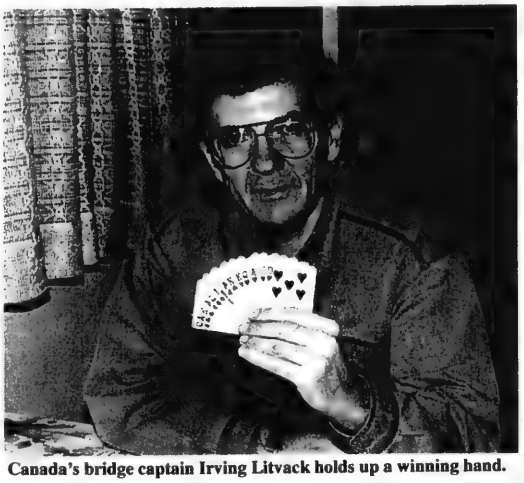
Prior to the tournament, the Canadians "were never picked to advance by the cognoscenti, but I always though we had a good chance," Litvack said.

Ironically, it was Canada's competence and good sportsmanship that allowed the United States to even qualify for the playoffs. With one match to go in the double round robin preliminaries, Canada sat in third place and a loss to Brazil would have allowed the Brazilians to qualify and eliminated the Americans.

Instead, Canada defeated the boys from Brazil and opened the door for the U.S. team.

"We wanted them in," Litvack said. "We wanted to beat them."

In the playoffs, Canada easily handled the inexperienced South Africans before being given a scare by the powerful Swedes.



Canada's bridge captain Irving Litvack holds up a winning hand.

Those wins brought them up against the Americans in the final round but by then "both teams had run out of gas" and both played poorly, Litvack said.

When all was said and done, the Canucks played bridge for 12 days straight with only two half-days off for rest.

"I think the emotional drain just got to us. We lost our mental sharpness" and that led to a host of mistakes, Litvack said.

One player even lost his cool. In the pressure-packed final, which was broadcast live on Chinese television, one Canadian was so unhappy with the play of his partner he got up and walked away from the table, Litvack said.

The final matchup involved playing 160 boards (hands) over two-and-a-half days. At one point, Canada was down by 77 points but in one 16-board set, reduced that margin by 51. After the last board, the United States won by about 40 points.

"They were ready to be beaten," Litvack said with some regret, though Canada's fine showing vaulted them into the world's bridge elite, he added.

Describing the formula for success for top players, Litvack said "you need a good application of logic, determination, good powers of concentration, team spirit and you never give up."

Bridge was recently made part of the Olympic movement and will be an experimental event in the games following the Atlanta Olympiad.

Litvack has tasted international competition before, teaming with Silver to represent Canada at the 1993 Maccabiah Games, winning a bronze medal. Gitelman teamed with Jeff Hampson and the pair finished fourth.

Litvack, Molson, Gitelman and Kokish all make a living from bridge. Molson and Gitelman play in international tournaments and Gitelman has developed a computer program to help players improve their games. Kokish is a bridge journalist and coach.

The other members of the team have kept their day jobs. Silver is a criminal lawyer in Montreal; Baran is a professor of computer science at Concordia University; Mittelman is a stockbroker.

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From coast to coast

Ottawa scientist wins prestigious Israeli award

By MIRIAM SOBEL
CJN Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Morris Schnitzer, a semi-retired scientist from the Centre for Land and Biological Research at Agriculture Canada, has won the Wolf Award, recognizing his lifetime contribution to the field of soil chemistry.

Past recipients of the award from the Israel-based Wolf foundation include physicist Stephen Hawking and artist Marc Chagall.

Schnitzer, the first Jew to win in the agriculture category, will share the $100,000 (US) prize with Frank Stevenson of the University of Illinois. Israel President Ezer Weizman will present the award on March 24.

Schnitzer also recently became the first Canadian to win the Soil Science Distinguished Service Award from the 12,000-member Soil Science Society of America.

"He is a genius, one of the best scientists Canada has ever produced," says colleague S.U. Khan.

Schnitzer's agricultural career began during World War II. A native of Germany, he and his brother were able to join kindertransports leaving the country after Kristallnacht. Schnitzer went to Holland, his brother to England.

In Holland, Schnitzer joined Mizrachi and for two years worked on a training farm, in preparation for starting life in Israel. When the Nazis invaded Holland, he spent the rest of the war on the run, living underground in Belgium, Switzerland and France.

After the war he joined his brother, the only other family survivor, who had emigrated and was living in Montreal.

At 25, Schnitzer decided to go back to school and prepare for university. "It was like an explosion when I started. I was so hungry for knowledge."

The Wolf and Soil Science Society awards recognize Schnitzer's pioneering research into humic acids, which, among other functions, control nutrients and the movement of pesticides in soil.

Since his semi-retirement in 1991, Schnitzer maintains an office at Agriculture Canada and supervises graduate fellows.

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Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Nizkor fights hate on Internet

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspodent

VICTORIA — The Nizkor Project, which both compiles and fights hate propaganda on the Internet, delivers up to 40,000 files per month, says director Ken McVay in a year-end report.

Nizkor (Hebrew for We will remember) joined the Internet in April 1995 and by the end of the year, the project had delivered 300,000 files.

"For the first time in the history of the Internet, educational material concerning the Holocaust is available freely and instantly," says McVay, who calls the collecton of material The Shofar PTP Archives.

McVay, who is not Jewish, operates Nizkor through a computer system on Vancouver Island. He started his project voluntarily and on his own about three years ago "to focus upon my determination to protect the memory of those who died at the hands of the Nazi regime."

He told *The CJN* at that time he was offended by Holocaust denial activities and resolved to fight back. He was using an old computer and transcribed printed text manually, causing painful aches to his wrists and elbows. Now, Project Nizkor has grown and has the use of two scanning systems.

Text that would have taken a month or more to transcribe can be scanned and added to the archives in a few days, according to the McVay report.

McVay, who worked as a grocery clerk and operated his computer project as a hobby, came to the attention of some Vancouver academics who helped him raise funds to organize the Nizkor Project. The project has the support of such organizations as Canadian Jewish Congress, the B'nai Brith League for Human Rights and Hadassah-WIZO and gets funding from the public through a campaign organized by Congregation Emanu-El of Victoria.

McVay, who now works full time on the project, has spoken and demonstrated the type of material he has compiled in many Canadian centres including Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Kitchener and Hamilton. He will be featured at an all-day forum on the Internet at a retreat of the national officers of Congress in the Empress Hotel in Victoria early in February.

In recent weeks, Nizkor has added to the archives such material as Skinhead International: A Worldwide Survey of neo-Nazi Skinheads; Research Report, The Church of the Creator: Creed of Hate; Ross Casey Interview in Australia with David Irving; "and hundreds of pages documenting activities of organized hate groups worldwide."

Plans for 1996 include translation of some of the documents into French and German for non-English users. He will begin scanning the entire Nuremberg trials documents to add them to the archives, a process which will take about two years.

For additional information, contact Rick Kool, evenings only. Monday through Thursday, at 604-386-9326 in Victoria.

Montreal female rabbi overcomes barriers

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Becoming Montreal's first female rabbi causes Barbara Borts no unease.

She was among the first three women ordained by the Reform movement in England, and had to overcome barriers and outright prejudice not only from the more traditional Jewish establishment, but also within the movement's own congregations.

Borts, 41, a native of Santa Clara, Calif., who was ordained at London's Leo Baeck College in 1981, is the new associate rabbi at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom.

Her primary responsibility at the 900-member congregation will be leading the religious school and adult education, giving a sermon about once a month and otherwise complementing the work of Rabbi Leigh Lerner.

"It was difficult to get a job," she said of her early years in Britain. "Our own congregations would openly not hire women, and Reform rabbis generally could not work as chaplains at Hillel, for example."

Today, there are about 375 women Reform rabbis worldwide. Subtle bias against women in the pulpit probably lingers, but Rabbi Borts shrugs it off.

Nor is she concerned about how she will be received by the overwhelming Orthodox rabbinate of Montreal. She hopes for positive contact, but, if not, "It'll be their loss. I'm not looking to them to legitimize me. Certainly, I don't lack ways of getting involved in the community."

Rabbi Borts describes her approach to Judaism as putting fairly equal weight on the spiritual, the intellectual and social action. In the past, she has been particularly concerned with issues related to the environment, women, interfaith dialogue and disarmament.

She hopes to encourage textual study of Jewish sources and stimulate discussion on Judaism's relevance in the contemporary world.

She is committed to contributing to the development of "gender-sensitive" liturgy at the temple. The language of worship, Rabbi Borts believes, should be as inclusive of women as the ritual now is.

From coast to coast

David Rome was a prominent Jewish historian

MONTREAL — Prominent historian and author David Rome, whose professional career at Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) spanned more than 60 years, died last week. He was 85.

"Over the last few years as the historian for the CJC National Archives, Mr. Rome continued to instruct and absorb the experience of our history as a changing society," said CJC president Goldie Hershon. "We greatly mourn his passing."

Born in Lithuania in 1910, Rome was an observer of the Canadian Jewish experience from the time of his arrival in Vancouver (via Halifax) in 1921. He studied English literature at the University of British Columbia and the University of Washington in Seattle, and held degrees in library science and English literature from McGill University and the Université de Montréal.

Before coming to CJC as the organization's first press officer in 1942, Rome was the English editor of the *Toronto Hebrew Journal*, as well as the first national director of the Labor Zionist organization.

During his early years at CJC, he worked with many of the people who shaped the Canadian Jewish community, including Samuel Bronfman, Saul Hayes, H. M. Caiserman and Louis Rosenberg.

David Rome

He was the director of the Jewish Public Library in Montreal before returning to CJC as archivist in 1972.

From his earliest days in Montreal, Rome showed a deep concern for creating a dialogue and spirit of shared heritage between Jews and Quebecers. In 1942, he served as secretary to the CJC committee of Jewish-French Canadian relations, and in the early 1950s, he founded the Cercle Juif de la langue Française, the first francophone Jewish cultural group in Canada.

Rome served on the Council of Arts for the Government of Quebec and the Comité Judéo Catholique, established by Archbishop Paul Gregoire in 1971. He co-authored the book *Juifs et Québécois français: 200 ans d'histoire commune* and was one of the founders of the Institut Québécois de recherche sur la culture juive.

In recognition of his ceaseless efforts along these lines, he was named Knight of the Order of Quebec in 1987. Concordia University bestowed upon him an honorary doctor of laws degree in 1991.

In 1994, Montreal-based Jewish refugees honored him for the role he played in their rescue by CJC from Spain and Portugal, where they had fled 50 years earlier.

Last May, the Canadian Jewish Historical Society organized a tribute evening for him.

A prolific historian and a devoted bibliographer of Jewish Canadiana, his first historial book was published in 1942 by H. M. Caiserman. He went on to publish more than 60 volumes.

Despite failing health in recent years, he continued to write. Recent publications include *Les Pierres Qui Parlent/The Stones That Speak* with Jacques Langlais, a photographic history of the Jewish community of Quebec, and the English translation of the French history book *Jews and French Quebecers: Two Hundred Years of Shared History*, which he co-authored with Langlais.

Rome is survived by his wife Molly, his daughter Tibie and three grandchildren.

MS Society honors Rabbi Moshe Stern

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Last November, at its annual meeting, the Manitoba Division of the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society of Canada recognized Rabbi Moshe Stern for his efforts on behalf of Manitobans with the disease.

Earlier in the year, the Manitoba Division nominated Rabbi Stern for the national organization's President's Award.

"I was particularly touched that I was nominated by the people I consider my friends and colleagues in suffering," said Rabbi Stern, who is Orthodox.'

He has been a professor at the University of Manitoba for 26 years and is currently teaching in the Department of Religion. He was diagnosed with MS in 1980.

Rabbi Stern and his wife, Sydell (who received an award last spring from the Manitoba Division of the MS Society), helped form the Living With MS support group for Manitobans with MS and their families. He has also been a society board member.

Multiple Sclerosis is a chronic disease that eventually destroys the nervous system. Rabbi Stern, however, has not let his illness keep him from maintaining an active life of community involvement. By using a wheelchair and Handi-Transit, he continues to teach at the university and participate in the community.

He is a member of the university senate and senate executive, and is involved in the Society for Manitobans with Disablities and the Canadian Paraplegic Association.

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Caroline Adeana, daughter of Ronite & Andrew Kotler, celebrated her first birthday on Nov. 25. Proud grandparents are Judith & Martial Tauby, Elayne Kotler and Mel Kotler of Kelowna, B.C.

Elli Jason Brodbaker, son of Freda Brodbaker, was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on Nov. 11 at Beth Radom Synagogue. Proud great-uncle is Louis Brodbaker.

The Nazis prevented Avraham Barath from being called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah 52 years ago. Recently he had his bar mitzvah together with his grandson Michael Starr. Congratulations from sister and brother-in-law Sally & Leon Eisner.

Dan Lichtman, son of Jeremy and Susan and brother of Andrew, was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on Oct. 28 in Philadelphia. Dan is the grandson of Pearl & Gabe Blackman and Joseph and the late Ruth Lichtman of New York.

Rhonda Lori Major graduated as an Ontario Scholar in November. Love from Mom, Dad, David & Bubbie.

Hilda & Irving Pisarek are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Deborah Ann to Stuart Jason, son of Suzanne and Leon Feldhamer of Cedarhurst, L.I. Thrilled grandparents are Gitel & Samuel Jaskulka, Sabina & Harry Pisarek, Fruma & Shimon Levner and Chaya & David Feldhamer. Sadly missed at this time are Bubby Faigie Libman and Grandma Lulu Feldhamer.

Irving & Faygie Noble are pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter Adrenne Wallensky to Paul, son of Bob & Bella Levy. A September wedding is planned.

Corinne, daughter of Sonia & Norman Zamosc, and Asaf, son of Liora & Meir Ben-Haim, were recently engaged. A June wedding is planned.

Hanna & Benny Levy recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Love from Smadar, Shelley, Ilana, Michael & Leora Koral; Maya, Chris, Kevin, Diana & Jason Drechsel; Annette, Harold, Michali & David Bidofsky.

Melvin & Blanche Katz celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 6. Mazel tov with love from Riwa, Norma & Brenda.

Stacey, daughter of Diana & Sheldon Lofsky, and Arieh, son of Sharon & Jack Rosenblum, were married on June 15. Happy grandparents are Mary & Joe Pallman and Cantor and Mrs. Anna Zigelman.

Max Shachter celebrated his 85th birthday on Dec. 24. Love from children Irvin & Gail and spouses, grandchildren and extended family.

Sol & Rene Kinrys celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 30 with their children, grandchildren and friends.

Nellie & Ted Schwab celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Nov. 3. Mazel tov from children Stephen & Olga, Sylvia & Joe, grandchildren Andrea & Richard, Michael & Debbie, Robin & Mark and great-grandchildren Carly, Daniel, Lauren & Jesse.

Rose & Sam Segal celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 25. Mazel tov from Helen, David, Sarah & Paina.

Happy 65th anniversary to Vicki & Sam Rosenberg from their adoring children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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Canadians monitor 'dress rehearsal for democracy'

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM — Monitoring an election in a refugee camp was a first for the 11 Canadian members of the international observer team that oversaw Saturday's vote for the Palestinian council and presidency.

"It was a terrible contrast with Canada," said Roger Gallaway, MP for Sarnia, who was assigned to the Dir Balach refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

"In some polling stations, the lighting was barely adequate because of the shortage of electricity," noted University of Montreal professor Baghat Korany, a political scientist who was also assigned to the Dir Balach camp.

But the less-than-ideal conditions did not dampen Palestinian enthusiasm for the election. In the Gaza Strip, where the Hamas had called for an election boycott, 85 percent of eligible voters cast their ballots.

"The turnout was tremendous — nearly 100 percent in one polling station," said Gallaway. "There were many old, sick people who had to be carried in to vote. The expression on their faces said everything. They were beaming with happiness and pride."

"There was a festive atmosphere. People felt they had something to celebrate," said Korany.

"Crowds gathered outside the courtyard and waited until 3:30 in the morning for the votes to be counted. It was unlike anything I had ever experienced in Canada," said Michael Lynk, an Ottawa-based lawyer, who was assigned to Gaza's Khan Yunis refugee camp.

The sheer enthusaism of the crowd, the poor conditions in the camps and the fact that these were the first elections for the Palestinians all combined to create a host of logistic problems.

"There was a crush of voters that was difficult to deal with," said Lynk. "It demonstrated just how badly people wanted these elections."

"Everyone showed up at the same time and they weren't used to queuing up," said MP Ovid Jackson, who was also posted at Khan Yunis. "We needed extra help to deal with the crowd. At one station, the ballot box filled up early on. We had to improvise with a plastic bag."

The size of the ballot presented another problem. "There were 66 candidates for eight seats," noted Lynk. "It's not easy to go through such a long list, especially for first-time voters. add to that the fact that some 15 percent of the voters were illiterate and needed help to fill out the ballot."

For all the logistic problems, Canadian observers — like the rest of the international monitoring team — say they witnessed no major irregularities in the voting or tallying. During the campaign, however, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was sharply criticized by international observers for restricting the opposition and intimidating the press.

"Obviously there are grounds for improvement," said Lynk, who has been a human rights observer in the territories. "This is the first election for a society in transition."

"It's a beginning. In the next election there will probably be a more buoyant opposition," predicted Gallaway. "This was a dress rehearsal for democracy."

Arafat urged to amend covenant

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON – Two of Yasser Arafat's loudest critics in the U.S. Congress traveled to Gaza earlier this month to evoke a renewed pledge from the Palestinian leader to remove language from the Palestine Liberation Organization Covenant, which calls for the destruction of Israel.

"Arafat said eyeball-to-eyeball that it would be out within two months of the [Palestinian] elections," Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) said in a telephone interview last week.

Specter and Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) stopped off to meet with Arafat, and separately with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and other senior Israeli officials during a recent eight-day junket to Africa and Israel.

An inveterate critic of the Palestinian leader, Specter, who is Jewish, stressed the importance of using such meetings to keep pressure on Arafat to do his part to combat terrorism.

Specter and Shelby are the co-authors of legislation that ties U.S. aid to the Palestinian Authority to its compliance with the accords Arafat has signed.

Under the measure, which is a provision of legislation known as the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act, Arafat would forfeit U.S. aid until the covenant is changed.

Arafat promised to amend the covenant within 60 days of the Palestinian election.

"I'm skeptical, but now we'll see if he'll produce," Specter said of Arafat's pledge to alter the covenant. "We've got a specific promise with a specific date."

While many in Congress continue to focus on amending the covenant, Palestinian officials in Gaza and the West Bank have hinted in recent weeks that it could prove easier to win approval of an entirely new covenant.

Specter and Shelby – the only senators believed to have traveled overseas during the U.S. government shutdown – drew substantial criticism upon their return.

The senators apparently deemed the trip essential because Specter chairs the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and Shelby serves as a committee member. In the interview, Specter defended the trip as "time-sensitive," particularly in light of the upcoming Palestinian elections.

But, he added, with "20-20 hindsight, it would have been preferable to defer it, in the face of the media criticism."

Terror toll decreases

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – There was a dramatic decrease in the number of Israelis killed in terror attacks in the last quarter of 1995, according to a report released recently by Peace Watch.

According to the organization, one Israeli police officer Muhmad Chuvari, who was fatally shot in Kalkilya, was killed in the last three months of 1995, compared to 13 in the previous quarter.

According to Peace Watch, 49 Israelis were killed in 1995, with most of those recorded in the first three months of the year. By comparison, 73 Israelis were killed in 1994, 65 in 1993, 40 in 1992 and 22 in 1991.

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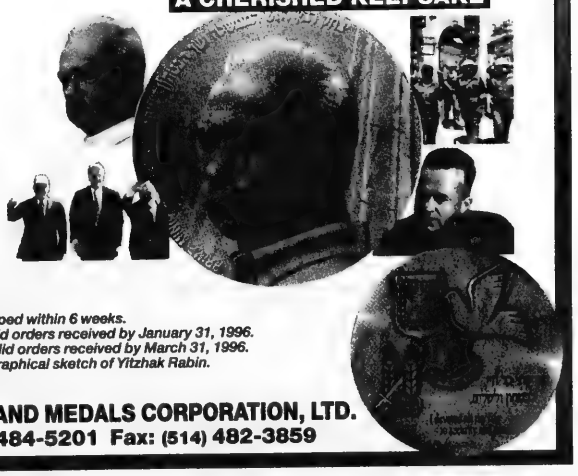

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Vote endorses peace

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

As expected, Yasser Arafat and his slate of hand-picked Fatah candidates swept to a landslide victory in last week's Palestinian elections in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

Most of all, Arafat's triumph was an endorsement of his leadership and of the Oslo peace process.

Arafat, head of the Palestine National Authority (PNA), is now president of an interim 88-seat self-governing council with limited powers.

The mandate of the council is to run the day-to-day affairs of the Palestinians in the autonomous areas relinquished by Israel, to build a Palestinian entity and, implicitly, to lay the groundwork for final status talks with Israel scheduled to begin in May.

The elections were marred by accusations of irregularities and gerrymandering and diminished by the decision of Islamic fundamentalists and left-wing secular nationalists to boycott the race. One must wonder whether the results would have been different had anti-Oslo organizations like Hamas and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine participated.

Nevertheless, the elections, an idea long in the making, were a significant moment in Palestinian affairs.

For the first time, the Palestinians have elected their own legislative body. As a result, they have attained an unprecedented measure of autonomy and have embarked on the road to statehood (with East Jerusalem as the capital), a remote possibility just a few years ago.

An embryonic Palestinian state already exists, given the fact that the PNA exercises jurisdiction over about one-third of the West Bank and more than half of the Gaza Strip.

In Zone A of the West Bank, the towns of Jericho, Nablus, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Jenin, Tulkarm and Qalqilya have fallen under Palestinian suzerainty. In March, the PNA will take over much of Hebron.

In Zone B, where Israel has overall responsibility for security, the PNA holds sway over more than 400 villages. The majority of the Palestinians of the West Bank live in Zones A and B.

Israel is fully in charge of Zone C, with its unpopulated state lands, Jewish settlements and Israeli military bases. But Zone C will also be on the negotiating table.

In the Gaza Strip, currently the seat of the PNA, the Palestinian flag flies over lands which are not occupied by Jewish settlements.

Once final status negotiations are launched, the fate of the rest of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as well as East Jerusalem, will hang in the balance.

The Palestinians will push for a complete Israeli withdrawal, but Israel will likely resist this maximalist demand.

This will be a bitter pill for the Palestinians to swallow. But if there is a continued decline in Arab terrorism, and if Arafat keeps his promise and amends the Palestinian national covenant in March, Israel may be more flexible with respect to territorial issues.

Initially, the PNA was unable or unwilling to control terrorism. In 1994, the first full year of the Oslo process, 73 Israelis were killed in terrorist incidents, hardening Israeli opinion against it. By comparison, the figure dropped to 49 in 1995.

The PNA, in cooperation with Israel, has cracked down on terrorism because Arafat finally realizes that the attainment of Palestinian self-rule is dependent on his ability to deal with that phenomenon effectively.

According to an assessment presented by the Mossad to the cabinet recently, the decline in terrorist incidents is expected to continue as the PNA improves its operational abilities and forges closer security ties with Israel.

The amendment of the covenant is also high on Israel's agenda. Israel hopes that the newly elected representatives of the self-governing legislature who join the Palestine National Council — the PLO's parliament-in-exile — will wield a decisive influence in purging the clauses calling for Israel's destruction.

Arafat, in the 1993 Declaration of Principles, pledged to eliminate these articles, but has not done so because of opposition from within the Palestine National Council.

Arafat is under immense pressure to make good on his promise. Prime Minister Shimon Peres has warned him that the peace process will be at risk, while two influential U.S. senators — Arlen Specter and Richard Shelby — have told him that he will forfeit American aid, unless the covenant is amended within two months of last week's Palestinian election.

Palestine National Authority chair Yasser Arafat (right) meets with former U.S. president Jimmy Carter prior to the Jan. 20 elections. Carter led a team of international observers at the first-ever Palestinian vote. [RNS photo]

Jan. 15

• At a sitting of the Knesset committee on Foreign Affairs and Security, Likud MK Ariel Sharon accused former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir of bearing the main responsibility for Jonathan Pollard's predicament. The committee voted unanimously to urge the United States to free Pollard.

Jan. 16

• Two IDF soldiers, Yaniv Shimel and Oz Tibon, both from Jerusalem, were killed in a drive-by shooting at night, while travelling from Hebron to Jerusalem. The murders were condemned by the mayor of Hebron and by PLO chairman Yasser Arafat. *(Four people were subsequently arrested in connection with the killings.)*

Jan. 17

• At a meeting with U.S. Vice-President Al Gore, Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu stated that a Likud government would recommend that the Interim Agreement be made permanent. "A Likud government would not reconquer the cities already handed over."

Jan. 18

• *Ma'ariv* reported that Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet has asked Pope John Paul II to confirm whether the menorah from the Second Temple is located in the Vatican's storage cellars.

• *Yediot Acharonot* reported that Absorption Minister Yair Tsaban (Meretz) and Transportation Minister Yisrael Kessar (Labor) were retiring from politics. The paper also reported that Communications, Science and Culture Minister Shulamit Aloni would withdraw from the Meretz list but that she was not yet ruling out the possibility of running on an independent party list.

Jan. 19

• The IDF and police imposed the tightest possible security, in preparation for the Palestinian elections. The army was on high alert; police were out in full force; and the West Bank and Gaza Strip were sealed off to travellers.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• The sixth International Conference of the Jewish Media convened in Jerusalem with participants from all parts of the Jewish world.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

MP Finestone discusses women's rights in Israel

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — "The death of Yitzhak Rabin, like that of other outstanding leaders throughout history, was the result of the vitriolic language used by senior political figures," said Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and the Status of Women Sheila Finestone during a visit to Israel last week.

Finestone, who accompanied Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to the Rabin funeral in November, told *The CJN* that she does not blame any particular person or party for Rabin's death, but added: "In the public domain you have to watch your language. Stirring up ethnic and nationalistic tension through intemperate remarks can ultimately lead to the sacrifice of life."

During her week-long visit, Finestone met with Israeli government officials, as well as Palestinian and Israeli women's groups. She was also an official observer of the Palestinian elections and a guest speaker at WIZO's 75th anniversary celebrations.

Finestone said a high-level Palestinian women's delegation, which included two candidates who ran in Saturday's elections, had asked to meet with her to discuss the entrenchment of women's rights in the new Palestinian constitution.

In her meetings with Israeli women's groups, Finestone discussed ways of implementing the "platform for action" adopted at last year's international women's conference in Beijing, including a resolution calling for women's right to a violent-free society.

"Violence in the family, including rape and murder, is exactly the same problem in Jewish families as it is in the rest of society," she said. "There are men who don't believe that anyone from a Jewish family in Canada could beat or murder his wife. There are men who don't believe it is happening in Israel society either. But the women know that it is."

The fact that the problem has surfaced in Israel "means that Israel is no different than the rest of the world," she said. "One way to reduce such violence is to ensure the economic autonomy of women."

Finestone said Israeli women's groups had taken special interest in Canada's strides in pay equity, integration of women into the armed forces and civil divorce legislation.

She praised Israel's advances in education and immigration. "Israel is staking its future on its intellectual resources. Canada has much to learn from the way Israel promotes computer literacy," she said, noting that one in 11 Israeli children has a computer.

Sheila Finestone

"Israel has demonstrated the incredible impact that immigrants have had on the growth of the country," she said. "In much of the world, right-wing movements oppose immigration because they don't realize the role immigrants play in boosting economic growth. Canada is also in a position to demonstrate that immigrants are a positive factor in our life."

Finestone noted that Canada and Israel are among the 11 nations involved in a study to examine the integration of immigrants in urban areas. The two countries may also embark on joint understandings in women's health.

During her visit, Finestone met with Israeli Minister of Immigration and Absorption Yair Tzaban, Labor and Social Welfare Minister Ora Namir and Health Minister Ephraim Sneh.

Academics discuss identity issues

TEL AVIV — "It is time for Israel to give something back to Diaspora Jews by helping them fight their battle for survival," said Rabbi Yehuda Amital, minister without portfolio, at a conference last week.

Rabbi Amital rejected the traditional Israeli approach of urging Jews to immigrate to Israel. "The answer is not aliyah as many Israeli continue to believe. It is important to nurture strong Jewish communities throughout the Diaspora," said the minister, who was recently appointed head of a steering committee on Israel-Diaspora relations.

Rabbi Amital was speaking at an international workshop on Jewish identity held at Tel Aviv University's Rabbi Joseph H. Kelman Centre for Jewish Education. The centre was established in 1991 by Toronto's Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda congregation and by the Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University.

Rabbi Amital, the 70-year-old head of a yeshivah in Kfar Etzion, said he was surprised by the warm response of secular Israelis to his ministerial appointment last month. "It showed how much the general public is searching for a Jewish voice with which it can identify."

He said he would use his post to strive towards three goals: deepening Jewish identity, bridging gaps between diverse sectors of Israeli society and improving ties between Israel and Diaspora Jewry.

Asked about his views on Reform and Conservative Judaism — which are not recognized by Israel's Orthodox religious establishment — Rabbi Amital said he supported these movements because they were bringing more Jews back to the fold of Judaism.

"There is only one important question for me and that is 'Who is concerned with the continuity of Judaism?' Once there was fear that Conservatives drew Jews from Orthodox circles. Now the opposite is true: Conservative draw members from the secular public."

Rabbi Amital was one of a dozen speakers at the workshop, which was described by Rabbi Joseph Kelman as "an attempt by leading educators, sociologists and other academics to wrestle with questions of Jewish identity and identification."

"We realize that the traditional institutions of Judaism are not enough. We need a new agenda in both Israel and the Diaspora," said co-chair Dr. David Schers of Tel Aviv University's School of Education. "In Israel, it is clear that citizenship is not enough. Israelis must also be members of the Jewish people. And in the Diaspora, religious ritual is not enough."

He added that many Diaspora Jews discouraged intermarriage for the wrong reasons. "If you don't learn about Judaism and develop a positive Jewish identity, then the emphasis on associating with other Jews becomes empty, exclusive, segregating and even racist."

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Weizman urges Germans to forge a better future

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

BONN – Appearing before the German parliament last week, President Ezer Weizman said he is unable to offer forgiveness in the name of the millions murdered by the Nazis, but he called upon the Germans to make an effort to build a better future.

His lyric speech, which spanned 4,000 years of Jewish history, lingered on the Holocaust, but went beyond it to dwell on the resurrection of Israel and the prospects of Middle East peace.

German parliamentarians and journalists praised the 20-minute speech for its sensitivity and sweep. To some Israeli listeners, it was among the most eloquent delivered by an Israeli leader since the days when Abba Eban was foreign minister.

The speech was delivered in the Bundestag, with members of the upper house, the Bundesrat, also attending. It was only the third time that a foreign dignitary has addressed the German parliament. The previous two speakers were former U.S. president Ronald Reagan and the late French president Francois Mitterrand. Weizman spoke in Hebrew and his remarks were simultaneously translated into German.

"It was not easy for me to visit Sachsenhausen," he said. "It was not easy to pass through this country and hear the voices calling from the earth. It is not easy for me to stand here and speak to you, my friends, in this hall."

Weizman noted that Jews had lived in Germany for 1,000 years, before the community was destroyed by the Nazis. Referring to the million Jewish children murdered, Weizman asked: "How many books died with them? How many unwritten symphonies died in their throats? How many scientific discoveries remained unshaped in their brains? Every one of them died twice -- once as a child taken by the Nazis to the camps, and once as the adult who could have been."

Nazism, he said, had stolen its victims not only from their families and their people, but from mankind.

"I cannot forgive in their name. I can only demand of you, members of the Bundestag and Bundesrat, knowing the past, to think also of the future, to discern every manifestation of racism, suppress every display of neo-Nazism, and uproot such phenomena before they grow.

"We meet here as representatives of sovereign states, and it is incumbent upon us to find that which unites us so that we can reach those goals we have set for ourselves."

Weizman began his speech by presenting himself as "the wandering Jew." "Two hundred generations have passed since Abraham left his birthplace and went to the land that is today my land. Only 150 generations passed between the pillars of fire of the Exodus from Egypt and the columns of smoke of the Holocaust.

"And I, born of the seed of Abraham and in his land, have been part of them all. I was a slave in Egypt, received the Torah on Mount Sinai and crossed the Jordan with Joshua. I entered Jerusalem with David, was exiled from it with Zedekiah, and remembered it by the waters of Babylon. I was burned at the stake in Mainz, studied Torah in Yemen, lost my family in Kishinev, was burned in Treblinka, participated in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, and emigrated to Israel, the land from which I was exiled and where I was born and from which I came and to which I return."

Theo Moench-Tegeder, of the weekly *Rheinische Merkur*, said he found the speech exceptional in its imagery and heritage-rich content. "This is the stuff from which you build a nation," he said. "I wish we had this historical sense in Germany. Apart from the extremist fringe, there is not a strong sense of national identity in Germany. Since the war, we are afraid to deal with our history."

Israeli PMO denies report of draft pact with Syria

Jerusalem Post Foregin Service

JERUSALEM – Media reports that the United States has drawn up a draft memorandum of understanding between Syria and Israel are baseless, the Prime Minister's Office said last week.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres referred to the issue, at a joint press conference with U.S. vice-president Al Gore, when he said that "it is more logical first to reach agreement and then to put the details on paper, than to write down things only to find there is no agreement."

The reaction came after local papers published quotes from the London-based Arabic-language newspaper *A-Shark al-Aawsat.*

According to the reports, the "draft memorandum" foresees a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights within eight months and the dismantling of settlements within six months after the signing of a treaty.

The paper claimed the draft was based on 12 points. Israel and Syria would grant each other diplomatic recognition, the paper said, and both sides would work toward normalization and joint economic projects would be set up.

As for security arrangements, the report said that U.S. troops would man the border while a symbolic international force would be stationed on the Syrian side of the border for the first two years. Early warning stations on the Golan would be manned by the Americans, the report said.

Meanwhile, both Israeli and U.S. officials are continuing to promote the possibility of a peace agreement before the upcoming elections.

Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir told EU ambassadors that "considerable understanding" has been reached with the Syrians concerning the quality of peace.

"Although Syria's positions are not entirely clear to us, we know for a fact that Syria is interested in signing a peace treaty with Israel in 1996," he said. "In the upcoming round of talks, we will focus on the security arrangements and water issues."

Proper security guarantees

Speaking at Tel Aviv University last week, Minister Yossi Beilin, stressed that the next round of talks with Syria will determine whether a peace treaty can be achieved this year. The United States cannot compensate Israel for an inadequate accord with Damascus.

Beilin said that although U.S. involvement is necessary for an Israeli-Syrian peace treaty, Washington cannot replace the need for proper security guarantees.

"There is room to think that the United States will try to compensate both sides for what has not been achieved in the negotiations," Beilin said. "But there is a limit. I don't see where a defence treaty [between Israel and the United States] can replace borders."

Beilin said the next round of talks, which begin next week, followed by another visit by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, will determine whether Israel and Syria can reach an agreement this year. He urged the United States to press Syria to show flexibility in helping close the gaps on outstanding substantive issues with Israel, including border disputes, water, security arrangements and normalization.

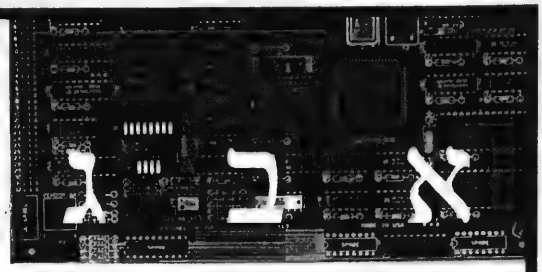
"The moment of truth is not between America and Israel," Beilin said. "It's when Syria and Israel look each other in the eye and say we have to arrive at real peace."

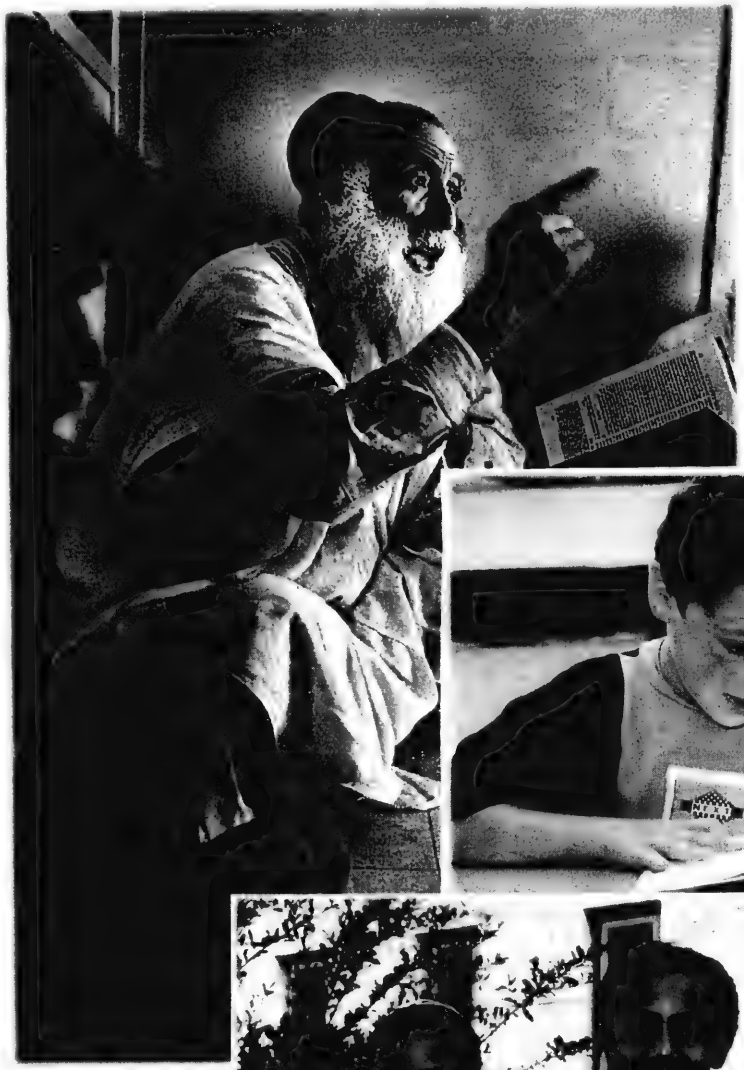
Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said that if necessary, the IDF can beat the Syrian army on the battlefield, and could beat another army as well, should one decide to join the Syrians in the fighting.

Speaking to a group of 11th and 12th graders at Blich High School in Ramat Gan, Barak said the talks "are not yet full negotiations, but are a very important sounding-out process."

EDUCATION

חינוך





"And you shall teach your children, and speak of these laws when you are in your homes, on your travels, when you arise for the day, and when you set aside for the evening...". (*Dvarim* 6:7)

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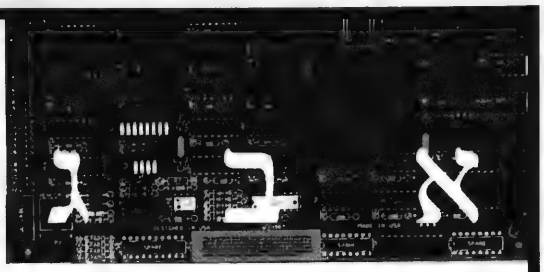

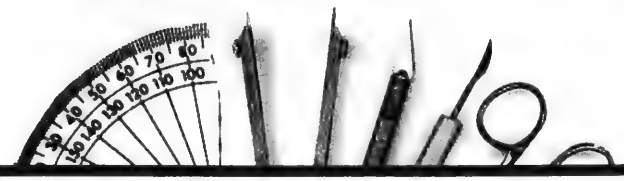

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Youth Activities Director: Ed Goldman
Tel: 416-221-5083
Fax: 416-221-1802
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1700 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K3
Director: Dr. Reuven Robbins
Tel: 416-787-0381, ext. 30
Fax: 416-781-0150
School Chair: Karen Hen 416-781-7924
Affiliated with the Conservative movement. Students from Sr. K-high school attend 1-3 times per week. In addition to the regular curriculum, we incorporate Gemilut Hasadim visits, Shabbatonim, an active student council and special holiday and tzedakah experiential activities into our program. High parent involvement is a cornerstone of our school.

B'NAI SHALOM HEBREW SCHOOL
Yorkhill E.S., 350 Hilda Ave. (at Clark)
Director: Sadie Domb
Principal: Joseph Klinger
Tel: 905-731-2797
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Fax: 905-889-4975
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Passion for education needed

Sadie and Gertie, two elderly Jewish ladies, meet on a Miami Beach street. Sadie asks Gertie how old her grandchildren are.

Responds the proud grandmother, "The doctor is four and the lawyer is three."

While this may be an extreme example, it is typical of the passion for education that infuses Jewish culture.

Not for us the notion that going to school is for sissies. Education is recognized not only as a way to better oneself in a world that often does not welcome us, but as a valuable goal in itself.

That is why Jewish communities around the world spend so much time, money and effort establishing and maintaining the best educational facilities possible.

Toronto has a record of which it can be proud. We have day schools, both elementary and secondary, that serve the population from the secular to the Orthodox. Supplementary schools abound, offering a variety of quality programs. We even have two schools for students with special needs: She'arim for the learning disabled and Zareinu for the mentally or physically handicapped.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and United Jewish Appeal recognize their responsibility in this field and allot the largest percentage of their funds to education.

But the picture is not unilaterally rosy.

The recession that has battered the community as a whole has not left schools untouched. Many are struggling to pay off debts incurred during better times, and to provide the services and programs that parents demand, despite constantly shrinking amounts of money.

The temptation is to deal with monetary crises in a simplistic manner. It is easy to cut remedial classes for weaker students, to embarrass parents applying for tuition subsides into paying more than they can afford, to save staff salaries by stuffing children into larger and larger classes.

These are all dangerous tacks to take. We have a responsibility to provide a quality education for all students, no matter that they may be truly disabled or just not as sharp or talented as some others. A civilization is judged, not by how well its strongest members make out, but by how compassionately it deals with the weakest.

On the other hand, a civilization that ignores its most talented members, and assumes that they will manage whatever is or is not done for them, risks turning itself into a tragic, empty mediocrity.

A class that is too large drains the enthusiasm and talents of the best teacher and leaves the students floundering and insecure, feeling they are part of a mass, rather than individuals of signficance.

When we harass, insult or demean those who are struggling financially, not only are we breaking the rule of conduct that says embarassing another is the same as killing them, but we are creating a whole group of disenchanted, sullen and bitter people, who, instead of supporting and encouraging the institution and its goals, will sit back and watch it discombobulate itself.

That being said, parents have the obligation to recognize that giving their children a Jewish education is an obligation to the continuity not only of their family, but of the Jewish people as a whole.

We must all — fundraisers, schools, parents and communal officials — boldly, responsibly and sensitively accept the challenges that we face. The price we will pay if we don't is nothing less than our future. **L.S.**

A student's thoughts

Sometimes both teachers and parents forget that the ultimate beneficiary of our education system is the student. This musing from a young woman attending a Toronto Hebrew secondary school may remind us of just how intimidating the process can be from their point of view.

You are sitting still at your desk. You can't move. Your cheeks are burning, and the lump in your throat is disrupting your breathing.

The teacher stands in front, and the class is all staring at you waiting for an answer.

Your hands begin to sweat as you desperately repeat the question in your head, trying to come up with at least a semi-correct answer.

Finally, a light bulb goes on in your head, and you think you know — but you're not sure.

You mumble something under your breath, but the teacher can't hear you. You are still too dubious about your answer to repeat it louder.

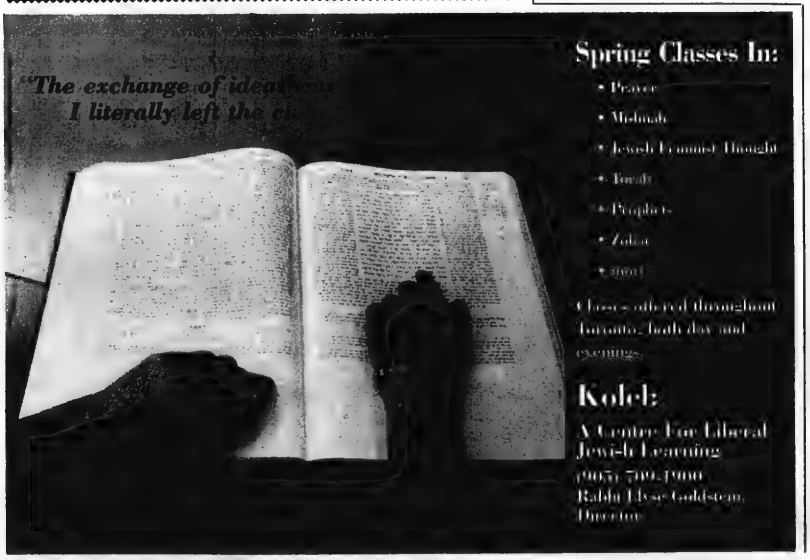
All eyes in the class are on you. Hot tears begin to accumulate in your eyes, and your heart is beating so hard that you wonder if others can hear it. Your chest feels as if it's about to burst.

RRRing. What? What's that you hear? Is that a bell? Suddenly you get a feeling in your body that is similar to the feeling when nausea passes. Your beating heart slows down, you feel a slight chill, which feels pleasant, as the sweat leaves your face and hands.

You take a deep breath. You are free.

PRAY'N LEARN

Matthew Flisfeder starts his afternoon school day by davening.



EDUCATION

Beth Jacob students reach out to Russian immigrants

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

The girls of Beth Jacob High School are not content to work on their own commitment to Jewish practice and Jewish continuity — they want to spread their faith to others, especially those who have not been exposed to it.

For three years, a once a week program called Ashreinu has taught Russian immigrant elementary-school aged girls about Jewish customs, philosophy and spirit, liberally laced with games, arts and crafts, trips and sports.

During the summer, Ashreinu runs a day camp, which has proved very popular.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto has recognized the importance and success of Ashreinu, and recently awarded it a grant from its continuity funds.

This year, a new program has been added for girls 12 to 15. Called Shalsheles Sarah, it is dedicated to the late Rebbetzen Shirley Steinberg, widow of community chaplain Rabbi Sheldon Steinberg.

Chana Steinberg, their daughter, is heavily involved in Shalsheles Sarah. She told *The CJN* that she thought it was an appropriate way to remember her mother, who "taught Russian children and was very involved with the Russian community."

The goal of the program, she said, is "to show them that Yiddishkeit is fun. We want to give them the treasure we have."

Chavi Hendler and Huvie Klein, 16-year-old Grade 11 students who chair Shalsheles Sarah, added simply that "we want to plant a seed [of Yiddishkeit]."

A big and little sister program lets the Russian girls "feel that someone is there for them, if they want someone to talk to," said Hendler.

Last month, about 15 Shalsheles girls and nearly 60 Ashreinu girls came together for a Chanukah Shabbaton. Some of their parents joined them for part of the program.

"You should have seen their faces shining," enthused Steinberg, describing the singing, dancing, inspiring speeches and general fun atmosphere.

Klein noted that the event was very moving for the parents, many of whom had never observed Chanukah themselves.

"It brought back memories of their parents [lighting the menorah]," she said.

Beth Jacob contributed funds for the Shabbaton, but the girls received donations from caterers, bakeries, and stores.

"We were given all kinds of food, latkes, salads, cookies and as many menorahs as we wanted," Steinberg said.

"It shows how the community cares," said Klein.

Rabbi Akiva Stefansky, principal of Beth Jacob, fully supports Ashreinu and Shalsheles Sarah. "Everyone enjoyed the environment, and it introduced parents to a sense of Jewish consciousness."

The students of Beth Jacob have an active *chesed* program beyond these two projects, including visiting the sick, elderly and shut-ins; helping mothers with small children, taking a lulav and etrog to nursing homes and homes for the aged on Sukkot, and distributing *shalach mones* on Purim.

Student subsidies tell two stories

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

The percentage of students in Toronto's Jewish day school system who receive financial assistance is down for the fourth year in a row.

But the actual number of students who get subsidies is up, says Bernard Shoub, director of school finances for the Toronto Board of Jewish Education (BJE).

The figures tell two stories. In the academic year 1995-96, 41.4 per cent of BJE-funded day school pupils — or just over 2,800 kids — are receiving some form of financial assistance, ranging from full subsidies to fees which are topped up by a few hundred dollars.

Last year, the percentage was 41.9 of students in 13 BJE day schools. In the two years previous, the ratios were 42.3 per cent and 43 per cent, respectively.

So it would seem that fewer Jewish families need help.

But, Shoub points out, enrolment has increased over the last four years, meaning that the number of subsidized students in that time has actually gone up by over 100.

"The key issue is that even though the percentage of subsidies is down, we're working with more students," Shoub says.

Averaged out, between one-third and two-fifths of tuition fees are covered by subsidies, a barometer that has not changed, he notes.

There are some Jewish welfare families whose fees are completely covered. Those subsidies come from United Jewish Appeal dollars, Shoub points out.

And they are determined by a family's ability to pay, not its willingness to pay, Shoub says.

"The philosophy at some schools is that no one is turned away. But it's on a first come, first served basis and only if family cannot pay [full fees]."

As an optimist, Shoub prefers to see the glass half-full. "The amazing thing is that 58 per cent [of families] pay full fees, and the bottom line at many schools is that tuition accounts for 85 to 90 per cent of their income."

But Shoub recognizes that the economy plays a role only up to a point. After that, "you can be making a good living, but when you have three children in the system, you can have problems."

That's why, he added, he's looking forward to a positive judgment from the Supreme Court of Canada. The court begins hearing arguments on the public funding of private and independent Ontario schools this week.

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CJN student panel discovers bond despite differences

In 1992, we took a first look at four youngsters from a variety of Jewish backgrounds to kick off an annual series examining their changing perceptions. This year, we introduce a fifth student, to reflect a perspective shaped by a co-educational Jewish high school experience.

When we began, the original group of four was caught up in the excitement of their bar/bat mitzvah year. The series will continue to follow their journey to adulthood through the year 2000.

From left, Chaim Greenwald, Naomi Emerson and Ali Bresver get to know each other at the BJC cafeteria. [Frances Kraft photo]

After reading about each other for the past few years, the four high school students who have been profiled in the Education Supplement since 1992 have finally had a chance to meet.

Eitz Chaim alumnus Chaim Greenwald, a Grade 12 student at the Wisconson Institute of Torah Study in Milwaukee, was in town during Sukkot, and he joined Ali Bresver and Naomi Emerson, both 16 and in Grade 11, for a joint interview in the cafeteria of the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC).

The fourth student, Jacob Korenblum, was unable to attend, but joined the two girls, along with — for the first time — a fifth teenager, Nathan Wise, a Grade 11 student at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto — at *The CJN* office in December.

Ali, a student at Temple Emanu-El's supplementary school and the only one of the group who has never attended a Jewish day school, admitted that she hadn't been looking forward to the interview at the BJC.

"I didn't want to come here and feel not as educated, but I found it really interesting. We do have differences in opinion, but I'm really glad we got to meet. We found out we don't not like each other. We're all nice people; we just have different backgrounds when it comes to Judaism."

Ali's comments followed a lively discussion on Jewish identity, dating and belief (or lack of it) in God.

A common interest in sports, a comparison of their experiences in Israel and a few teenage giggles helped break the ice.

"When do you start dating and stuff?" Ali asked her observant counterparts once the conversation turned to social life.

"For marriage," was Chaim's answer. Most of his classmates at the yeshivah will reach that stage in their mid-20s, he said.

Even socializing with girls is discouraged at his yeshivah, he added. Notwithstanding, he seemed quite comfortable as the only male at the table, and assured the reporter that arranging the joint interview hadn't constituted a religious faux pas.

Naomi, who attended Associated Hebrew Day Schools (which has co-ed classes) until Grade 8, has "friends who are guys, but in terms of going out, I think it's pointless if you don't see a future."

Ali can't imagine marrying without having dated other people first. "I think you need experience from breaking up with and going out with people, [to learn] how you deal with situations."

"It's something I wasn't brought up with," remarked Chaim. "I accept that I'll find the right match in the way that so many people do. I think for religious Jews, even though the divorce rate is going up, it's a lot less than for other groups of people."

The conversation took another serious turn when Ali, a student at Lawrence Park Collegiate, mentioned that she doesn't believe in God. "I came to that conclusion, and I don't know why. I just don't [believe]. I've always been [agnostic]."

"Do you mind if I ask you a question?" ventured Chaim. "What does Judaism mean to you if you don't believe in God?"

Ali explained that she derives a sense of Jewish identity through holidays, Shabbat and her connection with Israel, which she visited for the first time last summer.

"You said you believe in Shabbat. What for?" asked Chaim, puzzled.

"Don't worry, you're not insulting me," Ali reassured him, her tone of voice confirming that she took no offence at his question.

"It's a time for family, a time to be together," she explained. She mentioned her affinity for the havdalah ritual, which inspired her to write a poem that appeared in the Toronto Board of Education's annual *Creative Writing Book* two years ago. (see sidebar)

[Cont'd. on page 35]

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EDUCATION

CJN student panel discovers a bond

[Cont'd. from page 34]

When Naomi, a student at Ulpanat Orot girls' high school, explained that she sees Shabbat as "a result of God's having rested" after creating the world in six days, Ali supported her views.

"You're totally right, [but] for me being Jewish is doing my thing, doing what I feel is my way of expressing that I'm Jewish."

For Naomi, Judaism informs every aspect of her life. "I'm Naomi Emerson; I was born in Canada; I'm a Jew — No. I'm Naomi Emerson; one of the reasons I'm me is because I'm Jewish."

The discussion continued at the second meeting. "When I go out on weekends," said Jacob, a student at Northern Secondary School, "you couldn't tell [me] apart from someone who was not Jewish."

Jacob's family is "kind of Conservative," and he stays home Friday nights at his parents' request.

A graduate of Bialik Hebrew Day School, Jacob has continued his Jewish education with weekly classes at the Bloor JCC. He feels he is part of the Jewish community, "although it definitely doesn't occupy the majority of my time or the space in my head. That's not to say that it's not important to me, but it doesn't factor in heavily."

Ali Bresver, left, shares her thoughts with Naomi Emerson, Jacob Korenblum and Nathan Wise. [Frances Kraft photo]

"Exactly," agreed Ali.

When Jacob discusses Judaism with his non-Jewish friends, he tends to focus on the "ethnic" aspects, such as food, holiday traditions and Israel.

"I don't talk about God or synagogue a lot. I think it's completely possible to feel strongly the ties to Jewish tradition, but not believe in God. I'm not saying I don't [believe], but it's too complicated an issue to get into."

Part of Jacob's Jewish awareness can be traced to his Canadian-born grandparents. "My grandmother [was raised in] a small town. She has very strong views on Jewish identity," he said.

Naomi's family has maintained a strong Orthodox commitment over five generations in Canada. After her great-great-grandfather immigrated, he used to start a new job on a Monday, then quit on Friday so he could observe Shabbat, and begin the cycle anew the following week, she said.

Nathan, a graduate of United Synagogue Day Schools, which is affiliated with the Conservative movement, believes that you can be religious without being observant.

His views on God and Judaism are starting to crystallize, particularly as a result of his Jewish education. One of his courses this year is Rabbinics, in which students discuss issues that include Christianity and conversion.

"It's really strengthening me a lot. In CHAT you have the opportunity to ask so many questions. That's what I do."

Aside from religious feelings and concrete expressions of observance, being Jewish means being part of a community, noted Nathan. "People have a need for community."

In contrast to some of her peers who spend more time in the secular world, Naomi — although she worked at a secular day camp last summer — says that her everyday world *is* the Jewish world.

To a great extent, her world is that of Orthodox Judaism. But does she feel part of the greater Jewish community?

"Totally," she answered. "If I didn't, I wouldn't be here."

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Ali Bresver

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EDUCATION

Shlichim integral to Hebrew education

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Although the number of *shlichim* (Israeli teachers) has decreased over the years, they continue to be integral members of staff in the Hebrew day schools in Toronto.

Increasing numbers of qualified teachers in Hebrew and Judaic studies are graduating from teacher training programs locally, but day schools continue to bring Israeli teachers to Toronto, usually on a three-year contract, with some Israelis staying for an additional year.

The Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), which has more than 650 high school students, has nine Israeli teachers.

"Israeli teachers have depth of knowledge and Israeli experience which bring the students the flavor of Israel," says Rabbi Marvin Pachino, CHAT's headmaster. "And they are steeped in the text. They have come up the ranks of being Jewish educators."

He explains that CHAT has a representative in Israel who interviews prospective teachers and observes them in the classroom.

"We have an advantage — someone does the leg work and screens them before I meet the candidates to make my selection."

He notes that Israeli teachers capably teach the philosophy of the school which is "dedicated to transmitting the totality of the Jewish experience, religious teachings, sense of peoplehood, its literature and culture and its national aspirations."

Yeshivat Bnei Akiva Or Chaim (boys' school) and Ulpanot Orot Girls' School, with a combined enrolment of more than 200 students on two separate campuses, has eight Israeli teachers who teach most of the Judaic studies courses. Rabbi Shlomo Gamara, the current rosh yeshivah, is a *shaliach*.

The Associated Hebrew Day Schools, with some 2,600 students, has three Israeli teachers and an Israeli principal.

Associated's educational director, Rabbi Abraham Soffer, told *The CJN* that the number of Israeli teachers at Associated "has decreased tremendously over the years. We are able to secure the services of local Hebrew teachers — so *shlichim* are not as necessary as in the past."

Rabbi Soffer points out that some qualified Israeli teachers have moved to Toronto. These teachers and the *shlichim* bring the Israeli spirit and *ruach* to the school.

"It has become more difficult to hire Israeli teachers," he says. "We must bring couples; therefore, both have to teach. It is hard to find qualified couples."

Computers stressed at USDS

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

United Synagogue Day Schools have had a revolution in computer technology.

According to Solomon Kaplinsky, director of education, more than 100 multi-media systems and laptop computers have been purchased and are now housed in state-of-the-art computer laboratories at the school's three campuses.

"The computers are used to enhance the delivery of our educational programs both in general and Judaic studies," Kaplinski says.

Since the computers have been installed, he says, he has noticed a marked difference in children's enthusiasm towards learning. But he cautions that "the computer system is not an end in itself, but rather a means to enhance studies.

"Each campus has a full-time computer expert who acts as coach and works with students and teachers on all the equipment. Teachers do not sit passively while children work on the computers — they are an important part of the learning team."

He says the revolution took one year of planning and came about as a joint effort of professional and lay people. "We are one of the newest schools to upgrade to such an extent. We have gone from the dinosaur age to a state-of-the-art school. It really is very exciting."

Solomon Kaplinsky, USDS' director of education, looks on as Grade 6 students Erin Schachter (left) and Erin Cooperberg work on school computers.

Students get at least one hour per week of class time to work on the computers, Kaplinski says, can join a computer club and are permitted to use them during recess.

"There is something magical about placing a computer screen in front of a child. They become enticed to learn," he says.

"Computers can be used to suit the needs of each individual student. The children can move at their own pace and it makes learning fun. As well, computers are networked between campuses so all teachers can work together."

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EDUCATION

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein (centre) with students from Kolel, a centre for liberal Jewish learning.

Adult education flourishing

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

A more comprehensive program of adult Jewish education for the 15,000 Jewish residents living south of St. Clair Avenue is underway at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) under the umbrella of the just-formed Downtown Jewish Learning Council (DJLC).

There is no shortage of adult programs in the north, either, with Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and secular groups offering courses in addition to wide-ranging programs of individual synagogues.

Aish HaTorah and Ohr Somayach are among groups reaching out to people who want to reconnect to their Jewish roots. Both are active in Thornhill and the Bathurst corridor and Ohr Somayach recently opened a downtown learning centre on the 16th floor at 18 King St. E.

Kolel, a Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, offers programs in Thornhill, the Bathurst corridor, downtown offices, private homes and in Mississauga. For the first time it is offering courses in cooperation with the Bathurst Jewish Centre, the Downtown Jewish Learning Council and B'nai Brith Canada.

A whole variety of programs for seniors are available at the Betel Centre for Creative Learning and the Wagman Centre.

Most of the increase in the Jewish populations south of St. Clair Avenue is in the west Annex area north of Bloor Street, according to Joan Schoenfeld, DJLC chair. The newcomers are mostly from the United States and Montreal, she said. Though the most numerous group attending DJLC classes are young marrieds, there are many couples and retired people seeking knowledge.

One of the classes offered at the DJLC on four Wednesdays in May is How to Raise a Mentsch given by Rabbi Mitch Mandel, Aish HaTorah director of Outreach, and Rabbi Yaakov Palatnik of the Village Shul.

In addition to the Shul Primer (everything you always wanted to know about Shabbat, but were afraid to ask!) Aish HaTorah is presenting the STEP program (Skills for Torah Enrichment and emPowerment) directed by Rabbi Yossi Michalowicz. STEP offers four courses for men, one course, Women and Mitzvot--the Inner Dimension for women and a host of courses at both intermediate and advanced levels for both men and women.

"It's an enormous jump for us," said Rabbi Avram Rothman, Ohr Somayach executive director, referring to their new location downtown.

The Bathurst Jewish Centre is always a hive of activity for adults seeking to improve their knowledge of Jewish subjects and their skills in dance, music, drawing, painting and soapstone sculpture at the Koffler Centre, said director Joan Tooke.

At that location, the Institute for Jewish Learning (IJL) is collaborating in courses with the Koffler Centre, Kolel and Aish HaTorah, said Marlee Pinsker, director. A four-week course on Mondays in February, in cooperation with the Koffler Gallery, is titled Let There Be Light, and involves students using art and writing in a creative approach to the Bible.

Commening on the innovative offerings at the IJL, Pinsker said: "The community is changing and we must change with it."

A 10-week seminar, beginning in February, on Modern Jewish Feminist Thought is offered by Kolel at both the Canadian Centre for Reform Judaism and the Bloor JCC, said director Rabbi Elyse M. Goldstein.

Doing Jewish (Basic Judaism) is offered for 12 weeks beginning in February at the Bloor JCC by Kolel. The class includes field trips to a Jewish funeral home, mikvah, synagogue and Shabbat dinner.

Teenagers' motivation seen as essential to their education

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

It's not too late to give your teenager a full Jewish high school education even if he or she has never attended a Jewish day school. But the student must be highly motivated to succeed, say educators.

The Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) has been running a program for students without a day school background for 20 years. The students who are accepted into this program are "highly motivated and stick it through," says Rabbi Marvin Pachino, headmaster of CHAT.

"They are prepared to take on the burden of the double program — the homework, the assignments," he says. "They have made a decision consciously."

The school evaluates applicants' academic skills and carries out interviews to determine whether or not these students have the motivation to make the adjustment to the double curriculum, he explains.

"We get the feeling of who can handle it after seeing them."

All students need to know how to read and write Hebrew, but the level of the class of 15 to 20 students varies from year to year and the school makes the adjustment accordingly, Rabbi Pachino says.

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The other CHAT students study the same core subjects, but for them, Hebrew is the language of instruction.

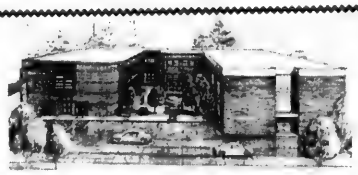
The National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY), a youth movement affiliated with the Orthodox community, operates Free Torah High, a supplementary Jewish education program for students at secular schools in grades 7 to OAC. With five locations in the Greater Toronto Area, the program serves an average of 80 to 100 students a year.

"It's a basic program, an alternative program to keep them [the teenagers] involved in Judaism at a level they can appreciate," says Glenn Black, regional director of NCSY.

Every year a handful of students become more committed to Judaism and decide to switch to full-time study at a Jewish high school program, such as Ner Israel Yeshiva or CHAT. Free Torah High facilitates their transition, Black says. "When a kid comes to us and needs some help we're there for them."

NCSY becomes an intermediary between the student and the school, advocating on behalf of the student. Black says his program arranges for tutoring and whatever support is necessary. Students who have previously attended day school usually need less help.

בס"ד



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Day schools mourn Rabin with services, candles

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

The death of Yitzhak Rabin had a profound effect on students and staff at Hebrew schools across the city.

Zita Gardner, director of Leo Baeck Day School, said that the first day back to school after the assassination, students arrived to find a lowered flag and a glowing *yahrzeit* candle.

"We kept the candle burning throughout the shivah, so we would all be reminded of what happened," Gardner said.

"When the students came to school that day, we immediately ushered them into an assembly where we talked about Rabin's life and long career, his goals for peace, and about the sacredness of life. We had discussed whether or not to have the assembly and the teachers decided that the school should be together as a community. We made the right decision, because we got tremendous feedback about how moved the children were with the assembly.

She said that during the week, students learned the *Song of Peace*, which was sung at the last rally Rabin attended.

Yitzhak Rabin

"On the first Shabbat, we sang that song and read some poems written by senior children. Loonies collected from the students were used to plant Israeli trees in Rabin's name," she added.

Rabbi Shlomo Brown, principal of Ulpanat Orot High School, said his staff is made up of Israelis and everyone was shocked and dismayed about Rabin's death.

"At our assembly, we said a few prayers and showed the girls part of the funeral. We later made ribbons for the North York ceremony, which most of the girls attended without any encouragement from us," Rabbi Brown said.

"At a Shabbaton the following week-end, we discussed the individual and society and how there can be such major disagreements amongst people."

At Temple Sinai Religious School, an assembly was held the day following the assassination for children in kindergarten to Grade 6, as well as for parents and any others who had been at the Temple for the morning minyan.

"Ira Schweitzer, our director of education, spoke about the death of a great leader, and rather than being melancholy, turned the assembly into a positive experience for the students and adults," says assistant principal Charlotte Koven-Feldbloom.

She added that the students who are part of the temple's university-college department and are now living in Israel wrote pieces for the department's newsletter and shared with their peers a first-hand view of goings-on in Israel.

Rabbi Marvin Pachino, headmaster of CHAT, said he spoke to the students at a school-wide memorial assembly held the first day back at school after the assassination.

"The teachers dealt with individual questions in their classrooms. The assembly was a time for Psalms and community remembrance. Later on in the week, we signed a condolence book and sent it on to the Israeli Consulate for transmission to Mrs. Rabin."

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Parents urged to support key values

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Parental responsibility in Jewish day schools goes beyond academic support and behavioral concerns.

Several educators across the religious spectrum say they expect parents to take an active interest in their children's education, but they also expect them to uphold the values of the school.

"There has to be harmony between the home and the school otherwise the children will suffer greatly from the conflict." Young minds can't handle such conflict, Rabbi Akiva Stefansky, principal of Beth Jacob, an Orthodox high school for girls, told *The CJN*.

Parents should be role models for their children and "practise what they expect of their children," he said. "Our school has certain objectives. Parents who send their child to this school should examine their objectives and decide if this school meets their objectives."

A school cannot adapt to parents; parents have to adjust to what a school does, and therefore parents should choose a school that best reflects their own values, he said.

Dr. Uri Korin, principal of Bialik Hebrew Day School, also stressed the importance of consistency between the home and the school environment, and the necessity for parents to support the school's philosophy.

"If there is a conflict of values, parents can change their way of life or remove their child from the school," he said. "It is unfair to put a child in two worlds."

Bialik, which is Zionistic in orientation, has a well-estabished philosophy; but not every parent thinks the teaching of four languages is necessary and some want more physical education and arts programs. However, it's not possible to change parts of the curriculum to satisfy such individuals, Korin said.

Korin encourages parents to communicate with the school, because he see the education of a child as a "partnership between the school and the home," he said. The school should feel free to discuss issues with parents and parents should feel comfortable to ask questions, he added.

Solly Kaplinski, educational director of United Synagogue Day Schools (USDS) told *The CJN* he sees parents as part of the decision-making process, but they are also expected to support the school's educational and religious goals vis à vis the acquisition of academic skills and competency in religious practices.

EDUCATION

Education a family affair

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Jewish education in Toronto is branching out in a new direction, as educators beginning to target entire families.

A group of educators and spiritual leaders have sent a proposal to the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto to have a family educator who would develop programs for the whole community, Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, senior rabbi at Beth Tzedec Congregation told *The CJN*.

His own congregation has created a position for a family educator and is in the process of hiring, he said.

"We're beginning to realize that it's not enough to educate a child. The child lives in an environment. We need a framework for the family.

"Synagogues are the gateway to most young Jewish families," he said. "By strengthening these kinds of programs they are strengthening these families.

"Baby boomers and their children are looking for enjoyable educational experiences and good quality time together," he said.

"Family education isn't seen as a substitute. It's seen as another angle into the soul and the life blood of Jews."

Dr. Reuven Robbins, director of education and youth at Beth Tzedec, stressed the need for a family educator, because, he said, too many of the synagogue's programs — for example the religious school, adult education and youth programs — segment families.

A synagogue-wide family education program would bring families together, he said. "A generation or two ago, Jewish families did Jewish things together in the home. Today there is some practice, but there is less of a knowledge base. The synagogues need to be the impetus to bring the families together to learn to do the rituals."

Dr. Ira Schweitzer, director of education at Temple Sinai, runs one of the most extensive family education programs in the greater Toronto area. Parents cannot drop their children off "UPS-style" and expect them to get a Jewish education, he told *The CJN*.

Parents as partners

"Supplementary Jewish education cannot succeed if we don't involve the entire family ... Our task is to make the parents partners in the process."

The supplementary program, which runs five hours a week 30 weeks a year, cannot provide the same level of Jewish education as the day schools, which have the students five days a week, 40 weeks a year, he said.

Schweitzer has set up several family education programs, from the monthly Tot Shabbat for preschoolers and their families, to the family life course on Jewish social issues for high school students and their parents, run by professional family communicators.

Parent And Child Education (PACE), an optional program for grades 4, 5 and 6 students attending the temple's religious school program, has been running for four years. One-third of the parents or approximately 20 at each grade level opt in, joining their child in study one Sunday a month, Schweitzer said.

Synagogues, which are "institutions for family living," need to initiate family learning expriences, he said. "It's part of being a total temple to the family."

"Children can only have Jewish commitment if they see Judaism as a way of life," according to Karen Goodis, principal of the religious school at Shaar Shalom Synagogue. "They can't do that if it [Judaism] only happens at school."

Goodis has been running a family education program for grades 6 and 7 students and their parents for three years and she gets practically perfect attendance, she said. Parents and children meet together four times a year to learn different aspects of prayer or halachic practice.

"Family education is a critical need. We're dealing with many parents who do not have a strong Jewish education," she noted. "They want to be involved in Judaism and they need the tools to do it.

"Family education is a link to continuity. Part of continuity is teaching families how to be Jewish and to be committed. And you can't be committed if you don't know anything," Goodis said.

Yiddish flourishing in Toronto

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Yiddish will continue to be alive and well in Toronto if the Committee for Yiddish of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto has anything to say about it.

Director Sylvia Lustgarten reports that the committee is involved in two new projects.

The Yiddish Teacher Training Course is being attended by 15 students, who are interested in learning the methodology of teaching, and in upgrading their own Yiddish.

The course is being taught by Ellie Kellman, who teaches Yiddish at the University of Toronto and at YIVO-Columbia Yiddish summer school.

As well, for the first time in many years, Lustgarten says, some 15 students are studying Yiddish for high school and OAC credit. Discussions have also been instituted to have Yiddish taught at CHAT, she says.

Classes for adults are "continuing and improving, so that a new, younger generation can learn the language of our great Ashkenazi tradition," says Lustgarten.

In fact, the Committee for Yiddish itself has been restructuring and rethinking its programs, in order to modernize itself "so that it can appeal to a new generation."

The University of Toronto Committee for Yiddish Studies is trying to raise an endowment to "give Yiddish courses [there] permanence and stability."

Long-time programming continues: adult classes in private homes, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, Earl Haig Collegiate, Bialik and other locations, and groups in synagogues and organizations. Luncheon groups at the Primrose Club and with well-known Toronto personality Ben Kayfetz are very successful.

Lustgarten noted that the Committee for Yiddish has taken an active role in conferences recently, especially Women's Voices.

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Rabbi Meir Gitlin demonstrates the finer points of ball-playing to students of Lubavitch's afternoon school.

Supplementary schools stress warmth, individual growth

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Both Ohavei Torah and Chabad Lubavitch supplementary Hebrew schools stress the importance of warm and professional teachers, a stimulating environment and a love of Judaism.

Ohavei Torah, a private school which rents space at Beth Radom Synagogue, currently runs classes for junior kindergarten students, as well as those in grades 5 to 8.

Principal and director Baruch Rand says that in this first year of operation, the school has initiated the integrated learning system which "emphasizes learning in a variety of senses such as music, art, drama and movement.

"This approach works well because many students do not respond well to oral teaching, but rather, work better through other senses. It is a totally different approach. Often, young children do not remember what they learn, but when they use all their senses, their long-term memory is developed," says Rand, who was formally trained in the integrated learning system.

He says students act out Bible stories, do Bible-related artwork and learn about prayers and holidays.

"This is not a conversation or language immersion class. Students get a subliminal knowledge of the language through our other activities. There is a unit on the alphabet, in which children learn to recognize the letters, but they are not yet reading."

Rand says he is quite excited about a new day school he and local educator Gail Baker are set to open in the same location in September 1996.

"Gail specializes in alternative educational techniques and will be able to assess what type of instruction each child needs. The school is prepared to take in underachievers, those who have potential but are unable to respond to certain ways of teaching. These children often flourish in an integrated learning setting. We plan a lot of music, art and sports, in order to develop the body and mind simultaneously."

Chabad Lubavitch Hebrew School, under the direction of Rabbi Meir Gitlin, now has 400 students in kindergarten to Grade 8, in three locations across the city — Wilshire Public School and Thornlea High School, both in Thornhill, and Forest Hill Public School in north Toronto.

Rabbi Gitlin says his school is unique in that "kids actually love coming. The teachers enjoy teaching and they really relate to the children — they speak the children's language."

The curriculum focuses on "everything that is important in Judaism — Hebrew language, history, prayer, mitzvahs, keeping a kosher home and Jewish ceremonies," Rabbi Gitlin says.

The school is made up of public school children from unaffiliated, Reform or Conservative homes, he says. "The children are given the opportunity of learning what Orthodox Judaism is about. We explain it, and if someday they choose to live that way, they will understand it all. We give them an appreciation of the beauty of our heritage and we explain why Jews do what they do."

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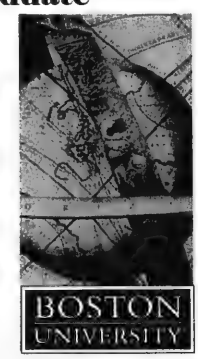

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EDUCATION

York's teacher education courses successful

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

The successful teacher training program inaugurated seven years ago at York University's Centre for Jewish Studies has shown that it can successfully train teachers in Judaic studies, who are fluent in Hebrew, in a Canadian university setting.

Martin Lockshin, a professor at the Centre for Jewish Studies and coordinator of the Jewish Teacher Education Program, says that while studying Judaica and Hebrew, the students can also experience the stimulating, intellectual environment of the university.

Currently 28 students are enrolled in the program. Some students study for a year in an Israeli university as part of the program, as three students are presently doing. As well, students receive on-the-job training at several Hebrew day schools in Toronto.

Graduates of the program are working in Hebrew day schools in Toronto, other cities in Canada, the United States and Israel.

Students generally apply after having completed one year of university study, although a few enter after completing their bachelor's degree. Lockshin says students are expected to have some serious background in Jewish studies before entering the program and most have fluency or near-fluency in modern Hebrew.

"But a student without a strong background in Hebrew language, who is willing to work hard and become fluent in Hebrew, will also be considered," he adds.

Students who complete the Teacher Training Program receive a bachelor of arts degree, usually with a major in Jewish Studies, a bachelor of education degree, an Ontario Ministry of Education and Training Certificate and certification by the Toronto Board of Jewish Education. They are then qualified to teach in Jewish studies or general studies programs at a Hebrew school, or in the public school system.

There are four areas of study: Jewish Studies content courses, which could deal with Bible, philosophy, history, Holocaust or the sociology of the Jewish community; educational method and theory courses — the same courses studied by all students at York who are training to be teachers; methods of teaching Jewish studies, including how to teach Hebrew as a second language and how to teach about the Jewish holidays; and general education courses offered to all York students.

Lockshin says the Ontario government's financial cutbacks have been "cushioned" by the support of outside funding, noting for example, "a generous grant" received from the Israel Koschitzky Family Foundation.

"In fact, we hope that next year we will have more courses and more faculty members in the program and perhaps also more students than this year."

As well, the centre is hoping to expand the teacher training program with an in-service program to help teachers presently teaching to upgrade their teaching skills.

Ethics learned from school, home

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

How do schools teach ethics? This question was recently posed to educators at a number of Hebrew schools.

The Board does not legislate the teaching of ethics, says Rabbi Irwin Witty, the executive director of the Toronto Board of Jewish Education. Each school establishes its own methods of teaching lessons in ethical behavior.

Rabbi Witty says there are three elements in teaching ethics — the teachers, lessons from the sacred texts and parents.

Teachers, he says, must be models of ethical behavior in the way they lead their lives, the way they relate to the students and the way they deal with situations in the classroom.

Students learn through the study of the sacred texts, but also learn behaviors which are not officially part of the curriculum, such as waiting their turn and saying please and thank you. And they learn from parents, who should also be ethical models, he says.

"Teaching ethics is done subliminally," says Rabbi Witty. "Judaism must be caught, not taught."

Rabbi Abraham Soffer, educational director at the Associated Hebrew Day Schools, the largest day school in the country, says ethics must be part of any subject taught in Judaic or general studies.

"A child learns ethics at home from parents, grandparents and others. The teacher must be a role model for proper ethics. Children learn by example."

He says the school teaches Ethics of the Fathers, which is filled with ethical rules.

He believes the role of the school is to help students develop morals and identity "so they can make their own decisions — so they can make choices."

At Bialik Hebrew Day School, the 800 students learn the meaning of the word "mentshlechkeit," says the principal, Dr. Uri Korin. "You cannot teach values but you can bring students to internalize certain beliefs and models of behavior."

Among Bialik's goals are: to teach one's responsibility to perpetuate the bond with Jews throughout the world; to foster an understanding and respect for racial and cultural differences within our society; and to help students gain a sense of respect for themselves, for others and for their environment.

A number of projects have been developed based on these goals.

Korin cites tzedakah projects, such as collecting money for the Jewish National Fund (JNF), which goes far beyond collecting money. Discussions take place on the work of JNF to help the stu-

[Cont'd. on page 43]

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Children from Or Ha'emet's senior kindergarten form a menorah using the brightest candles — themselves. [Back row from left] Michal Cohen, David Igelman, Jake Bendahan, Akiva Adler, Maurice Oziel, Ashley Abbou, Shiffy Marzel, Naphtali Abihsira, Raphael Zipori. [Front row from left] Natalie Ifergan, Danielle Hoffman.

Education a birthright: Witty

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Although the number of students has increased this year at the 70 full-time and supplementary Jewish schools in the greater Toronto area, Rabbi Irwin E. Witty, long-time executive director of the Board of Jewish Education, expresses the hope that attendance will climb even higher.

Total enrolment for the current academic year is 16,554 students, a healthy increase of 542 over last year's figure of 16,012 students. According to Rabbi Witty, the most impressive growth occurred at the high school level, where the number of students increased from 1,402 to 1,529.

"We're delighted with the number of children in Jewish education, and our figures put us above many Jewish communities south of the border," he said. "But we are very cognizant of the fact that we're not reaching any more than about 50 per cent of Jewish youngsters."

Sitting in his small, cluttered office in the Lipa Green Building on Bathurst Street, Rabbi Witty runs his fingers down a page of statistics as if poring over a report card. Year by year over his 27 years on the board, the white-bearded dean of Jewish education in Toronto has seen a consistent rise in Hebrew day school enrolment, which has roughly kept pace with the growth of the city's Jewish population, currently estimated at more than 165,000.

"I believe that Jewish education is the birthright of every Jewish child, and that parents have a moral obligation to provide the type of long-term exposure to Jewish education that we provide in our schools," he said.

However, the sustained growth in enrolment has resulted in space shortages in many schools, he acknowledged. "Some schools are having difficulty. Demand has expanded but the space has not."

There are 23 full-time Hebrew day schools, including 15 elementary schools and eight high schools in the Toronto area; two small elementary schools, She'arim and Zareinu, cater to special education needs. There are also 47 supplementary schools, not all affiliated with the board. While two supplementary schools closed this year (Rosedale-Moore Park and Workmen's Circle), three new ones opened.

Combined, the day schools and supplementary schools employ a staff pool of more than 1,300 teachers, principals, supervisors and specialists and require a total operating cost of about $60 million annually. According to Rabbi Witty, the number of *shlichim*, teachers from Israel, in the Jewish school system has decreased steadily. Five years ago, some 50 *shlichim* were teaching our children; today, there are no more than 15.

"Finding first-class teachers remains one of our biggest challenges," said Rabbi Witty. Two local seminaries are now turning out qualified Jewish school teachers: the York University Program in Jewish Teacher Education, and Midrasha l'Morim.

With tuition fees upwards of $6,000 per student per year, many Jewish parents have been forced to regard Jewish education as a luxury rather than a necessity. However, some $6.5 million is currently available as day-school subsidies, reduced from a previous high of $7 million.

"The amount requested by needy parents is much more than this, but there's just no money out there," said Rabbi Witty. Like others in the Jewish education system, he eagerly awaits a Supreme Court ruling expected Jan. 24 on whether Ontario public school funding can be extended to cover the province's Jewish schools.

Overall, Rabbi Witty gives good passing grades to a Jewish education system that has kept up with demand, he says, but still hasn't reached far enough into Reform and unaffiliated Jewish homes, where most of the Jewish population resides. He also expresses a wish that more parents from more committed Jewish homes would keep their children in Jewish schools beyond the elementary years.

"My number one priority is to maintain and promote a campaign for increased enrolment in Jewish schools," he said. "We need to educate parents that Jewish education is something that has to be carried through the junior and high school levels."

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EDUCATION

Values, ethics taught in practical way

[Cont'd. from page 41]

dents understand what their money is used for.

When visiting Canada, Israeli soldiers attend school assemblies and Bialik students correspond with the soldiers.

Other projects include work with the elderly and people with disabilities. They take part in-depth discussions with elderly people and participate in projects to sensitize the young people to the problems an impaired elderly person must cope with. This is linked with the study of Jewish ethics in the Talmud on treating the elderly.

As well, students socialize with children who have disabilities, in order to develop empathy and sympathy.

"Therefore," says Korin, "how you should treat people is sprinkled throughout the curriculum and the text is not only a holy book but a practical document on how people should treat people."

Of importance, he says, is teaching that you cannot resolve problems by fighting. Programs such as the "peace makers" project are created for students to resolve conflicts with other students in a peaceful way.

"This peer-helping-peer program has been very successful and the need to use consequences has been minimized.'"

As well, a *mechanech* (educator) project was developed to train teachers to be spokespersons who deal with problems between students or between teachers and students, and to serve as a bridge between home and school.

And a Life and Value Education (LAVE) project brings students and *mechanech* teachers together to examine the things which are positive and negative to them.

Korin notes that whenever a student has a birthday party, the child is asked to bring an unwrapped gift for a less fortunate child.

"This project of the federation internalizes true tzedakah, and the box is always getting gifts," says Korin.

Beth Jacob High School for Girls' objective is to help the 360 students "develop into ethical human beings," says Rabbi Akiva Stefansky, the principal.

"For this reason, we do not teach them ethics *per se*, because this type of study by definition excludes personal imperatives and in so doing, serves to militate against them. Instead, we teach them Torah, the 613 mitzvot (commandments) that we received on Mount Sinai, which branch into numerous details."

He explains that the mitzvot include specific guidelines for behavior that denote respect for parents, elders and others; kindness to others and charitable activities; sensitivity to others; honesty, in and out of school; and responsibility to community.

"Through the assiduous study and diligent practice of these mitzvot, our students develop traits of character that form the substance of the ethical behavior."

At Eitz Chaim Schools, which have 1,150 students at three branches, two for girls and one for boys, Rabbi Aaron Levine, the principal of the boys' school, told *The CJN*, "Any subject we teach involves the teaching of ethics. Our introduction to Torah is based upon ethics and mentshlechkeit — decency, respect, compassion and sensitivity."

'Decency, respect, compassion and sensitivity'

He adds that they are constantly finding appropriate ethical lessons and teachings that tie in with the text being studied.

He spoke of Abraham's example of the true meaning of *hachnasat orchim* (welcoming guests to your home) or visiting the sick.

"Every text studied lends itself to bringing an ethical discussion and making it ethically practical to the students' daily lives."

At Temple Sinai School, the 500 students who attend the supplementary Hebrew school have numerous programs to teach ethics at each grade level.

At the beginning of the year, every class begins with a discussion on behavioral expectations for their own class, says Charlotte Koven-Feldbroom, assistant principal, who oversees kindergarten to Grade 6.

She describes the teaching of *derech eretz* (respect for others) to the younger students.

"The children discuss how to treat each other and how they want to be treated," she says.

As a community within the classroom, they talk about what kind of environment is best for learning and determine what they want in their own environment.

"In our school, we talk a lot about how human beings should treat each other; we cover respect, consideration and tolerance."

She notes that today, there are many students "who are facing increased pressure from family breakdown. Part of our function is to make kids feel that they are safe and respected and help them develop a proud dynamic Jewish identity which is a reflection of living an ethical Jewish life."

In Grade 5, students study how we take care of our Jewish community. Social action and hands-on responsibility get the students involved in the community.

Dr. I. Schweitzer, director of education at Temple Sinai, who is responsible for the students from Grade 7 up, says the students learn the mitzvot through living experiences. The upper grades do research and choose their own projects.

To understand Jewish values such as feeding the hungry, students in Grade 8 were given $17.50 and told to shop for a week as if they were on welfare. They met with a dietitian to see if what they had purchased met the criteria for a balanced diet.

Rabbi Marvin Pachino, headmaster at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) says the high school students deal with a whole range of ethical issues within a rabbinic framework, including biomedical concerns, homosexuality, abortion and reproductive technology in terms of their ethical implications.

"Society is so open and permissive," says Rabbi Pachino, "that very often today, the only value they hold is what is good for me and pleasure. What we stand for runs against the tide of society's behavior."

Through class discussions and informal discussion groups based on source material and texts, both classical and modern, the high school students deal with honesty and verbal and behavioral ethics.

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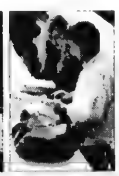
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Intense, colorful paintings demand viewer's involvement

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Paul Peregal's paintings, exhibited recently at Gallery Louise Smith, throb with life. Strongly expressionist with bold outline, intense color and emotion, they demand involvement.

Peregal paints his portraits, scenes and not-so-still lifes to music. "When the music stops, I stop," he says.

His high rise studio in Toronto's Annex, is stocked with jazz and classical cassettes and the music or reading in which he immerses himself, is sympathetic to the work at hand.

"I'll put on a jazz combo when I'm doing my jazz musicians, a chamber quartet as inspiration for a landscape," he notes.

Peregal has done four studies and a definitive portrait of Dylan Thomas, painting as he listens to the poet reading his own verse.

Peregal immerses himself in music.

His Matisse is a compendium of all that he knows and feels about the artist. And he reaches into the soul of the Italian/Swiss sculptor, Giacometti, darling of the existentialists.

Occasionally his subjects are real people, like Coltrane (Bird). More often they come from within, pulled out by the music. His canvas, *Harlem Nocturne*, named for a piece by Duke Ellington, juxtaposes a nighttime saxophonist and trombonist, caught up in their own sound. *Three's a Crowd*, exposes the competitive nature of the jazz player as three musicians vie for solo attention.

The Paris of the '20s fascinates Peregal. *Madame Bijoux*, a rivetting portrait of a woman well past middle age, flamboyant in a red hat and many strands of faux pearls, a glass of wine at hand, conjures a scene from a Paris bistro of the period.

Actually, Peregal, sensitive, bearded, looks as if he has just emerged from an attic studio in Montmartre. However, born in Portland, Me, raised in Montreal, now based in Toronto, he has lived and worked in diverse settings such as Israel, the Gaspe, London, Copenhagen.

Now in his 40s, he responded to the call of Israel "my heritage," in his earlier years, giving familiar landmarks like the Western Wall, his distinctive touch.

Peregal uses acrylics and through painstaking experimentation, layering the paints sometimes translucently, sometimes almost opaquely, or drawing a thick brush full of many colors across the canvas, has achieved remarkable effects. His works exploit the quick driving quality of acrylics to achieve the nuance and strength of oils.

Peregal attended the School of Art and Design, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts under the directorship of Arthur Lismer. He also studied painting, sculpture and design at Ecole des Beaux Arts in Montreal.

This painting of Madame Bijoux reflects Paul Peregal's interest in the Paris of the 1920s. [Amir Gavriely photo]

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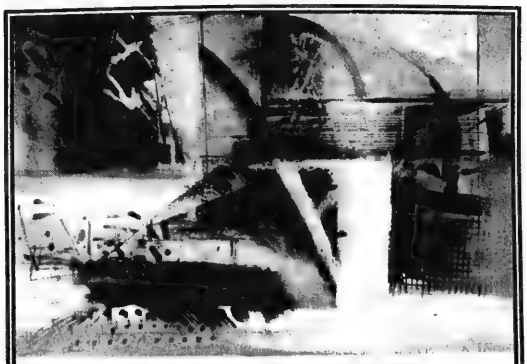
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TAB news

Yehoram Gaon to perform

TORONTO – Israel's "Frank Sinatra", Yehoram Gaon, will be performing in a tribute to Jerusalem 3,000 at the Minkler Auditorium, 1750 Finch Ave. E. Feb. 8, at 8:30 p.m.

Gaon, who's starred in many Israeli musicals and movies, will be singing songs on Jerusalem themes.

The concert is presented by the Israel Educational and Cultural Institute, whose mandate is to preserve and to convey the contemporary Jewish culture and heritage.

Theresa Tova in concert

TORONTO – Local singing sensation Theresa Tova will be performing at the New Yorker on Jan. 28th.

As well as being popular in the Jewish community where she has performed numerous benefits, Tova has been popular on the downtown club scene where she's enjoyed a cult following.

Tova will be accompanied by musical director John Alcorn at the piano. The show, *From Belz to Broadway,* will feature show tunes from both sides of the Atlantic.

The New Yorker is located at 651 Yonge Street just south of Bloor Street. Tickets are $18, available at Ticket Master 416-872-1111 or for group bookings call 416-789-5100.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Choral Workshop: Composer and music educator Nancy Telfer leads a workshop in Jewish choral music on Feb. 11, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m., at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, North York.

According to a Jewish Music Toronto press release, the workshop will focus on Telfer's recently published handbook on vocal warm-up techniques, and a specially commissioned work, *The Yuerushalayim Mosaic,* by Toronto composer Yefim Adler. The $5 registration fee covers refreshments.

Joan Tooke, 636-1880, ext. 299.

***

Three Jewish Tenors: Musica Beth Tikvah's seventh season opens Feb. 4 at 8 p.m. with a lively concert featuring cantors Ben Maissner and Efraim Sapir of Toronto, and Yaacov Motzen, a fifth-generation cantor from Israel who currently lives in Montreal. Adults, $15.

Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 3080 Bayview Ave., North York. 416-510-1777.

***

Group of Eight: Eight artists are participating in an exhibition of art in mixed media called From Memory to Transformation: Jewish Women's Voices, at 179 John St., third floor, Toronto, from now until Feb. 3. Hours, Tues. to Sat. 1 to 5 p.m.

The artists are Elaine Brodie, Yael Brotman, Irene Frolic, Rochelle Rubenstein Kaplan, Ruth Libermann, Mindy Yan Miller, Nadine Norman and Sylvia Safdie. The curator is Mimi Gellman.

***

Benefit for Ashkenaz '97: Plans are currently under way for Ashkenaz '97, a follow-up to the celebration of new Yiddish culture that drew more than 30,000 to Toronto's Harbourfront last summer.

AshkeTANTS, a benefit dance party, takes place Jan. 27 at the Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave., starting at 8.30 p.m. The hot sounds of the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, with diva Theresa Tova and irreverent emcees Alon Nashman and Michael Wex, are featured. Adults, $25.

Having found a permanent new home at the Bloor Street JCC, the Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture is seeking volunteers. Call 416-924-6211 or 416-485-8758.

***

Carrier Gallery: Well-known Toronto artist Mendelson Joe painted the 100 portraits of working women that are on view at the Joseph D. Carrier Gallery (416-789-7011, ext. 300) in the Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Ave. W., North York, through Feb. 25.

The series of head-and-shoulders portraits of women who work reflects the artist's "folk art" style and captures the likenesses of the very well-known and the relatively obscure. Subjects who sat for the artist include: social activist and broadcaster June Callwood; writer Margaret Atwood; performers Daisy Debolt and Jane Siberry; and Canada's first judge of Asian descent, Maryka Omatsu.

Also on exhibition at the Carrier Gallery are Italian Capes and Aprons, a series of paintings by Carol Sutton, and Shower Series, a collection of drawings by Judy Bryant.

***

Hebrew U. on Internet: More than 300 screens incorporating text, maps, colored graphics and sounds, offer information on the history of Jerusalem. A project of Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the New Jerusalem Mosaic enables visitors to tour the streets and structures of the city druing various periods of history, meet its outstanding personalities, and see how and where its people lived.

The web site of this interactive data base is: http://wwwl.huji.ac.il/jeru.

***

In Brief: Fringe of Toronto Theatre Festival invites applications. Registration fee is $450 plus GST. Deadline Jan. 26, 5 p.m. 416-534-5919.

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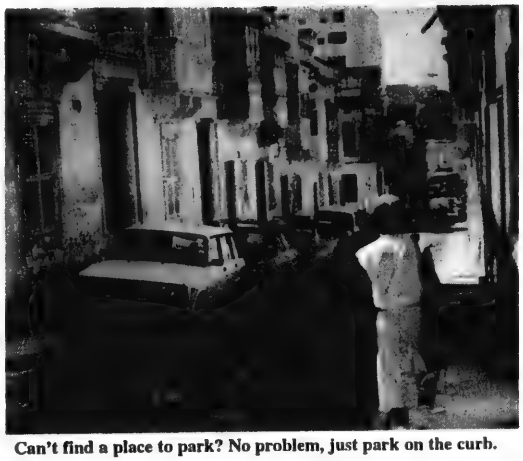
TAB news

Island of Malta remains a jewel of the Mediterranean

By JOSEPH SERGE
TAB News Editor



Can't find a place to park? No problem, just park on the curb.

SLIEMA, Malta – Although ignored as a travel destination by many North Americans "doing Europe," the tiny Mediterranean island of Malta has always been a draw for thousands of Europeans looking to escape their bleak, rainy summers.

Situated right in the heart of the Mediterranean, just south of Sicily, this former British colony is made up of three islands and is easily accessible by air from virtually every European airport.

With a warm and dry summer climate – rain is rare between June and September – it is obvious that tourism would be Malta's chief industry. From about April to October, the island's population of around 330,000 doubles with visitors of all ages – mainly older English couples or much younger German, Belgian, French and other university-age travellers.

Malta has something to please all visitors. For those seeking sun, sea and sand, the "Island of Sunshine," as Malta bills itself, has much to offer.

The north part of the island has many beaches with soft, golden sand and calm, turquoise waters. The beaches on the southern part of Malta and along the east coast are rocky and are excellent for diving or snorkelling. Watch out for passing speed boats that often come too close to the shore, despite the laws against it.

For history buffs, the Maltese interior is virtually a self-contained museum. The former capital city of Mdina, a walled-in city closed to traffic, dates back 3,000 years. Until the Knights of Malta arrived in the 16th century and set up Valletta, now the capital, by the Grand Harbor, Mdina served as the political centre of the island.

Although much of it was rebuilt after an earthquake in 1693, there are still original sections that survive.

From a vantage point at the top of the city you can see the entire island sprawled below you. A great photo opportunity. A small, quiet patio-restaurant allows you to enjoy a cappuchino while you gaze at the splendor of the view below. The Mdina Dungeons are medieval dungeons restored to all their dubious glory with wax victims and all sorts of wonderful instruments of torture dreamed up by the Inquisitors.

For the younger crowd, Paceville is the place to go. The small town is basically wall-to-wall nightclubs, jazz clubs, hi-tech discos and quieter bars. Any day after 10 p.m., the town is crawling with young tourists hopping from one bar to another. North Americans might have to get acculturated to seeing young teens at bars drinking. Bars stay open till early in the morning and it's always fun haggling with a cab driver to get back to your hotel.

Their are two types of taxis in Malta. One is the "White" Wembley taxis, which normally have set prices. Try and avoid the "Black" independent taxis, as they will rip off their own mothers. If you have to take one, make sure you agree on a set price before you get in the cab. Never argue with a cab driver once you're in the car, as drivers are prone to letting their fists fly loose.

You can always take a bus. They're cheap (a buck will get you anywhere), but they stop running by 11 p.m. (and often break down before then) so getting to your hotel at night might be a problem.

For approximately $40 to $60 a day, you can rent a modern car, although keep in mind automatics are hard to find. Remember that in Malta you drive on the left and also remember you take your life in your hands whenever you get behind the wheel.

Traffic laws are basically non-existent. There are few stop signs and traffic lights are sparse. Speed limits are not posted and no one seems to know what they are. When driving through an intersection just hold your breath, shut your eyes, honk your horn and hope for the best. Good luck.

And have fun parking. Because the island is so small and relatively affluent, there are many cars and few parking spaces. Cars frequently park on sidewalks and any crevice into which they can squeeze their Fiats.

The island is so small you will rarely have to use transportation of any type. Get a good pair of walking shoes and walk. The town of Sliema is a good place to be. There are plenty of hotels, restaurants and rocky beaches. The Captain Morgan cruise ships, which offer day tours of Malta and its sister islands Comino and Gozo, leave from Sliema. But because it is the most commercial town in Malta, you will find it the most expensive. Breakfast for two (eggs, toast, juice and coffee) can run you $12.

The Maltese currency is the lira. One lira buys you approximately $4. You can exchange your Canadian dollars at many convenient instabanks in Sliema, Valletta and some of the other commercial towns.

To get away from the hustle of the crowds and traffic in the mainland, take the ferry boat to Gozo, the larger of the two other islands.

Gozo has escaped the commercialization of Malta. You will find fewer night clubs there, but also fewer noisy tourists. The main beach in Gozo, Ramla Bay, (or Red Sands) is a picturesque, Martian-like landscape with dark, red sand.

If you speak English you will have little trouble getting by in Malta. Because it was a British colony until 1967, English is spoken fluently and most of the professional class still use English as their language of choice.

The native, Maltese language is a Semitic-based language fairly similar to Hebrew and Arabic tongues. The Maltese people are extremely easy-going and laid-back. Nobody seems to be in a rush to do anything, particularly in summer, and nothing should be done now that can't wait till after the afternoon siesta. This aspect of the Maltese character can be somewhat frustrating when you want service quickly, like at a restaurant where you may have to wait 15 minutes before a waiter takes your order.

Geographically, Malta is similar to Israel. The coastline is surrounded by the Mediterranean and the interior is mostly rocky and dotted with farms. Driving through a country road, you will undoubtedly come across 100 sheep in front of you lazing down the road in typical Maltese style. No use honking at them. Just wait.

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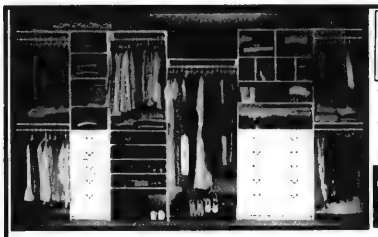

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TAB news

INFLATION RATE PLUMMETS

JERUSALEM – Israel's inflation rate for 1995 plummeted from the previous year's 14.5 percent to 8.1 percent the lowest in 26 years the Central Bureau of Statistics announced.

"We are in a period of stable inflation," Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said.

Shohat attributed the lower-than-expected inflation to a combination of factors, including increased imports, the high supply of housing and the government's monetary policy.

After a year of political wrangling with Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel, Shohat refused to attribute the success directly to Frenkel's decision to raise interest rates or to take full responsibility for the good news. Instead, he said, "The economy and the government's policies must be seen in their totality."

However, some people were skeptical about the results.

"The fact that we achieved an inflation rate of only eight percent in 1995 is a very positive sign, but it would have been preferable to end the year with a 10 percent inflation rate and a $3 billion balance of payments deficit, instead of eight percent inflation and $4.2 billion deficit," said Manufacturers Association president Dan Propper.

BANKS TO CLOSE FRIDAYS

JERUSALEM – All Israeli banks will be closed on Fridays as of March 1, following an agreement reached recently between the Histadrut and banks.

Bank workers and the Histadrut have been fighting for a five-day work week for the past eight years. Until now, the move was held up by firm opposition from Bank Leumi and the Chambers of Commerce.

They proposed closing the banks on Sunday, as is the custom in other countries, and argued that closing them on Friday would obstruct business transactions.

Consumer groups and bank customers also objected to a Friday-closing, as this is the day on which much of the public runs errands.

Not all the banks have officially announced the change, but Histadrut chair Amir Peretz declared that the decision binds all the banks.

BANK REPORT OPTIMISTIC

JERUSALEM – The Israeli economy continued to expand in all its major industries during the fourth quarter, and is bound to continue its growth in the first quarter of the year, according to the Bank of Israel's seasonal survey of companies' activities published last week.

MORIAH HOTEL SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH RADISSON

JERUSALEM – Israel is on the verge of becoming a "boiling market" for tourism with an explosion in the demand for hotel rooms, once all the borders with neigboring countries are opened, says the president and CEO of worldwide Radisson SAS Hotels.

Kurt Ritter was speaking at a press conference in Tel Aviv last week to mark the signing of a franchise marketing agreement with the Moriah Hotel Chain, whose hotels are to be known as Radisson Moriah hotels.

According to the agreement, Moriah has the sole franchise rights for Israel and Jordan.

ISRAEL RANKS 66TH IN ECONOMIC FREEDOM INDEX

JERUSALEM – Israel has been ranked 66th out of 103 countries in an index released recently measuring the level of economic freedom.

The *Economic Freedom of the World* report compiled by the Fraser Institute of Canada judged to what extent citizens of each country are free to engage in various economic activities.

Among the criteria of economic freedom surveyed in the report were ability to hold foreign currency; possibility to trade with foreigners; the level of marginal tax; the role of the public sector in the economy; and the extent of subsidization.

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Sports news

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Canucks grab gold at Pan Am Maccabi in Argentina

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

Canada East and Canada West met in the finals of the softball competition at the Pan Am Maccabi Games in Argentina. Canada ended up winning the gold.

TORONTO — It's been said th Canada could ice two equally adept hockey teams for international events and the B squad would be better than the top team from most other countries.

Well, the sport was softball and the international competition was the eighth Pan American Maccabi Games in Buenos Aires, but Canada managed to do on the baseball diamond what prognosticators have predicted for the hockey rink.

Two Canadian entries — Canada West and Canada East — eliminated all opposition and faced off in the final, gold medal softball game with nothing on the line but team pride and bragging rights.

Canada West, which consisted in large part of the same elite unit that captured the gold medal at the 1993 Maccabiah Games in Israel, defeated Canada East by a 6-1 margin to take home the Pan American Maccabi gold medal. Canada East got the silver.

The two medals were part of a 10-medal haul at the recently-completed games that included two golds, four silvers and four bronzes. Montrealer Melanie Herskovitch, 13, was the star of the Canadian show, winning three silver and three bronze medals in junior swimming events.

Out on the diamond, Canada showed its mettle, with both teams overcoming adversity to get to the medal podium.

Canada East finished the round-robin portion of the event with a 2-3 record, good for fourth place in the six-team event. Argentina finished second and the United States third, while Mexico and Panama were eliminated from the medal hunt.

Canada West finished the five-game round robin in first place with a 4-0-1 record before meeting the tough U.S. squad in the semi-finals.

In three previous Maccabiahs in Israel, the Canadians have faced their American cousins each time for the gold medal, losing by narrow margins in 1985 and '89, but finally winning in '93.

The '96 semi-final "was a great ball game with superb defence" and an exciting Canadian comeback, said head coach Brian Revin.

Canada West trailed 2-1 going into the bottom of the final inning. U.S. pitcher David Blackburn, a 280-pound giant, had limited Canada's scoring chances, but pinch-hitter Warren Cohen got the rally going early in the inning.

He reached second base on a hit, setting up a nail-biting finish. Cohen came home thanks to a clutch single from the bat of I.J. Shecter.

With the score knotted at two and Schecter at second, Phil Gigan completed the rally with a double off the outfield wall, scoring Shecter.

"It was bedlam," Revin recalled. "The boys were really happy."

Canada East got to the final by riding the strong pitching arm of Vancouverite Murray Margolis, the only non-Torontonian or Montrealer on either team.

He led Canada East to a 4-0 seventh-inning lead, only to see Argentina whittle away at the margin. With the score narrowed to 4-3 and Margolis tiring, Revin pulled the pitcher and brought in Howard Schilling in relief. Shilling struck out the last batter and preserved the win.

The final game was "anti-climactic, "lacking the emotion that characterized both semis, said Revin, a coach's certification instructor for Baseball Canada.

In other events, Canada, led by head coach Joe Amar, shut out Mexico 3-0 to win the bronze medal in mini-football. Amar was assisted by Armand Moryousef and Bradley Kalk.

Canada drew a medal blank in rugby, owing in part to an undermanned team. Only six players made the trip to South America and the Canucks had to "borrow" a couple of Argentine players who had been dropped from the home team.

In golf, Neil Freder shot a 73 in a practice round, but that was the best he could do and he finished out of the medals.

In the half-marathon, Benjamin Serfaty gave it his best shot, but was overcome by dehydration and had to be held back by doctors from finishing the gruelling race.

Canada's second gold medal was earned by Bob Luxenberg, who headed Canada's 56-member contingent.

Luxenberg, who retired from competitive swimming 16 years ago and who admits to "being totally out of shape," was convinced by Maccabi Canada president Roy Salomon to enter the 50-metre freestyle event as a senior (35-39).

After some coaxing, Luxenberg relented. In a race that included "masters" and youngsters "with their hair shaved off," Luxenberg won the masters gold and came within three-tenths of a second of winning the overall gold medal.

Luxenberg said the Pan American Maccabi Games brought together about 2,000 athletes from 22 Western hemisphere countries. Canada sent 56 athletes and support staff to the regional event, more than double the 20 who attended the '87 games.

The Pan American Maccabi Games are more of a "celebration of Jews and Jewish youth" than a high level athletic event, Luxenberg said. The calibre of competition is much higher at the Israel games, he added.

The Argentine Maccabi organization had asked their counterparts in the hemisphere to bring as many athletes as possible; so Canada entered two softball teams, Revin said.

Owing to the 1994 terrorist attack that destroyed the Jewish community's AMIA building and killed almost 100 people, security was extremely tight during the competition. Armed escorts accompanied the Canadian team everywhere.

The Argentines gave the games tremendous publicity, with the opening and closing ceremonies carried live on television and broadcast throughout South America, Luxenberg said.

Argentine authorities seemed to want the games to showcase the country and show that it was now safe for visitors to travel to Buenos Aires, Luxenberg said.

During the event, most of the 2,000 visiting athletes and delegates visited the site of the terrorist bombing in downtown Buenos Aires.

"We all lit candles. It was quite emotional," Revin said.

The Canadian team also enjoyed local hospitality at a kabbalat Shabbat service, a tango dance and music show, as well as a tour of sites around Buenos Aires.

Star swimmer Melanie Herskovitch of Montreal, who won six medals, holds up a Canadian flag as Maccabi officials look on. Seen here with Herskovitch are, from left, Allen Gerskup, Bob Luxenberg and Roy Salomon.

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Health news

Doctors, administrator honored for teaching excellence

TORONTO — Three physicians, as well as the president of North York General Hospital, recently received awards recognizing the hospital's role as a regional teaching hospital.

Family physician Dr. Peter R. Newman was given the 1995 Community Teacher of the Year Award by the Ontario College of Family Physicians. The award is presented for teaching excellence in family medicine and the recipient is chosen by Family Medicine Program residents (who have earned their medical degrees and are continuing to study in a specialty area). The residents noted Newman's enthusiasm for teaching and his being an effective role model for the practice of comprehensive community-based family medicine.

"At North York General, we focus on teaching family medicine outside of hospitals and teaching units. We do most of our teaching in our community-based practices," says Newman, who is an assistant professor with the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Toronto (U of T) and president of the Medical Staff Association and a member of the hospital's board of governors.

Dr. Peter R. Newman

Others honored were Dr. Mark Shaffer, also a family physician at North York General, and Dr. Isser Dubinsky, chief of Emergency Services.

Shaffer was named a Fellow of the Canadian College of Family Physicians, recognized for his leadership role in establishing the North York General Hospital Department of Family Medicine After Hours Clinic in 1988, as well as for his contribution to community-based teaching as an assistant professor with the Department of Family and Community Medicine at U of T.

Dubinsky received the Anna Jarvis Award for Teaching Excellence in Emergency Medicine from the U of T. The recipient is selected by Emergency Medicine residents who consider criteria such as clinical teaching ability, participation in rounds, research supervision and mentorship of professional standards and guidelines. Dubinsky is an assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at U of T.

Hospital president and CEO Murray MacKenzie received the Eugenie M. Stuart Award for Merit from the Department of Health Administration, U of T. The award recognizes excellence in teaching in the Master of Health Sciences (Health Administration) Program. In presenting the award to MacKenzie, the university stated: "Your teaching best exemplifies the expertise, innovation and enthusiasm which the award is intended to acknowledge and nurture. These fine qualities ... are recognized and highly regarded by your colleagues and students." Mackenzie is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Administration.

North York General is a regional teaching hospital with 346 acute care and 160 long-term care beds. A member of the Boyd Academy of the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine, North York General is a clinical teaching site for over 120 undergraduate and post-graduate medical students.

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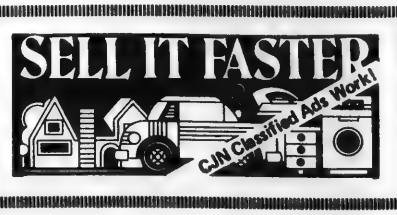

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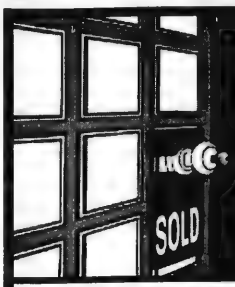

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$1,225,000. Stunning renovations by Brian Gluckstein, w/o bsmt., stucco, 2 storey on .72 acre. **C. Graff***.

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE! 5 + 1 BR.!
$618,800! Gourmet kit.! Mn. fam. + sep. nanny ste.! Fab. 40' x 125'. A must see! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE TO BE BUILT!
$579K! Loaded 4 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths. Mn. fam. rm. + fin. bsmt.! Still time to customize! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

1ST AD! HILLHURST BLVD! $559K!
Gracious & prestigious exec. home! Mn. fam. rm. o'ls. magnificent 50' x 135'! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

ARMOUR HEIGHTS RARITY $549K.
Ravine setting 4 bdrms. + den, pool size lot, pristine condition, walk to Shul. **Joel Laker***.

CASA LOMA BEST BUY $449K.
Fabulous 4 + bdrms. Hu[SOLD] flr., fam. rm., ravine lot, walk to TTC. **S. Stern*/M. Alberga***.

AVENUE RD. N./LAWRENCE! $435K.
Fab. opportunity + location! Large storefront + 1 2-bdrm. apt.! Mint cond. **Sandon Schwartzben****.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE 2 NEW HOMES!
Great homes 3,000 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 5 bdms., 5 baths, all bells & whistles. $399K! **A. Sussman*/G. Kerbel***.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE $315,000.
Fab. bungalow, 3 + 1 bdrms., sep. entrance to bsmt. apt. In demand location! **A. Sussman***.

REDUCED! NOW $299K.
Lawrence/Avenue Rd. Detached 3 bdrm. Fireplace. hardwood. charm. Fin. rec. rm. **C. Spiegel***.

BATHURST/GLENCAIRN BLDG. LOTS!
35' x 132' $189K! 35' x 132' $209K! 40' x 132' $185K! 60' x 100' cul-de-sac $330K! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE 50 FT. LOT!
Att. builders! 50 ft. lot in great location; close to all. Only $199,000. Act now! **A. Sussman***.

1ST AD! 130 NEPTUNE DR. $138,500!
Fab. opportunity! 3 bdrms. + encl. balc., 2 baths, new kit., marble ent., move-in cond.! **A. Sussman*/G. Kerbel***.

PALACE PLACE PENTHOUSE APT.
Panoramic views facing SE/S/SW. Living room 60' x 20'. 2 bdrms., 3 baths, new $4,000/mo. **P. Godfrey***.

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker*

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NORTH

HIGH POINT RD. — $4,680,000
Newly reno. 14,000 sq. ft. contemporary estate, 2 acres. Tennis crt., pool, indoor squash crt. **Elise Kalles****.

BAYVIEW RIDGE — $4,600,000
Spectacular contemporary estate, grand entertaining space on ravine setting. Pool. **Elise Kalles****.

BRIDLE PATH TUDOR MANSION
Grand entertaining space, rich oak detailing. 5 bdrms. + 8 baths on 2 ac. $3,490,000. **Elise Kalles****.

COTTINGHAM
1st ad. $725,000. Detached fully reno 3 storey, fin. bsmt., fam. rm., dble. car gar., CAC. **S. Graff***.

LAKE SCUGOG MASTERPIECE
Imported pine hdwd. floors. 75' waterfront year round home. $699,000. **DelZotto*/So***.

1ST AD BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS EXEC.
$609,000. Large 2 storey, quiet cr. Downsview kitchen, updated baths, den + fam. on main. **Barb Krieger***.

WINDFIELD ESTATE $539,000.
Formal, separate living/dining room, 4 + 1 bdrms., quiet safe child street. **C. Graff***.

LOWEST PRICE IN DENLOW AREA
$429,000. Victorian/Woods built. 5 - 6 bdrms. Fam. rm. + lib. with w/o. Fin. bsmt. Sauna. **M. Feldman***.

WESTMOUNT/WILSHIRE $328,800.
Value ++. 4 bdrms., library + family rm., mn. flr. laundry w/garage entry, ent. size kit. **Maxine Povering****.

BAYVIEW/SHEPPARD TOWNHOUSE
Executive home, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, master suite with balcony, fplcs. Appl. $249K. **Pearl Godfrey***.

LUXURIOUS PENTHOUSE CONDO!
Fab. 2 bdrm., designer decor! 2 - 4 pc., SW view, 5 appls., marble mirrors +++. **Ellie Parker***.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD $139,900.
Best value in years. 2 + bdrm. condo, shower ens., huge din. rm., balc., indoor pool. Immed. **Maxine Povering****.

TOWNSGATE 2 BDRM. $169,900.
Top floor corner suite, gorgeous view, upgraded carpet, appliances + foyer, to view. **Joel Laker***.

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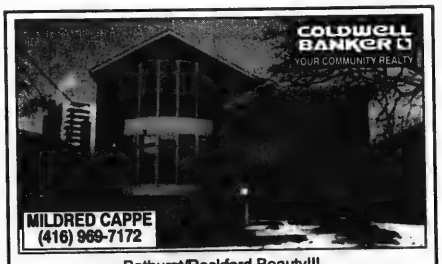

Bathurst/Rockford Beauty!!!
Grand foyer - hardwood/parquet throughout - 5 bdrm, sauna, jacuzzi ensuite. - kosher kitchen + pesach kitchen - great entertaining flow - Spectacular!! A must see!! **$649,000.**

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FINE HOMES

CONDO IN ELEGANT MANSION — $359,000
Exquisite 2 sty. unit. 1 BR + den. 2 frplces. W/O to deck. Granite counters & flr. in dream kitchen. 2 pkg spots. *Carol Cotton.

• • •

UPPER FOREST HILL — $295,000
Completely renovated bungalow. 2 + BRs. Fireplace. Leaded glass. Front pad pkg. + garage. A must see! **Don Wagman.

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE — $939,000
Completely updated home. 4 bedrooms. Library. 2 fireplaces. Skylight. Central air. Exceptional lot. *Herman Wood.

• • •

BRIAR HILL AVE.
$539,000. Superb 4 bedroom. Main floor family rm. Finished lower level. Central air. Private drive + garage. *Heather Sherman.

• • •

EXECUTIVE CEDARVALE HOME
Gracious 3+ BRs. Master w/sitting rm. + ens. Main fl. lib. & powder rm. Kitchen + brkfst. rm. Priv. dr. + gar. Pool. *Linda Rose.

• • •

FOREST HILL — $499,000
Stunning centre hall. 4 BRs, plus main floor den & powder rm. Master w. ens. Reno'd, eat-in kitchen. Priv. gdn. **Don Wagman.

• • •

ST. CLAIR/WARREN RD. — $649,000
Home/office. Great opportunity for dentist/lawyer or profesional. Separate entrance. 5 BRs. Priv. dr. + gar. **M. Heiman.

• • •

CASTLEFIELD AVE. — NOW $579,900
Brand new! 4+ BR. Fin. l/level. CAC. Skylights, glass block, 9 ft. ceilings. Main fl. fam. rm. + w/o. Priv. dr. & gar. **Don Wagman.

• • •

BAYVIEW/EGLINTON — NOW $324,000
Less is more. Easy to maintain. Picture perfect Cape Cod. Complete reno. Finished l/level. Private drive. **Margaret Heiman.

• • •

70 ROSEHILL — LUXURY CONDO SUITE
Grand 2 BR. + library. 3 b[SOLD]n kitchen + w/o. Spectacular view o/park. Many upgrades. *Judy Nathan & *Edith Weiss.

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE CONDO — NOW $255,000
Absolutely stunning 2 BR. 2 baths. Mexican tiled, eat-in kitchen. Balcony. Conc. Pkg. $$$ spent on renovations. *Edie Winberg.

• • •

BATHURST/STEELES — $205,000
Luxurious 2 BR. condo. Solarium + family room. Master ens. w/oval tub + sep. shower. Close to all amenities. *E. Stanton.

• • •

LUXURY CONDO ON BAY
Unique 2 BR. luxury suite. 2 baths. 30 ft. living rm. Approx 2,000 sq. ft. Valet parking. Indoor pool. Party room. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

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$523,900. Great location and investment. 2-2 bedroom units. 1-1 bedroom, plus bachelor. Walk to U. of T., ROM. *Morris Simon.

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RENO'D DUPLEX — $442,900
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BLUE FOREST AREA
Cust. built 3 bdrm, huge liv & din rm., kit. w/walkout, fam. rm., fin. lower lvl, lge lot, dble gar.

BATHURST PALM DR.
2 Storey, 4 bdrms, liv & din. comb., mod. kit., solarium, fin. bsmnt, steps to everything.

YONGE CLARK CONDO
Over 1,800 sq. ft, luxury 2 bdrm, many upgrades, open to offers.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

BATH.-STEELES. 3 bd. + 2 bd. bsmt. apt., mod. kit., fam. rm., $283,900. LUCY MELAMUD

BATH.-CLARK. Immac. 3 bd., huge fam. rm., dble. gar., $259,000. GABBY GOLDRING **UNGERMAN ASSOCIATES R.E. 905-731-7111**

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1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Yonge-Lawrence, immed., quiet, n/smoker, studen/fem., to share small, private bi-level house. Reno'd, lrg bach.-size space with priv. bth, sep. ent, brdlm, prkg, yard, lndry, cable, ref, $495 incl. Min 6 mo. term. Unique, must see. 488-8641.

Bathurst/Wilson, bsmnt, bach, sep. ent., lndry, kit, 3-pc. bth, sec. system, n/smoker, no pets, 416-630-6288.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/York Downs, bsmnt bach apt., n/smoker, 631-7738.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, Deerfield, lrg 1-1 1/2 condo, fully reno'd, 4th flr, CAC, new appls, mirrors, patio, golf, extras. Worth $50K, asking $35K. 1-305-570-9401.

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Palm Beach condo 2 bdrm, 2 bths, newly prof. decorated, South Ocean Blvd. 24 hr security, 2 balconies, with views of intercoastal & ocean, heated pool, $137,000 U.S. firm. 407-588-6382.

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145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Century Village Deerfield, lady to share condo with same. March - 2 wks. Box 6698 CJN.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson 4 bdrm apt, fully furn., Knesset view. From Feb. 1/96 mthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Investors wanted or loan needed for Import & Export business. 416-657-1102.

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

FRANCHISE BAKERY IN NORTH YORK - established family business, good income $219,000. RACHEL SALTSOV, SUTTON GROUP CENTRAL REALTY INC. 229-1010.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Well established giftware importer looking for
DYNAMIC SALES REPRESENTATIVE
for Metropolitan Toronto, who would be servicing existing customers and looking for new accounts. Experience an asset but not a requirement.
Please fax your resumé to:
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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
With advanced computer skills (Microsoft Office), general office administration (basic bookkeeping) and excellent communication skills. Knowledge of Jewish Organizations preferable. 24-26K. Fax only to: Israel Cancer Research Fund, 416-487-8932.

Conservative Synagogue in London is seeking youth advisors for 1996/97 school year. Youth groups range in age from age 3 - 18. Call 519-434-1110 for more information.

Israel's Judaica Centre is seeking a salesperson who is self-motivated and is willing to take on responsibility. Must have Hebrew & strong Jewish background. 4/5 day per wk. Please call Joyce, 256-1010.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Accountant, B.Com., several yrs CA exp., P/T or F/T, good refs. 416-667-9377.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Cleaning lady available. Apts & houses, experienced, references. Jean, 667-0819; pager 378-4026.

Cleaning lady, exp., refs, avail. immed., Elizabeth, 431-6444

Cleaning, babysitting, live-out, F/T, good refs. & exp. 534-6801

Euro. cleaning lady, exp., refs, avail Mon, Tues, Wed 516-3662

European Cleaning lady avail., call Iwona 905-884-8244.

Exper. cleaning lady, refs., apts, houses, 416-533-6915.

Experienced cleaning lady available. 921-4267.

Experienced lady looking for day's work, Mon-Fri, 656-6040.

Experienced Polish lady avail. for elderly care. Refs. 733-4630

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, exp., refs. 733-3915 or 905-770-6835.

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. 4 mature English & Italian-speaking cleaning people, free estimates, please call 416-446-0059 and leave message.

Need a nanny? No finder's fee-Intern'l Domestics 651-2929.

R & R Domestic Services Employers to sponsor housekeeper/nanny from overseas free of charge. M. Rittner 416-661-4998, 416-661-8335.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Certified HCA available anytime, live-out, 745-6891

Exp. Nurse available to care for elderly or disabled. 264-3621.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Evelyn. 905-709-3868.

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People are needed to care for children/youth, 24 hrs/day, as part of your family.
We provide training, support, a Board rate and cover most expenses.
Call
Foster Care Co-ordinator
Selma Elzas
at
Jewish Family and Child Service
638-7800 ext. 298

270 PERSONALS

Tour Companion. If you are looking to meet exciting, entertaining men or women to take you through Toronto, give us a call at 778-5216.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

English & Spanish speaking lady, 64, seeks a nice gentleman under 70. Interests are long walks, conversation, dining out, movies. Box 6695 CJN.

New to T.O., SJF, successful. Med., 35, 5'8", pretty, fit, seeks marriage-minded SJM, 31-46, 5'9"+, prof./ businessman. Photo appreciated. Box 6694 CJN.

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bathurst/Laurelcrest, 3 bdrm bung, bsmt apt, shuls, parks. $236,000, no agents. 638-9739.

Willowdale Executive Beauty on cul-de-sac, 4000 sf, 3 lvls, 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bth, gourmet kit, lrg w/o to multi-level deck, prof. decor. & landscpe, upgrades thruout house, every imaginable feature. Walking dist. to priv. boys & girls schls & elem. schls. Must be seen, priv. $551K. 416-225-1396 for appt.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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Condominium Specialist

Primrose - Bathurst & Steeles, 2 br, very clean, 2 wr. Appl., locker, $167,200.
For Rent - 3 br house with a fin bsmnt, garage. $1,350/mo.
5879 Bathurst - 2 br condo $99,990.
MORE LISTINGS NEEDED!
RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

PROMENADE PENTHOUSE - eat in kitchen with lrg wdw, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, view of city. Only $163,900. M. Badiyan, Norman Hill Realty Inc. 416-226-5515.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK **REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH**
DON'T WAIT UNTIL THESE BARGAINS ARE SOLD!
Skymark II: Upgraded, 2 b.r. + sol, 2 park. Reduced to $185K.
Skymark Classic: Choice of large open-concept 2 b.r. or 2 b.r. + fam. rm. w/balc. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST,** 441-2003/24 hrs. on call. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

BATH.-CLARK. Immac. 2 bd. + sol., 2 bths., balc., $169,000.
BATH.-FINCH. 3 bdr., vacant. $154,900.
GABBY GOLDRING, 905-731-7111
UNGERMAN ASSOCIATES, R.E.

100 Antibes Dr. 3 bdrm/lrg den; sauna; swimming pool; 2 prkg spaces; 4th flr. 661-8456.

Bathurst/Antibes, 3 bdrms, 2 full bths, ensuite laundry, parquet, corner, facing ravine, sec, sauna, Shabbos elev. 661-1665

Bathurst/Steeles, 1357 s.f., 2 bdrm + sol, 2 bthrm, 5 appls, ensuite lndry, balc, very clean, 24-hr sec, prkg, locker. No agents please! Open House Sun., Jan. 28, 2-4 p.m., 7 Townsgate Drive, Apt 706, 905-771-0602.

"The Savoy" luxury 2 bdrm + den, high SW corner, gorgeous 270 deg. panoramic view, classic decor, 2 w/o to large balcony, mint bldg, complete entert. amenities, beaut. grounds, solid reserve fund, 24-hr. video security, 2 prkg, priv. $305,000. No agents pls. 416-739-6516.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst St.
3 Bdrm unit, ens. laundry, 2 Baths.
Asking $1950/mo
(416) 256-6227

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Cozy, 2 bdrm home, Bloor-Dufferin, $500, fem., 532-8949.

Male or female, professional, to share great home, Bayview/York Mills, approx. $850 per mo, Call Melanie, 250-9000.

Need a roommate to share large 2 bdrm, 2 bth, corido-style apt, Yonge & Finch, 24 hr sec., Sabrina 416-730-9515.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/Eglinton, priv., furn, bright 3 rm bsmnt, $475 incl., TTC, male, n/smkr, 782-4684.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Senior couple, European-Canadian background seeks other couples for companionship, over 65. Box 6693 CJN.

Sincere female seeking like-minded male who would like to start a new life, 45-55. Reply: A. Wegner, 5169 Rosedale, Montreal, Que., H4V 2H4.

Professional, Jewish lady, active in successful business wishes to meet a professional Jewish man in his 70s for companionship. Box 6674 CJN.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #____
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

Single Jewish female, 27, prof., graduate U. of T., looking for a man who's interested in sports & music. 416-736-9999.

SJF, intelligent, witty, sophisticated, well-rounded, down-to-earth, professional, mid-40s with strong Jewish values, seeks same in male partner. Box 6697 CJN.

"The Perfect Man"; sweet, bright, caring, chivalrous, educated, fun-loving, well-travelled (divorced, 45) seeks attractive, witty, intelligent, stable, 30ish female to share companionship, romance. Box 6697 CJN.

"Twas brillig and the slivey toves
Did gyre and gymbol in the wabe.
All mimsey were the burograves
And the nome roth outgrabe."
Genteel ladies may reply to the shade of G.L. Dodgson,
Box 6691 CJN.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
All persons having claims against the estate of **Jack Gula**, late of 645 Castlefield Avenue, Apt. 622, Toronto, Ontario, who died on September 8, 1995, are hereby notified to send full particulars of their claim to the undersigned solicitors of the Estate on or before the 15th day of March, 1995 after which date the assets of the estate may be distributed having regard only to the claims of which the Estate shall then have notice. **Botnick & Botnick, Barristers & Solicitors,** Unit #53, 2300 Finch Ave. W., Weston, Ontario, M9M 2Y3.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Durbach - Dubery - Sandra and Irwin Durbach are delighted to announce the engagement of their eldest daughter, **Nadine,** to **Raoul,** of Los Angeles, son of Beulah and Raymond Dubery of Johannesburg.

Hytman/Dan - Stuart and Andrea are delighted to announce the birth of Yehudit Miriam on January 12, 1996. A sister for Leah and another beautiful granddaughter for Leslie Dan and Gloria Hytman.

The children of **Joan and Alex Rosen** invite you to join them to celebrate their parents' **50th wedding anniversary.** Open house 1-5 p.m., Sun., Jan. 28, 1996, 27 Yatescastle Dr.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

9-pcs. dining rm set, must sell, best offer. 416-787-7830.

The Canadian Jewish News classifieds really work!!

Dear Susan,

My 5-year-old son has peanut allergies. Because of this, he does not like to visit other people's houses, particularly when there is a birthday party. Can you give us some strategies for coping with this stress?

Dear Reader,

In assessing this situation, we first need to determine to what extent his behavior is normal and appropriate for his age, and to what degree his anxiety is a result of the allergy.

Four and five year olds typically are at a stage where they are developing their independence, and are torn between wanting to assert this developing independence while still requiring the protection of Mom, particularly in new situations. As a parent you need to acknowledge both aspects of this stage of their development by encouraging their independence while not forcing it on them too quickly. When new situations arise you can encourage your child to express his feelings (especially negative ones), and you can talk your child through his anxiety. On a concrete level, you can help him develop his independence by initially staying with him when he visits, and then slowly removing yourself. It is perfectly normal for children to experience separation anxiety at this age and stage.

In your son's case, the allergy will certainly play a part in his feelings, since outside his home he has less control of his environment. In the instance of birthday parties, you can inform the host of your child's allergy and ensure they understand the dietary limitations that creates. You then could leave your child during play time, and resurface at food time. In order to ground him emotionally. Ultimately you will have to assess the inherent risks in each new situation that arises.

Finally, you might consider how you and your spouse handle anxiety. Are you good role models? As part of this assessment, you should examine how your parents handled anxiety to determine how their coping mechanisms effected your own.

When all is said and done, it is important to be attuned to your child's emotional state, and to ensure that he knows that you will be able to support him in whatever he is experiencing. The more emotionally grounded you are as parents, the less arduous a journey it will be for him.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

SUSIE COOPER WANTED
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This ad courtesy of **Spectrum Health Care**

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FOR LESS

CABBAGE & TOMATO BORSCHT

2 lbs./1 kg.	flanken (soup meat) beef bones	10 oz/284 mL can	tomato soup
3 qts/3L.	water	1	small cabbage, finely sliced
2	carrots, sliced		salt and pepper, to taste
28 oz/796 mL can	tomatoes	2 tsp/10 mL	lemon juice
		1/2 cup/125 mL	brown sugar

Place meat and bones in water and bring to boil. Skim fat, and reduce heat. Add carrots, tomatoes, and tomato soup. Cover pot and cook over low heat for 1 hr. Add cabbage, salt and pepper, cook for 1 hr. Add lemon juice and sugar, cook for 20-30 mins. More sugar may be added if desired. Yield: 8 servings. *Hint: This soup freezes well.* Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

330 OBITUARIES

Rabovsky, Rose Lillian on January 1, 1996, late of 6010 Bathurst St. #706
Gorlick, Frank on January 2, 1996, late of 14 Almont Rd.
Kalichman, Zvia on December 29, 1995, late of 6250 Bathurst St. #521
Fields, Samuel K. on January 1, 1996, late of 35 Canyon Ave.
Erenberg, Milton on January 2, 1996, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
Schilling, Aurelia (Aranka) on January 5, 1996, late of 25 Canyon Ave. #2103
Green, Lillian Lisa on January 5, 1996
Rosen, Minnie (Mynne) on January 5, 1996, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W. #203
Proussovski, Grigori on January 7, 1996, late of 300 Antibes Dr. #813
Abro, Philip on January 7, 1996, late of 4 Forest Laneway #1810
Teitelbaum, Leah on January 9, 1996, late of 47 Romfield Circuit
Schwartz, Fanny on January 10, 1996
Arato, Edith on January 11, 1996, late of 3270 Bathurst St. #702

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Murray Kadis on January 2, 1996, late of 2851 N.E. 183rd St. #1503
Jacob Hertzman on January 4, 1996, late of 96 Joicey Blvd.
Frances Goldwasser on January 6, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Harry Hoffman on January 5, 1996, late of 1 Northwestern Ave.
Irving Saunders on January 7, 1996, late of 7805 Bayview Ave. #322
Manie Rotenberg on January 7, 1996, late of 28 Spence Dr.
Shirley Lerer on January 9, 1996, late of 100 Antibes #2401
Joseph Freedman on January 9, 1996, late of 284 Sandringham Dr.
Joseph Lewis on January 10, 1996, late of 76 Cobblestone Dr.
Leo Greenberg on January 11, 1996, late of 21 Vaughan Rd. #1103
Bela Gyalui on January 12, 1996, late of 165 La Rose #318

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PASTA
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Assorted Varieties
500 g Bag
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79 EA

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CHEESE SLICES
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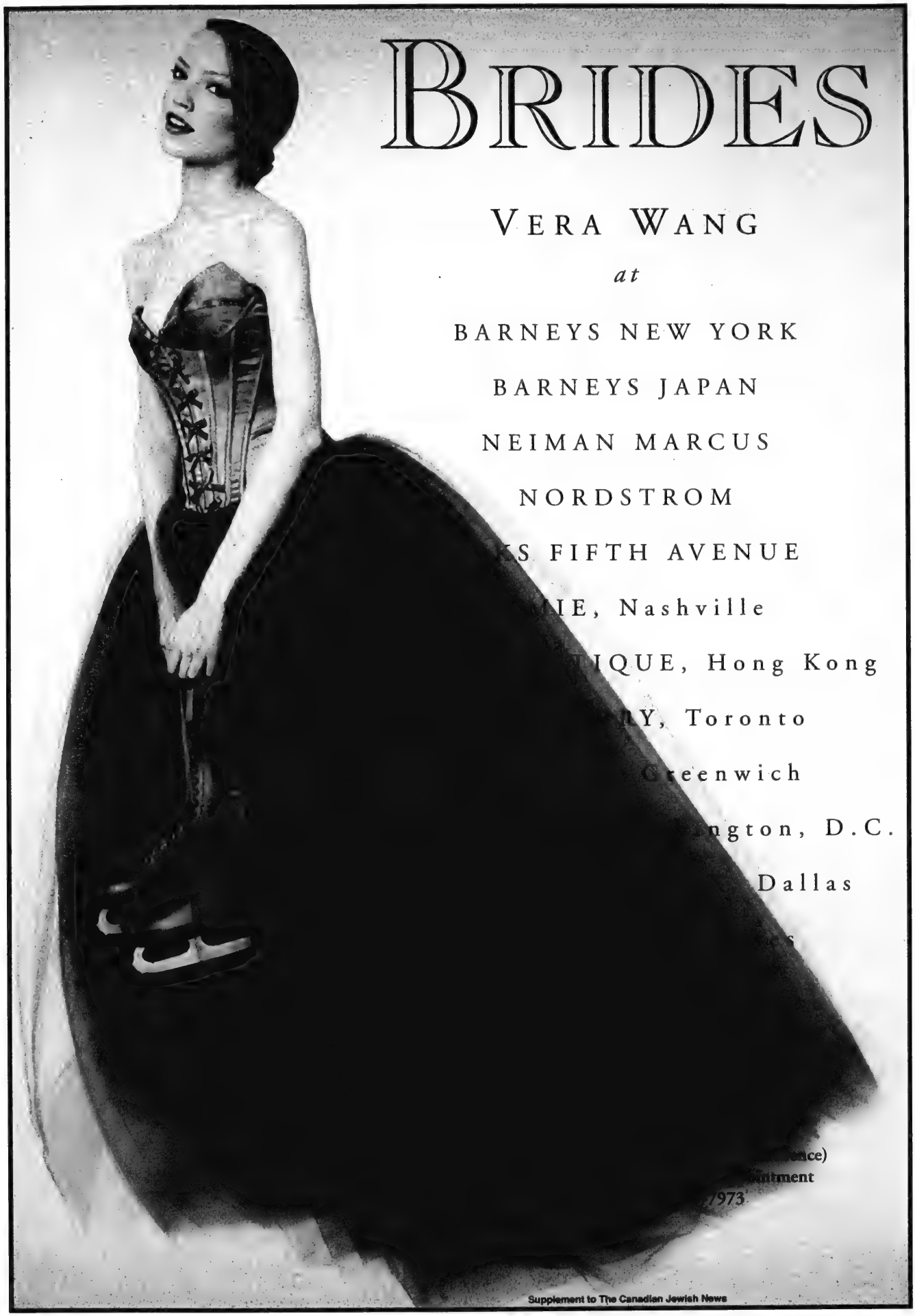
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Supplement to The Canadian Jewish News

Sam Firestone Caterers and Shaarei Shomayim — a family tradition for over thirty years

Sam Firestone's table settings spell "Elegance" with a capital "E"

Sam Firestone Caterers (Glatt Kosher) have been at Shaarei Shomayim for over three decades. Continuing the tradition his father began, Catering Manager **Les Firestone** is a youthful, energetic man who treats catering as an art form. Every event is a performance where Les aspires to the ultimate in food, decor, entertainment, and all the other aspects of a successful affair.

Certain traits are key in making Sam Firestone Caterers, Leslie and his team such a wonderful organization. You must be easygoing and have the ability to work with all different types of people and their tastes. Leslie always bears his client's goals in mind when making suggestions. Flexibility is the operative word here.

Magnificent presentation is characteristic of a Sam Firestone simcha

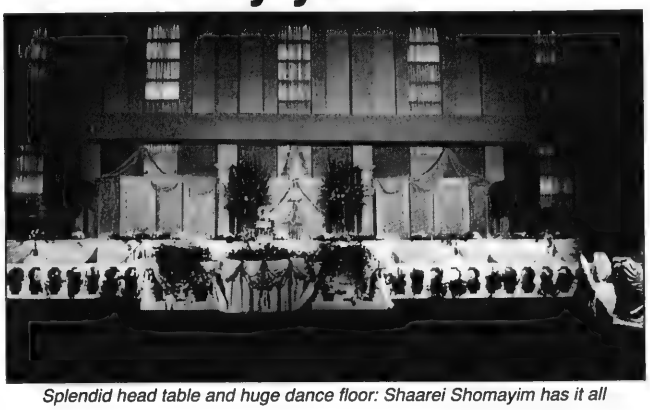
Years of experience, dedication and knowledge allow Leslie to put his customers at ease. He has the right answers to all their questions. Of course, having a keen eye for detail and good organizational skills are two necessary ingredients for success. Finally, integrity is a must; and though the client is king, Les is forthcoming when he disagrees. He considers it his obligation to give the best advice his ability and experience can offer.

Leslie's goal is to make the day of your simcha stress-free. He and his capable staff are on hand — unobtrusively — to ensure everything runs smoothly. Les' philosophy is to make his customers 100% happy, and he will do whatever it takes to achieve this goal.

The main banquet hall at Shaarei Shomayim is spacious and bright. It's the perfect setting for hosting weddings and all kinds of affairs besides: bar and bat mitzvahs, cocktail parties, engagement parties, receptions, sports banquets, tribute dinners and organizational evenings. The large, well-lit foyer is ideal for receptions; for smaller affairs, there are sisterhood and brotherhood halls.

The sanctuary is large, yet intimate, built in a semi-circle like an amphitheatre, so that from any seat you can see the centre easily; there are stages for either a lower or upper chuppah. There is also a well-appointed bride's room; and as of spring 1996, there will be an outdoor chuppah to meet the growing demand for outdoor weddings.

Executive Chef Jimmy Lyras is a culinary genius. He is assisted by a talented team of professionals. His mandate is to make food that is fabulously fresh and made to order the day of the event. From the many compliments he receives, it is obvious he achieves his goal. Jimmy goes the extra distance to ensure customers' satisfaction. Most rave reviews of his meals include adjectives such as "generous", "plentiful", "outstanding", and "delicious": in short, superlatives galore. Not only are portions ample, but the taste and quality of the ingredients are unsurpassed.



Splendid head table and huge dance floor: Shaarei Shomayim has it all

People today pay more attention to the presentation of food; they are also more health-conscious and attentive to methods of preparation. Potatoes and red meat are less popular; pasta, vegetarian dishes, salads, chicken and fish are 'in'. Nevertheless, traditional Eastern European cooking still has loyal followers.

Peoples' culinary tastes are constantly changing. As a result, Jimmy and Leslie will design a menu to meet each customer's specific requirements.

Trying to satisfy all guests is important — even kids. To this end, Leslie offers creative menu ideas for the children attending simchas. Some of the most recent favourites that have been served are chicken and beef fajitas, sweet and sour Oriental chicken, deli buffets, and pasta.

Les Firestone is the exclusive caterer to Shaarei Shomayim. Although all catering is done in-house, non-members are welcome and form an important part of the clientele. As to cost, menus can be customized to individual budgets and tastes; standards are always high, regardless of budget.

Les not only welcomes feedback from clients; he actually seeks it out, giving them questionnaires on which they rate his services. The feedback is overwhelmingly positive, and includes hundreds of thank-you letters from satisfied clients.

Les stays on the premises until the very last customer has left. "I want to experience everything first-hand, and personally respond to any requests," he says. "What does "personal service" mean if you're not there to personally serve?" The bottom line, though, is that he does it "because I love it."

Sam Firestone Caterers is Glatt Kosher, under strict supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (C.O.R.), with a full-time mashgiach on the premises.

Call early to book your wedding or other special event. You can reach Les at (416) 782-8022.

In quality, service and attention to detail, Sam Firestone "takes the cake"

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"Boutique Hotel" offers many wedding benefits

Making sure that a wedding goes well involves hundreds of details. Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto will take care of them all under one roof, meaning less stress on the wedding party, and more enjoyment for everyone — bride, groom, family and friends.

Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto hosts wedding parties of 40 to 200 people, starting at $78 per guest, plus gratuity and taxes.

When you book your function at this marvelously mid-sized downtown hotel, which offers free parking for all members of the bridal party, you'll find something special in store for both bride and groom.

The festivities begin at 6 p.m. with a one-hour cocktail reception featuring complimentary piano player, open bar and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. This is followed by an elegant four-course dinner with imported wine, and sparkling wine afterwards for toasts. There is a four-hour host bar after dinner, and coffee and tea service at midnight.

The bride and groom may enjoy three complimentary nights at an Inter-Continental hotel in New York, Washington D.C., Miami, New Orleans, Los Angeles, or San Francisco. Or, there is the alternative of one free room on the wedding night for every $1,000 spent, to a maximum of five nights. For example, if there are 75 guests at $78 each, totalling $5,850, there would be five complimentary rooms for the bride and groom to offer family and friends. (These figures do not include taxes and gratuity.)

Rates start at $155 for a single or double room, with special rates during the slow season. When they arrive on their wedding night, the bride and groom receive a complimentary suite and chilled champagne. Before setting out next morning on their honeymoon, they are served a continental breakfast (sliced fruit, Danish pastry, croissants and coffee).

If you wish, Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto will be pleased to organize every aspect of your wedding within the domain of the hotel, from flowers to entertainment. The catering manager will attend to every detail to ensure all goes smoothly. This level of service is in keeping with Hotel Inter-Continental's profile: it's a "boutique hotel" for individual business travellers, families, intimates and small groups (and possibly a celebrity or two in search of privacy and quiet).

Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto is located at 220 Bloor Street West, just west of Avenue Road, across from the Royal Conservatory of Music. For more information, ask for the catering manager at **(416) 960-5200**.

Roksolana dresses brides, mothers with equal panache

With a flair for fabric and exactitude of design that has earned her a reputation as one of Toronto's most resourceful dressmakers, **Roksolana** has become the designer of choice for women seeking a special outfit not only for weddings but also for bar mizvahs, cocktail parties, and other special occasions.

Often characterized by strong neckline treatments that help direct the visual focus towards the wearer's face and away from potential problem areas, Roksolana's work can best be described as customized, tailored fitting with a European flair. Her creations make liberal use of stunning, richly textured imported fabrics that add depth and substance. Pure Italian and French silks, chiffons and other luxurious offerings are the order of the day.

To achieve the classic, elegant look so in demand today, Roksolana embellishes collars and cuffs with delicate embroidery and lace as opposed to heavy beading. "You don't create softness and femininity by throwing in a few more puffs and ruffles," she says. "Rather, you allow them to shine through the garment by conceiving, cutting and fitting it to complement the wearer's figure and personality. That way it's *you* that looks great — not just the dress."

The garments, like the designer, are versatile: unlike the trendy, gaudy outfits that are worn once and discarded, Roksolana's classic suits and jackets will live to liven up another occasion, perhaps recycled with a new set of fabric-covered buttons. After all, there is life after weddings! Even her brides have been known to show up at a post-wedding affair in their wedding dress and carry it off, attesting to a versatility of style that few other designers can claim.

With approachable prices that belie her lofty styling and attention to detail (wedding gowns start at $900), it's no wonder that Roksolana has become one of Toronto's most sought-after bridal and evening wear designers. Her friendly disposition and easygoing approach to consultations are also valued by her clients, and fit right in to the Bloor West Village environment where her salon is comfortably ensconced. The pleasure of your visit is an inkling of the effusion of praise to follow.

Get swept off your feet in more ways than one.

At Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto, we make any *simcha* elegantly distinctive and respectfully traditional. Celebrate in one of our elegant reception rooms with up to 250 guests, or under the stars in our outdoor courtyard. And enjoy a special *Mazel Tov* gift – a complimentary overnight stay for every $1,000 you spend on Food & Beverage.

For more information, call (416) 960-5200.

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Evening functions only. Maximum 5 complimentary guest rooms. Conditions apply, see hotel for details. Offer valid through October 31, 1996

CELEBRATE AT THE NATIONAL BRIDAL SHOW '96

National Bridal Show '96 Schedule of Events

Friday, February 9

6:40 p.m. *The Bay "Winning Way of Gift Registry"*
6:55 p.m. *Door Prizes*
7:00 p.m. ***Boutique Fashion Show***
8:10 p.m. *Just Honeymoons "Honeymoon Hot Spots"*
8:25 p.m. *Door Prizes*
8:30 p.m. ***Couture Fashion Show***

Saturday, February 10

12:40 p.m. *Freeman Formalwear "Doing It Right For The Men In Your Wedding"*
12:55 p.m. *Door Prizes*
1:00 p.m. ***Couture Fashion Show***
2:40 p.m. *Tidy's Flowers "A Century of Wedding Flowers"*
2:55 p.m. *Door Prizes*
3:00 p.m. ***Boutique Fashion Show***
6:40 p.m. *Forever Yours "Gown Care & Preservation"*
6:55 p.m. *Door Prizes*
7:00 p.m. ***Couture Fashion Show***
8:10 p.m. *The Bay "Winning Way of Gift Registry"*
8:25 p.m. *Door Prizes*
8:30 p.m. ***Boutique Fashion Show***

Sunday, February 11

12:40 p.m. *The Bay "Winning Way of Gift Registry"*
12:55 p.m. *Door Prizes*
1:00 p.m. ***Boutique Fashion Show***
3:40 p.m. *Valencienne "Old Traditions Are New Again"*
3:55 p.m. *Door Prizes*
4:00 p.m. ***Couture Fashion Show***

National Bridal Show '96
February 9 — 11
Automotive Building, Exhibition Place
Saturday Evening Special
Admission Price $6.00
with this coupon
Coupon valid Saturday February 10, from 5 p.m. to closing. One coupon per admission. Must be presented with ticket purchase. Not valid with any other offer.

Don't miss our next show . . . September 7 & 8, 1996
WEDDING SHOW & CONFERENCE '96
September 7 & 8
Toronto Congress Centre
650 Dixon Road, Toronto
"Canada's first Wedding Conference" Attend full day wedding planning seminars or mini sessions, exhibits and fashion shows. Full conference schedule and ticket order information will be available in May 1996.
Call (905) 881-5708 for more information.
Produced by National ShoBiz (905) 881-5708.

Celebrate with us as we move for the first time to the Automotive Building at Exhibition Place. The **National Bridal Show '96** will feature more exhibitors, special features, wedding fashions and more value for admission than ever before! Come see for yourself why the **National Bridal Show** is the favourite show for couples planning a wedding.

A Century of Weddings

One of the most popular show features is sure to be the exclusive showing of over 30 exquisite antique Bridal Gowns dating back to 1840. The gowns, from the private collection of Toronto's Alan Suddon, will be complemented with photographs of past Toronto weddings from the archives of New Paramount Studios.

The Bay Sponsors National Bridal Show '96

The Bay, sponsor of National Bridal Show '96, will present wedding planning seminars and a feature area packed with demonstrations and lots of wedding ideas. Visitors to the show can enter the **Grand Prize Draw** for the Bay's **Dream Wedding Package**. One lucky couple will win ...

- A Bridal Gown valued to $1,800.00 from The Bay Bridal Salon "Original Collection"
- Wedding Flowers valued to $1,000.00
- Jewellery by Bijoux D'Orlan, Nina Ricci, Vendôme, & Richelieu
- Stationary items from the Beverly Clark Collection
- Lancôme Cosmetics Gift Basket
- Liz Claiborne "In Full Bloom" Bedroom/Bathroom Linens
- KitchenAid Mixer, Food Processor, Blender & Hand Mixer
- Krups Coffee Grinder, Cappuccino Maker, Expresso Maximo, Caffé Presso, Citrus Juicer & Cordless Kettle
- WearEver Cookware & "CushionAire Pro" Bakeware
- Proctor Silex Toaster Oven, Toaster & Slow Cooker
- Royal Doulton "Glen Ora" Dinnerware
- Schott "Ballet" Stemware
- Oneida "Radius" Flatware
- A Silver Tray

Wedding Ideas Seminars

"Honeymoon Hot Spots"
Rocky Racco of Just Honeymoons takes you on a tour of dream honeymoon destinations from Caribbean Island hopping to exotic ports of call, romantic tropical Hawaiian paradise and the elegant cities of Europe. Friday 8:10 p.m.

"Doing It Right For The Men In Your Wedding"
Leonard Goldstein of Freeman Formalwear presents an informative look at dressing the men in your wedding party, Saturday 12:40 p.m.

A Century of Wedding Flowers
Since 1877, Tidy's Flowers has been designing bouquets for Toronto's brides. From sentimental and sweet to bold and daring, join Derrick H. Foss of Tidy's as he demonstrates how yesterday's styles become today's dreams. Saturday 2:40 p.m.

Gown Care & Preservation
Jerry Shiner of Forever Yours reveals the secrets of caring for your gown on your wedding day, preparing for emergency stains and rips, and care for your gown after the wedding. Saturday 6:40 p.m.

The Winning Way of Gift Registry
Suzanne Savage, The Bay Gift Registry Co-ordinator, presents a new perspective on choosing gifts for both the wedding and shower. Friday 6:40 p.m., Saturday 8:10 p.m., Sunday 12:40 p.m.

"Old Traditions are New Again"
Valencienne Bridal Salon presents an exciting look at the past era of wedding fashions that have evolved for the '90s bride. Sunday 3:40 p.m.

Kodak Canada Sponsors The Best Wedding Shot of the '90s

Exhibiting photographers will vie for the National Bridal Show Kodak award for the Best Wedding Shot of the '90s. Visitors to the show can view the photographs and vote for their favourite. The winning photograph will be announced on Sunday at the 4 p.m. fashion show. Daily drawings will be made for Kodak Fun Saver Wedding Packs.

"Ride the Rocket"

Take the TTC to the National Bridal Show '96. Take the 511 Bathurst bus from Bathurst Station; or the 29 Dufferin bus from Wilson or Dufferin station. For transit info call (416) 393-4636.

Fashion Shows

This year's fashion show theme is Disney's romantic musical ***Beauty and the Beast***. Disney has designed a spectacular stage set exclusively for the National Bridal Show. As well, Belle, the Beast and Mrs. Potts will stage a special performance on Saturday at the 1 p.m. fashion show.

Fashion Shows sponsored by Braun & Today's Bride Magazine

Boutique Fashion Shows

Toronto's leading Bridal Boutiques show the latest fashions for every taste and budget for the entire wedding party. Participants include Allie Fashion, Amandalina's, The Bay Bridal Salon, Big Beautiful Brides, Duette, Atelier Inès Gordi, Marks and Spencer, Ritché, Sunny Choi, Sposabella and Yes I Will.

Couture Fashion Shows

Custom designers bring their latest collections to the runway. The finale is not to be missed, as participants design their own version of ***Beauty & The Beast***'s Belle's wedding gown. Participants include Adele Wechsler, Berry Ellen, Chez Jordan, Maria Couturier, Marquessa, Melange, Morbella, Nadene Cain, Rahmanian Bridal Couture, Roksolana, Rivini, Studio A, Tomé Dress Salon and Valencienne.

Men's fashions complementing both shows include Andrew's Formal Rentals, Classy Formal Wear, Freeman Formalwear, Syd Silver, Tuxedo Formal Rentals and Tuxedo Royale.

Fashion Show Door Prizes

Prior to each fashion show, random draws will be made for a wonderful selection of door prizes. Four special draws will be made for a Braun "Kitchen" including the Braun Food Preparation Centre 5-in-1, FlavorSelect Coffeemaker, Coffee Grinder, and Handblender. As well, one special draw will be made for two tickets to see Toronto's most romantic musical, Disney's ***Beauty and the Beast***, at The Princess of Wales Theatre, and dinner for two at the Sequoia Grove Restaurant, and limousine to and from the theatre courtesy of Wyse Choice Limousines Inc.

No need to seek out the extraordinary at Alan Cherry; it'll find you

Guy Laroche for Alan Cherry Bridal: seaside fantasy

As any bride who'se enjoyed the Alan Cherry treatment will tell you, buying a gown from his magnificent bridal salon is an experience that ranks second only to the wedding ceremony itself.

"Everyone talks about royal treatment, but here we treat you even better: like a friend," says Vice-President Maria Arrigo. Thus it is at Alan Cherry that superficial pampering is replaced by personal interest; flattery by honest opinions; salesmanship by informativeness. Indeed, the treatment received by brides from Arrigo, designer Nancy Di Croce and associate Sabrina Corrado has left such an impression on Alan Cherry's customers that these "three amicas" have received countless invitations to attend their clients' weddings, and a flood of letters long after the ceremony.

Dior and Laroche are Alan Cherry exclusives

The warmth you'll encounter at Alan Cherry bridal goes hand in hand with a level of expertise that will ensure you not only of the correct purchase, but also of an impeccable fit and of any enhancements that may heighten the overall impact of the gown. With their trained eyes and vast design experience, Arrigo, Di Croce and Corrado are able to spot shortcomings that other bridal consultants may not, and suggest the necessary improvements.

"At many stores, buying a gown is the end of the line," says Arrigo. "Here, it's just the beginning. We want every bride to leave our shop looking a hundred percent. We will not settle for ninety nine percent."

Backing this perfectionism is a stable of designers that take wedding dresses to new heights. Gowns from the prestigious French houses of Christian Dior and Guy Laroche are both exclusive to Alan Cherry Bridal, as are Carmela Sutera and Helen Morley. And the designers are not here in name only: Alan Cherry Bridal holds regular trunk shows to allow brides to see how their gowns will look "live." Highly-ranked representatives of the designers — or the designers themselves — are always present at these shows. On February 22, 23 and 24, Helen Morley (one of her gowns is pictured at right) will be on hand.

Most bridal shops have at least one gown that will make you swoon, but at Alan Cherry Bridal you'll need the smelling salts to view the entire collection. And that's just how it should be, says Arrigo. "There's too much sameness in the marketplace," she says. "It's not just our aim to offer something different, it's our obligation." In the finest Alan Cherry tradition, each piece is a work of art in its own right.

The frescoed *cupola* at the centre of the salon ties together an interior so brimming with magnificence that you feel you're in the Louvre as opposed to a bridal salon. The only real difference is that here, the masterpiece you're viewing is *you* — with a little help from Guy Laroche, Christian Dior, Helen Morley, and other Alan Cherry exclusives. Oversized mirrors are everywhere, and you're encouraged to take advantage of them by trying on "as many gowns as you need to," says Arrigo. (Thankfully, the unwritten "two gown limit" that exists in some stores is absent here). To ensure that the total look their customers seek can be achieved under one roof, Alan Cherry Bridal carries a complete selection of veils, headpieces, shoes, and jewellery. "A great gown without the proper accessories is like a bagel without cream cheese," says Arrigo, perhaps borrowing the analogy from neighbouring Lox, Stock and Bagel. "We will not willingly allow any bride to walk out of here without looking her absolute best," she says.

Clients made to feel at ease

This commitment sometimes involves discouraging a bride from selecting the wrong gown; with the multitude of superb designs offered by the salon, it's easy for a bride to "fall" for a dress that may not be ideally suited for her figure or personality. Under these circumstances, it's imperative that clients avail themselves of the staff's expertise. "Choosing a *nice* gown is a no-brainer, but choosing the perfect gown means being all eyes and all ears, and having the right people to listen to." If there was such a thing as a Doctorate of Bridal Studies, Mss. Arrigo, Di Croce and Corrado would surely number among that group.

Combining theatrical flair with roguish simplicity, this Guy Laroche creation appeals to the high-spirited woman. Available in Canada only at Alan Cherry Bridal.

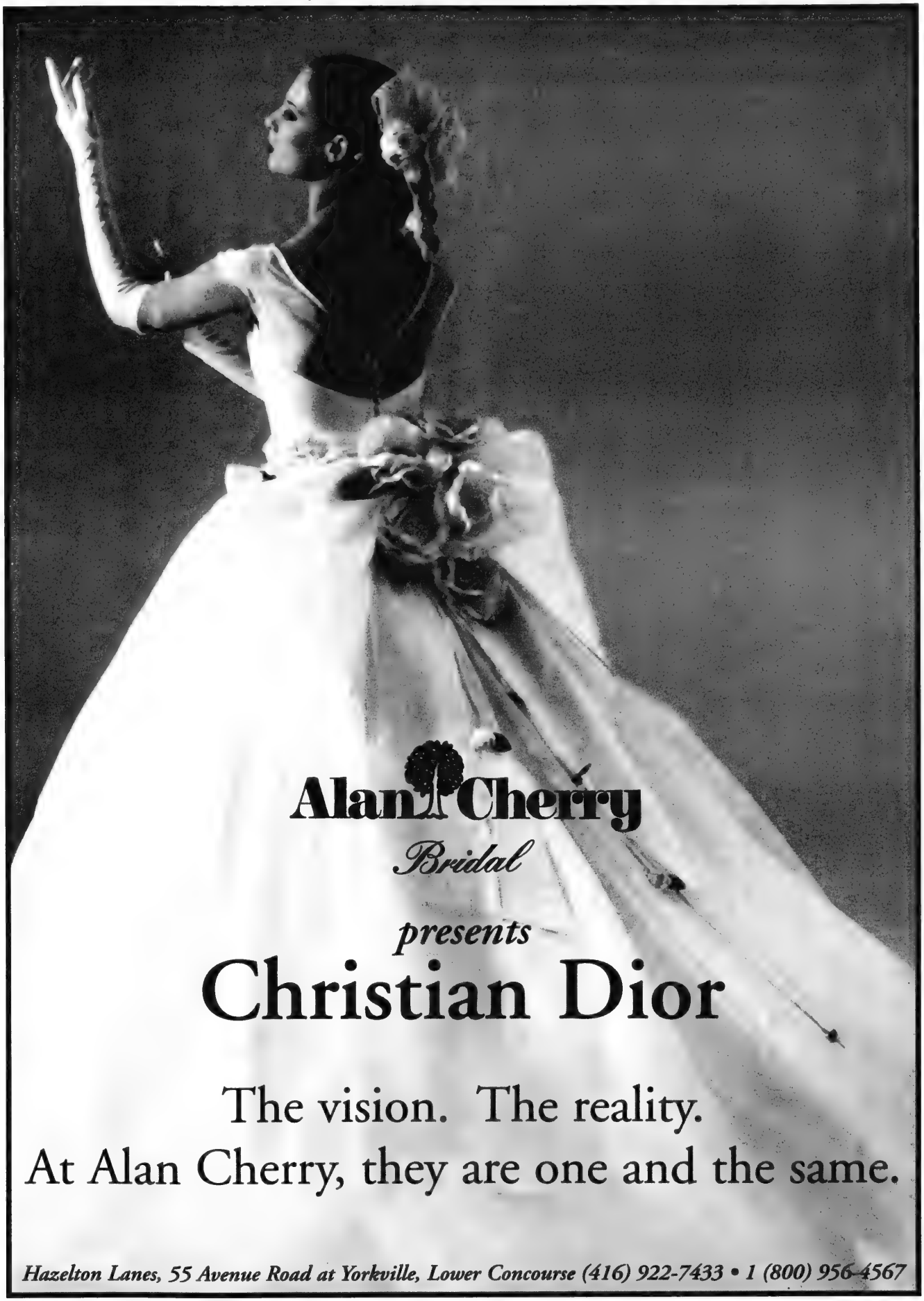
Helen Morley for Alan Cherry Bridal: a timeless classic

A tough act to follow

Celebrities have long shopped at Alan Cherry Ladies, and the bridal salon is no exception, numbering among its satisfied customers such luminaries as *Phantom Of The Opera* star Gay Willis. Anyone with a theatrical flair and an eye for the extraordinary will be gratified by a visit to Alan Cherry Bridal, and the service they'll receive will be a tough act for any shop to follow.

Rare is the salon whose reality can match your visions of a dream dress, but at Alan Cherry Bridal, the vision and the reality are one and the same.

Alan Cherry
Bridal
Hazelton Lanes
55 Avenue Road at Yorkville
Lower Concourse
(416) 922-7433 • 1 (800) 956-4567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AT RITCHÉ, BRIDES' DREAMS HAVE COME TRUE FOR THREE GENERATIONS

For over 40 years, the Ritché family has been assisting three generations of Canadian brides with the selection and design of their wedding attire. From the beginning, Ritché's motto has been: "Where brides' dreams come true".

Jack Ritché received his fashion training in Europe, then came to Canada. Here, in his first store at Bloor and Avenue Rd., he soon established a reputation as a leading couturier designer – and not only in Toronto. He has outfitted local and national celebrities, as well as thousands of brides across Canada.

Jack's daughter Vivian joined the family business in 1981. Soon after, Ritché expanded, adding the Avenue Road location; today, Vivian and her husband Arthur Prussky operate two successful bridal salons. Meanwhile, Jack Ritché still personally attends to customers, and finds a creative outlet in designing dresses for brides and mothers in fine fabrics and laces from around the world.

The imported and Canadian bridal gown collections feature designers such as Alfred Sung, Mori Lee, Paloma Blanca, Alfred Angelo, Jai International, Moonlight, Mon Cherie, and Jessica McClintock. It is the Ritché Originals and custom design service, though, that set Ritché apart from other bridal salons.

Vivian says her father has always followed the principle that "What the bride wants, the bride gets" – even though it means working harder, going that extra step to get it exactly right. Vivian and her husband still follow this principle; and the thank-you cards and notes they receive prove that it works.

Always, this means close attention to details. "Heaven," says the proverb, "is in the details"; and it's the specifics of fabric, fit and design that make a particular gown best for a particular bride. "For any bride," says Vivian, "there is the dress that's just right." And it's not good enough to be close: only "just right" will do.

Customers vary greatly, from those who know what they want the moment they see it, to those who carefully ponder every detail. Serving the customer to the best of one's ability means offering guidance which is based on decades of knowledge and experience, yet tailored to individual tastes and desires.

Ritché' has one of the largest selections of bridal wear available in Toronto. Brides-to-be can choose from any one of the hundreds of styles in the salon, or have one custom-made to their own desires. There is something here for every bride, for every taste and theme, elegantly simple or opulently elaborate, traditional, contemporary or avant-garde.

Ritché takes pride in pleasing even the customer with very particular tastes. "In fact," says Vivian, "the real test of excellence is the customer with the most discriminating tastes." Often, moreover, those who are hardest to please are the most loyal, and therefore the best long-term source of recommendations to new customers.

Ritché's spacious three-level Avenue Rd. store features an entire floor of wedding dresses. Relaxing in private consultation rooms, brides make their selections with the assistance of friendly, knowledgeable consultants. Meanwhile, mothers, bridesmaids, flower girls and wedding guests can browse through a wide selection of gowns, special-occasion dresses, suits, evening wear, party dresses, and accessories including jewelry and shoes.

For 1996, Ritché is featuring an exclusive European designer collection, using the finest Swiss and Austrian laces and Italian silks. In Canada, this collection will be available only from Ritché. As to the custom design department, it is stronger than ever: "Mr. Ritché just can't stop designing". There is also a sophisticated, stylish spring collection of mother's dresses and suits for wedding and bar mitzvah mothers.

If you are in search of a bargain, visit Ritché's Factory Clearance Store on Richmond St. West at Spadina Ave. Here you will find a large selection of wedding gowns in a wide range of styles and sizes, marked from 20%-70% off retail prices.

For two years in a row, 1994 and 1995, Ritché' has been chosen a Winner in the Toronto Sun Reader's Choice Awards, as Sun readers' favorite bridal salon.

For the major events in your life, choosing and deciding must be allowed plenty of time. As you will want to make repeat visits over several months – not only for the bride's gown, but for the mother's suit, bridesmaids' and flower girls' gowns, and accessories – visit or call Ritché's soon.

Ritché's two locations are: 1662 Avenue Rd., south of 401, **(416) 789-4378** (bridal appointments preferred); and 423 Richmond St. West at Spadina Ave., **(416) 362-2349** (no appointment necessary).

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Bronson's Bridal Registry: Quality, Service, Unbeatable Prices

Bronson's China and Gifts owes its reputation to its huge selection and dedication to service. "This is a customer-oriented store," says owner Ilene Bronsteter, who has been at this spacious Thornhill location for 17 years. "Being customer-oriented is important for any business; but in making new brides feel at ease, it's essential."

Since 1979, thousands of people across Canada have relied on Bronson's for gifts they cherish years after the wedding day. Ilene has built much of her business on referrals from satisfied brides, and looks forward to registering the children of those who registered when Bronson's first opened.

Ilene takes pride in having one of the best bridal registries in Canada. The huge selection offers something to match every budget and taste; and Bronson's pricing policy ensures that everything is offered at the best price. "We help clients pick in the proper range," says Ilene, "and show them how to remain within budget while making tasteful choices. We pride ourselves on always matching another store's prices."

Bronson's experienced bridal consultants spend at least 45 minutes with each bride, helping her pick colors and patterns from the store's selection of quality china, dinnerware, flatware, stemware and giftware. They help co-ordinate new items with those the bride already owns, setting a table to show how the tableware she chooses will look in the new home.

The atmosphere in Bronson's is relaxed, friendly and pressure-free, encouraging customers to look and choose at their leisure. Friendliness extends to the guests of the bride. "Your guests are ours too," says Ilene.

"We've noticed a lot more men coming in," she adds. "The choice of dinnerware is no longer left exclusively to the bride and her mother. The groom wants a voice in these decisions."

Besides traditional patterns from all over the world, Bronson's offers modern and contemporary designs. Among the famous international brand names are Rosenthal, Mikasa, Noritake, Wedgewood, Fitz & Floyd, Villeroy and Boch, and Royal Doulton. Beautiful hand-painted Italian designs are also available.

There is a full range of kitchenware, everyday glassware, decorative giftware, and accessories like tablecloths and placemats; and stock is constantly updated.

Among Bronson's special amenities are gift wrapping, same-day delivery and telephone orders. The computerized inventory guarantees prompt service.

Bronson's is at 2 Steeles Ave. W., with plenty of parking, open 7 days a week, Mon.-Sat. 9:30-6, Thurs. 9:30-9, and Sun. 12 noon-5:00.; tel. **(905) 881-9930**. To place cross-Canada orders, call toll-free: **1-800-387-2766**.

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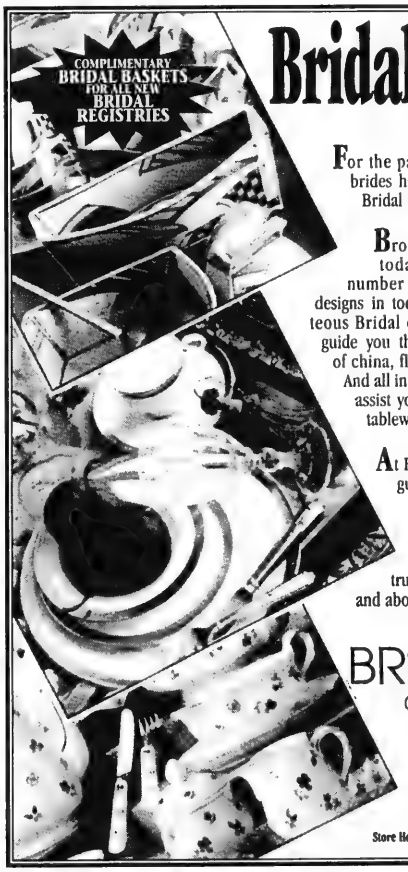

Bridal Registry

For the past fifteen years, thousands of brides have trusted Bronson's with their Bridal Registry.

Bronson's continues that tradition today. With the ever increasing number of new patterns, styles, and designs in today's market, our helpful, courteous Bridal consultants will be pleased to guide you through our incredible selection of china, flatware, stemware and giftware. And all in a very relaxed atmosphere. We'll assist you in mixing and matching your tableware to suit your new lifestyle.

At Bronson's your guests will be our guests too. From gift wrapping, to same day delivery, our exceptional service ensures that everything comes together beautifully. For your Bridal Registry, trust Bronson's for ***value***, ***selection***, and above all, ***service***.

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905-881-9930 416-398-3539

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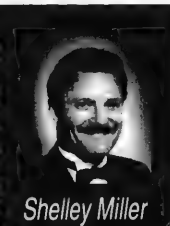

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Conway & Gower tops brides' wish lists

If the clinking of cutlery and the tinkling of glasses are the kinds of sounds that bring happiness to mind — especially that of the dining festivities that accompany a marriage — a visit to **Conway & Gower** in Hazelton Lanes will give you a jolly good start.

With "everything for the dining room but the food," this busy, bustling showroom is fairly brimming at the seams with fine English and European china, crystal, Irish and French linens, oil paintings, watercolours and prints, to name but a few items. It's the kind of environment that makes bridal registry shopping a pleasure rather than a chore. And if, in the course of shopping for that special wedding gift, you should weaken and decide to stow away something for yourself — no problem! There are so many uniquely different items here that no recipient need play second fiddle.

Antique silver serving dishes — cutlery — Cumbria crystal — fine china by Richard Ginori — every treasure you'd expect and many you wouldn't has a temporary home here pending its delivery to a delighted bride and groom. For as little as $10 or as much as $12,000, Conway and Gower has the perfect gift for anyone's home.

Proprietor Hilary Jones is usually on the premises and has the expertise to advise you on your gift and Bridal Registry purchases. It's refreshing and comforting to receive specific answers to your questions, and her knowledge of every item in the shop is almost encyclopedic. This type of assistance is particularly welcome when designing your wedding list, which is fully computerized to avoid duplication and is held for one year after the wedding and even longer if desired. The registry can be cheerfully amended at any time, even after the wedding day. Brides are kept up to date on the status of the list and are promptly advised if further items should be added.

The atmosphere is extremely low-key, the service warm and personal. Gifts are wrapped, stored and delivered at no extra charge and can be delivered worldwide. To assist out-of-town guests, phone and mail orders are accepted.

Special discount and gifts for bride & groom

As a further enticement for customers seeking a wedding gift, Conway and Gower offers 10% off all pre-wedding registry purchases and they give the couple a gift both on their wedding day and on their first anniversary.

Conway and Gower offers you the missing pieces to any dining-room puzzle, and the ideal solution to the omnipresent question, "What should I get them?!" It's an elegant British dining room, fine china showroom and curio shop all rolled into one, and a sensory delight to visit.

Conway and Gower

HAZELTON LANES
87 Avenue Road, Upper Concourse
(416) 923-7003

Deblins Linens' bridal bonanza easy on the pocketbook

When you enter the Deblins Superstore at 39 Orfus Rd., the first thing you notice is the variety of color. Pastels, reds, blues, yellows, greens and earth tones form lively, striking contrasts with white and ivory. On the wall, to the left of the entrance, are triple-woven throw blankets with tapestry-like scenes and images in rich golden-browns. The colors and clean fragrance of the fabrics make Deblins a delight to the senses.

It is also a pleasure for the pocketbook. When the Chitiz family opened their Orfus Road store in 1994, they set out to offer maximum quality, variety and service at minimum cost to the customer — or, in President Ellis Chitiz' words, "boutique quality at warehouse prices".

The success of this policy is borne out by the fact that now there are two more stores, one in Thornhill and one in Mississauga. All three stores carry the same quality merchandise at the same low prices. In fact, Deblins' prices are so low they don't even give discounts to designers.

Bustling with activity

The Superstore is always busy with customers and new consignments. This itself is an attraction to shoppers: as Ellis points out, "people like to come into a busy store".

Vigorous, active and always occupied, Ellis enjoys his work. From his office, which commands a view of the store entrance and the cashiers, he keeps his hands on every phase of the business. Within ten minutes, he talks to a shipper, answers a staff member's question, assists a customer, and makes at least one phone call.

Besides a huge selection, Deblins offers quality merchandise exclusively: no irregulars, no seconds. "If you find a better price elsewhere," Ellis urges, "buy it; but nine times out of ten, if you consider price, quality and service together, Deblins' deal is the best."

At a time when people are careful with money, Ellis' policy is generating plenty of repeat business, even among those who comparison shop before buying. Ellis respects these shoppers. He doesn't expect customers to compromise on quality, because he doesn't.

The selection at Deblins is huge. You can buy all your dry goods here, and color co-ordinate them on the spot. There is a wide assortment of ready-made curtains, valances and draperies, chosen to match sheet designs; Deblins also offers a wealth of table linens. Besides tablecloths, there are napkins, napkin rings and table pads, whether for Shabbos dinner or informal meals.

Deblins' sheet selection includes Croscill, Wamsutta, Revman, Crown Craft, Martex, Carrington, Springmaid, Fieldcrest and the Veratex line which is printed in Israel. Their selection also includes a wide array of pillow covers, duvets and duvet covers.

Deblins offers white Canadian goose-down duvets in all weights and sizes at exceptional prices, with a wide range of complementary coverings. There are nine different styles of pillows to complete your bedding ensemble.

The towel selection is equally impressive: Fieldcrest Royal Velvet in 22 solid colors, at rock-bottom prices; Dundee, also in solid colors; Jacquard towels with designs; and Spirella printed towels. To match them, there is a wide range of bathroom accessories: shower curtains, mats, soap dishes, tumblers, toothbrush and backbrush holders, as well as tissue and lotion dispensers.

Deblins ships and takes orders all over the world, yet offers the service you expect from a small store. Customers' questions are answered promptly and expertly, on everything from fabric care to color co-ordination. In the rare instance where you don't find exactly what you need, Deblins will order it, or custom-make it at a good price.

January/February blahs? Not at Deblins!

Among merchants, conventional wisdom says that no one likes to spend in January and February. Come to Deblins, and the bargains may change your mind.

Sheets normally sold for $30 to $40 sell for $10. Drapes usually priced at $130 sell at $30; and valances normally priced at $40 or $60 go for $10. A $120 rod-pocket set for windows sells for $30.

Calvin Klein washcloths, with a standard price of $8, are offered at $1.99. Placemats usually offered at $5 to $10 are going for $2.99. Napkins usually priced between $3 and $6 sell for $1.99.

As to tableware, Deblins offers bargains year-round. In January, a wide selection of lace tablecloths in all sizes is available for $14.99 each; printed tablecloths are selling at half price.

At 10,000 square feet, the Superstore at 39 Orfus Rd. is Deblins' largest location. It is a few minutes north of Lawrence, just west of Dufferin; call (416) 782-2910. The other stores are in the Promenade Mall in Thornhill, (905) 709-0007; and in the Mississauga Home and Design Centre at the corner of Winston Churchill and Dundas, (905) 820-1509. All three locations are open seven days a week.

Spice Up Your Night Life

You spend one third of your life in bed, so why not make the most of it?

It's easy when you shop at Deblins Linens. We offer you a warehouse-full selection of high quality linens, duvets and pillows that will turn any bedroom into a beautiful, comfy retreat.

Bold colours, embellished patterns, distinctive stripes, whatever the fashion...you'll find all kinds of ways to dress up your bedroom at Deblins.

But we're not just great in bedding. We carry a full selection of table linens, towels, shower curtains and bath accessories.

Quality and value. It's the Deblins recipe. Visit us today for tasteful ideas that will add spice to your surroundings – day and night.

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Ketubot-Kaftorot, Chuppah

Kamy Vorona	416 226-3131
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For further information Contact

LYNN COHEN (905) 889-1007 or RICK LEVINE (905) 881-6400

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Regal Kosher Caterers: the ultimate in Glatt Kosher catering and the royal treatment

Every caterer promises three key elements for your simcha's success: quality, selection, and service. At Regal Kosher Caterers, however, catering manager Joanne Katz states in no uncertain terms that "we don't just promise; we deliver."

Splendid simchas for 20 to 1,000 people

Located in the Montecassino Place Hotel at 3710 Chesswood Drive (at Sheppard and the Allen Road), Regal Kosher Caterers can accommodate functions for as few as 20 and as many as 1,000 guests. With a permanent on-site Kosher kitchen and talented chefs, Regal offers superb Middle Eastern, European, Continental and innovative Oriental dishes. "When we offer our clients a range of choices, we do so with the conviction that each menu will be customized and distinctive, with quality and attention to detail," says Joanne.

With pride, she states that working with the clients of Regal Kosher Caterers "is a privilege and a pleasure." Not only does she enjoy contact with people ("the clients are wonderful"), her many years in Kosher catering enable her to provide careful attention to all of the details that will make your celebration **very special**.

The principals of Regal — Joe Elmaleh, C.A., Irwin Diamond, and Rabbi A. J. Eisenberger — have entrusted Joanne with full authority in the catering department. Her rapport with staff and clients has created an environment which is successful and supportive. Many of the bookings are from those who have used Regal's services before, and from referrals from many satisfied clients.

Toronto's only Kosher caterer with a full-service Glatt Kosher restaurant on the premises

Regal Kosher Caterers also operates King Solomon's Table, a fine-dining, full service Glatt Kosher restaurant on the premises, as well as the Wok 'N Deli, located in Spring Farm Marketplace, 441 Clark Avenue West. Both restaurants are also available for smaller functions like business lunches and private parties. No party is too small. Each location offers ample free parking.

Even better, you can enjoy all of this delicious fare at your place or theirs. A quick phone call to King Solomon's Table or the Wok 'N Deli is all it takes to have almost any item on their menu piping hot and ready to grace your dining table.

For all celebrations — weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs, sheva brouches, graduations, in short, any special occasion — Regal Kosher Caterers will make your event worry-free and memorable.

To book your wedding or other special function, call Joanne Katz at (416) 630-0303.

Regal Kosher Caterers will make your celebration very special

Naturally, you want your simcha to be perfect. The recipe for a perfect celebration is to have it all made so easy with the co-ordination talents of the team at Regal Kosher Caterers. Catering Manager Joanne Katz, with the experience of so many successful functions under her belt, has a host of satisfied customers who'll tell you their simchas were "better than perfect" — what they wanted, when they wanted it, delivered with patience, pizzazz and true caring. If Joanne and Regal Kosher Caterers can't do it, it probably can't be done.

Regal Kosher Caterers offers superb cuisine under the supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (C.O.R.). For your everyday dining, a full-service Glatt Kosher restaurant (King Solomon's Table) is located right on the premises. King Solomon's Table is now open every Saturday evening for your dining pleasure (one hour after Shabbos), and is available for your smaller private parties (up to 120 people) on Sunday morning/afternoon.

Can you improve on perfection? At Regal Kosher Caterers, we are always trying to find out. Call Joanne Katz at (416) 630-0303 and start your simcha ball rolling.

Joanne Katz (416) 630-0303

KING SOLOMON'S TABLE COR
3710 Chesswood Drive (at Sheppard, in the Montecassino Place Hotel)
Tel. (416) 630-0666 • Fax (416) 630-4585
Affiliated with Regal Kosher Caterers

Regal KOSHER CATERERS
COR
3710 Chesswood Drive Suite 215
(at Sheppard, in the Montecassino Place Hotel)
Tel. (416) 630-0303 • Fax (416) 630-4585

the WOK 'N DELI
GLATT KOSHER RESTAURANT
Spring Farm Marketplace
(Clark & Hilda)
Tel. (905) 882-0809
Affiliated with Regal Kosher Caterers

The Park Plaza Hotel – the Perfect Setting for your Special Occasion

A perfect midtown location and a truly romantic setting, the Park Plaza Hotel has for over 60 years catered engagement and rehearsal parties, weddings, anniversaries, bar/bat mitzvahs, and social occasions of all kinds.

Permanent kosher kitchen

The permanent kosher kitchen was opened in 1987 and over the past nine years the Park Plaza Hotel has been offering excellent kosher cuisine, specializing in catering events for 30 to 300 guests.

A successful and memorable wedding can begin in the Park Plaza Hotel with the ceremony and the reception to follow taking place in either of the two main ballrooms (the Empress or Plaza Rooms) or in **The Roof**, one of the most romantic settings in Toronto with an unparalleled view of the city. One visit and it's easy to see why the Park Plaza has been a favourite wedding and bar mitzvah destination of the community for generations. The tradition lives on, as does the wonderful service and attention to detail that built it.

The catering team, headed by Lianne Adelson (Catering Manager), David Robitaille (Banquet Maître D.,) and Joan Monfaredi (Executive Chef) will help you plan your special event down to the last detail. Whether you're planning a wedding reception, engagement party or rehearsal dinner, Lianne offers her expertise to arrange your special occasion to your taste and requirements. Naturally, she is available to help you select a classic gourmet menu, a traditional kosher meal, or give advice on wine.

The Roof Now Available

Due to popular demand, The Roof is now available for functions of up to 130 people on Sundays. To experience the Park Plaza's personal service and to start planning your perfect wedding, call Lianne Adelson directly at 924-5471, extension 4492.

Romance
in the
Park
Your special day deserves special treatment and the Park Plaza Hotel gives romance the attention it deserves.
Our intimate atmosphere provides the perfect backdrop to new beginnings. Whether it's a shared moment for two in our elegant Roof Restaurant, or a gala wedding party catered with our outstanding service, Park Plaza is there to look after every detail - letting you enjoy the first day of your new life together.
Park Plaza Hotel
•TORONTO•
PREFERRED HOTELS & RESORTS WORLDWIDE
To reserve your special occasion call (416) 92

True artistry separates Lavee from run-of-the-mill

The painter sets about his task with canvas and pigments, the photographer with camera and lenses. Figuratively speaking, Joe Lavee can be said to do a bit of both.

In mood, composition, and lighting, Lavee's work is a world apart from the majority of commercial photographers. Each painstakingly composed piece reveals the fruits of his twenty years of master craftsmanship.

With an altogether natural style that blends the haunting emotiveness of classical photography with the refreshing frankness of the contemporary school, Lavee's work evokes the kind of emotions one normally experiences in the AGO or the National Gallery. Captured in repose (a couple quietly

embracing), his subjects glow with an energy reminiscent of Lauren Harris; or, exuding joy (a son hugging his father), leap from the "canvas" with glee.

Modestly, Lavee sees himself more as a medium than a messenger. "I am here to tell the story of the day by translating the emotions and feelings that are already present," he says. "I am not here to add to them or detract from them, nor am I here merely to identify people, like in a catalogue." To facilitate his role of photographer-cum-historian, Lavee helps his subjects to be themselves by encouraging them to make eye contact – the first step in allowing the emotions to flow freely – through gentle coaxing in his soft, almost hypnotic voice.

"I don't create these things, he says; I just know which buttons to push." Those who enjoy his services are often amazed at just how accurately his finger has measured the pulse of the situations he records. For the

bride and groom, employing his services is an assurance not only of quality, but of the kind of artistic excellence that makes subjects come to life. Lavee's prices are slightly above average, but when relatives and friends gather to peruse the fruits of his labours, they see not just another wedding or bar mitzvah album, but a vibrant pictorial that will make the emotions of the day come rushing back.

Transcending the solid and highly presentable work of many of his contemporaries, Lavee "paints" his subjects with light and shadow. If the snap-happy set represents one end of the photographic scale, then Lavee's work represents the other end. "For me, pushing a shutter is serious business," he says, "and not an act to be taken lightly." Eschewing the modern tendency to overshoot in the hopes of lucking into a winner, Lavee maintains that "it's better to have one great shot than ten average ones."

Lavee's customers are invariably gratified to have that "one great shot" grace their albums many times over.

Lavee Studios
FINE PHOTOGRAPHY
119 SHEPPARD AVENUE WEST AT YONGE
(416) 733-2457

King Edward's restored grandeur, Kosher cuisine make compelling wedding combination

As symbol of stately opulence since 1902, the **King Edward Hotel** has recently enjoyed a complete renovation which makes the grand old place look as new as on opening day. Now, some 100 years later, you can celebrate your personal milestones on the same hallowed premises with an important advantage: Kosher cuisine.

As you enter the foyer with its tall marble pillars, your eyes are drawn up past the second floor to the skylight high above; then you are attracted to what is closer at hand. Grandeur sometimes makes you want to stand back; here, it invites you in.

In the painting of King Edward on the wall opposite the entrance, the colors are as vivid as the day they were painted. The baroque plasterwork, too, looks as fresh as the day the last touch was added. Dispersed around the lobby are comfortable chairs and sofas enticing you to relax, close enough for conversation but with room to stretch your legs.

Would you assume that in such a setting, a wedding would be prohibitively expensive? Not so, says Catering Manager Fernando Teixeira. "Package prices," he explains, "are geared to the budgets and tastes of our clients." There is something for those of modest means, as well as those on a medium or lavish budget.

Whatever your budget, the quality of cuisine and service is royal. Every wedding at the King Edward includes: a luxurious suite for the bridal couple, with a bottle of special champagne; a printed menu at each place setting; White Glove Service; menu tasting; reduced room rates for your guests; and other amenities.

Special packages may also include floor-length table linens, complimentary coat check, complimentary overnight accommodation for your parents, and other perks.

For Kosher events, the Hotel provides bar and wait staff; the caterer provides food, cutlery and dishes. Exclusive Kosher caterer to the King Edward is GMB Culinary Productions, Glatt Kosher under the supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (C.O.R.).

GMB was hand-picked by the King Edward with a view to providing their customers with the ultimate in kosher cuisine. Whatever the style or geographic origin of cuisine you select, you can be sure that the quality and presentation will conform to the King Edward's lofty standards. Fernando or a member of his staff will assist you personally in designing the simcha menu that best suits your tastes and budget.

For a larger wedding, the Vanity Fair Ballroom seats 350, or 300 with dancing. Its chandeliers, with their tiny points of diffused brightness, combine old-fashioned crystal charm with the ambience of indirect lighting. The Vanity Fair reception area, with its widely-spaced, comfortable chairs and tall plants, offers a fine view of the main foyer.

For smaller affairs, the Windsor Room seats 200 for dinner, or 150 with dancing. With no adjoining function rooms and less direct access to

other parts of the hotel, the Windsor offers more privacy; it's ideal for children, who will not disturb other patrons if they get a little rambunctious. You may also have the ceremony in the Windsor, then move upstairs to the Vanity Fair for dinner and dance.

The King Edward hosts all types of events, from weddings and bar or bat mitzvahs to business luncheons. There are smaller function rooms for ten to 50 people; but no matter how large or small your affair, the level of service matches the ambience.

The King Edward will recommend or book florists, photographers, videographers and bands, and their referrals carry the weight of their own reputation.

One final point of interest: How many hotels offer you a spa? The King Edward is the home of the Nouvelle Maria Spa and Salon, an oasis of calm amid the city's clamour. Fresh flowers, soft music and hushed voices insulate you from the madding crowd. There are separate whirlpool, sauna and lounge facilities for men and women; you can even order lunch.

The Nouvelle Maria stresses health, rejuvenation and beauty, combining European refinement with the wisdom of healthy diet and regular exercise, in programs tailored to your individual needs and desires. Services range from manicures to herbal wraps and massages; there are packages for single visits.

Almost everyone has heard of "the King Eddy"; by holding your simcha there, you place your personal signature on this venerable Toronto landmark.

The restored grandeur of the King Edward Hotel makes a compelling site for your wedding, offering Kosher catering and a myriad of other services.

THE KING EDWARD
TORONTO
37 King Street East
(416) 863-9700

Mr. Disc Jockey: Seamless entertainment

Forget the guy with the rumpled jacket and a box of tapes. Forget the wisecracking MC with the old jokes. You and your guests deserve the best possible treatment from the people organizing the entertainment at your wedding or other special event; and Mr. Disc Jockey is there to make sure you get only the best.

Mr. Disc Jockey is more than someone to play music and introduce the band. It is an entertainment co-ordinating service, involving everything from music to floor plan. In some ways, owner Ed McMurtry says, entertainment co-ordinating is like catering. Good food — or in this case, good music — is necessary; but it's not enough. For the guests to enjoy themselves, the presentation must show style, grace and creativity.

This is especially the case when you celebrate a milestone event. A wedding, says McMurtry, is an important step in life to be treated with respect, elegance, and dignity. McMurtry and his team wear tuxedos and black ties; and they work in front of their equipment, not behind it. Mr. Disc Jockey is on display, as much as any of the entertainers are, and ready to be judged by appearances.

Mr. Disc Jockey's equipment is high-quality and state-of-the-art, and needs minimal attention. Time is saved by using CD's rather than tapes. In this way a requested song can be found in seconds. This flexibility ensures that all of your entertainment runs smoothy and on schedule.

Ambient sound level is an important part of the atmosphere at a special event. Mr. Disc Jockey's sound is big, pervades the room without being loud, and can feed into a house sound system at low volume for ambient effect.

McMurtry devotes the same attention to lighting, staging and decor, as he does to music and sound. He makes great use of perimeter lighting, which often tends to create a friendlier ambience than overhead lights; and he has the equipment for special effects like pin-spotting tables.

"Heaven is in the details," says the proverb; and it isn't good enough for one or two things to be done well, the rest just OK. The overall feeling has to be perfect. Mr. Disc Jockey presents what McMurtry calls "seamless entertainment". To this end, he and his people even do vocal practice and rehearsals once a month.

McMurtry works closely with bands and other entertainers; for example, he takes care not to play songs the live musicians have on their repertoire. Often, though, after a break, he will start a song on a CD which the band will then come in on as they return to the stage. "This gives the impression," he explains, "that I'm part of the band."

He also enjoys interactive work with the guests, who often have more fun if they have some input. "One can be interactive," he points out, "and still be dignified. We know how to deal with unexpected things like repartee, and weave them into the flow of events."

If the bride and groom want, McMurtry and his team will personally introduce themselves to the guests, to get song requests; or, if the bride and groom prefer, they simply put request cards on the table for guests to fill out.

McMurtry has 16 years' experience in entertainment co-ordination; 6 of those years are full-time. Over the years, Mr. Disc Jockey has grown and expanded, and has built a solid reputation for successful bar mitzvahs and weddings.

Mr. Disc Jockey has done plenty of corporate entertainment co-ordinating as well — including the Prudential Life Insurance convention in 1993, which lasted 7 weeks. They have also co-ordinated for a national marketing managers' function for Today's Bride in 1993, and a game show for the World Series.

Mr. Disc Jockey now does shows across Canada and the U.S., and is ready to travel with a production company. This international experience is starting to be a selling point for the company, which is backed by its own professional production team, Edwin Allen Productions.

Two weeks before the wedding, McMurtry gets from the bride and groom every detail of the wedding: how they will enter the room; whether they will dance the first dance by themselves; etc. Besides making sure everything runs smoothly for bride, groom and guests, McMurtry's meticulous attention to detail makes things easy for the party organizer.

"We do the impossible every day," McMurtry smiles. "Miracles take more advance notice." For bookings call: **(905) 737-8670**!

BECAUSE THE SUCCESS OF YOUR SIMCHA DEPENDS ON THE QUALITY OF YOUR ENTERTAINMENT . . .

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We are constantly working with the leading table top Design Centres throughout the world in the development of dinnerware and crystal designs to suit the tastes of our customers of today...These exciting collections are included in our extensive selection of dinnerware, crystal, flatware, and fine gifts, and are usually available only at William Ashley...at prices that have made us the first choice for brides.

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All Registry Services are Free of Charge

When you Register...your selection will be recorded in our computerized Bridal Registry. We advise your family and friends of your personal preferences. This reduces duplication by ensuring everything you receive is your personal choice. The selection of a gift can be made by telephone or mail as a convenience to any family member or friend who is not able to shop in person.

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Discover the excitement of setting a beautiful table, whether it is classically elegant or strikingly contemporary. When you register at William Ashley, you'll enjoy choosing in beautiful surroundings from the most complete selection available anywhere in the world.
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WILLIAM ASHLEY

55 Bloor Street West, Toronto • Square One, Mississauga

Beverly Hills Caterers at Le Parc

Who says nothing is perfect?

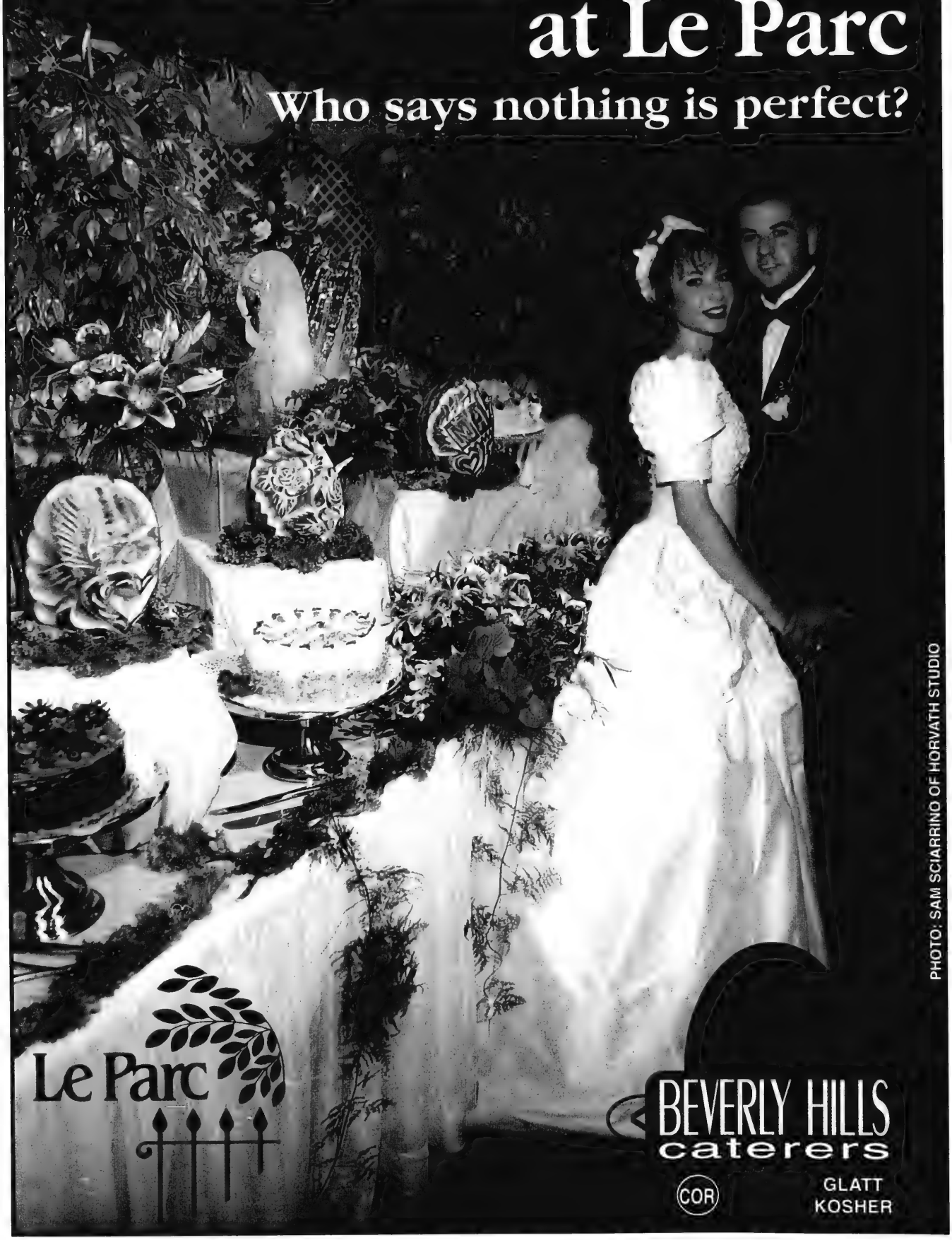

PHOTO: SAM SCIARRINO OF HORVATH STUDIO

Le Parc

BEVERLY HILLS caterers

COR

GLATT KOSHER

Beverly Hills Caterers puts an irresistible offer on Le Parc's table

When an irresistible force (Beverly Hills Caterers) meets an immovable object (Le Parc) and both happen to be travelling in the same direction (terrific simchas), the result is great catering at an irresistible price. Buoyed by the success of their introductory offer of $65 a plate (plus taxes and gratuity, minimum125 people), Raphy Amar of **Beverly Hills Caterers** and John Verdone of **Le Parc** have decided not only to extend the offer, but to lower it to $55 on weekdays, when their banquet halls are more readily available.

If you think you've died and gone to heaven, wait until you see the premises and taste the food! Each of Le Parc's five splendid banquet halls is equipped with its own private bar, piano, and foyer. There you'll be treated to a full five-course meal (including open bar and sweet table) that is guaranteed to take its rightful place in your own personal dining "Hall of Fame."

Of course, you are by no means restricted to the promotion; Raphy will be happy to design your own menu for you and will offer you a mind-boggling selection of traditional, Italian, Chinese, Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and West Coast specialties. From a culinary standpoint, he's the consummate perfectionist, a trait that served him well during a ten-year stint as the exclusive kosher caterer to Beth Jacob Synagogue, Los Angeles' largest orthodox congregation. Hosting many gala affairs and theme parties involving the "who's who" of Hollywood has allowed him to attain a level of "hands-on" expertise in simcha planning that is unparalleled in the industry.

Raphy is a Shomer Shabbos caterer and can meet any requirements, including Lubavitch Schechita. Mechitsas can be arranged on request.

At $65 a plate ($55 on weekdays), elegant glatt kosher dining at Le Parc is well within reach

Under the supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (C.O.R.), Le Parc's new kosher kitchen not only conforms to the highest standards of Kashruth but also boasts state-of-the art food preparation facilities and equipment that allow it to serve from 200 to 2,000 guests with equal ease. Le Parc has become Toronto's favourite spot for large corporate and organizational kosher functions.

Though Raphy's reputation precedes him, customers who deal with him for the first time are invariably impressed by his sincerity, thoroughness and dedication to his craft. Raphy excels in all areas of food preparation and presentation, but he is perhaps best known for his innovations in light, California-style cuisine and his sweet tables, where his Picasso-esque talent for fruit carving is much in evidence (see photo at left).

Major bridal show Jan. 30

As part of its ongoing commitment to superb simchas, Le Parc is hosting the ever-popular "We're Having a Party" bridal show on Tuesday January 30 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. (see advertisement on page 12 of this section). Bridal gowns — florists — bands — everything you need to make your event click will be under one roof at Le Parc, and admission is free.

The offer currently put on the table by Beverly Hills Caterers and Le Parc ($55 a plate weekdays, $65 weekends) is a compelling opportunity to have your simcha at Toronto's premier banquet and catering facility. "The first thing I wanted to do when I came here," says Raphy, "was to debunk the myth that Le Parc was not affordable. It's amazing how many people were under the impression that you couldn't have an affair here for less than $100 a plate." In order to dispel such notions, he felt he not only had to lower that figure but "smash it to smithereens."

With a volume of business that has grown exponentially since Raphy's arrival, the Beverly Hills / Le Parc formula is clearly working. It's a marriage made in kosher catering heaven. If *your* marriage is made in heaven too, Raphy will be happy to look after the kosher catering.

A TWICE-IN-A-LIFETIME OFFER

$55 + taxes & gratuity
Min. 125 guests
PER PERSON / WEEKDAYS

Offer includes:
• *Full Open Bar Including Wine*
• *Choice of 5 hot or cold hors d'oeuvres*
• *Choice of Pasta* • *Choice of Salad*
• *Choice of Chicken with Medley of Fresh Garden Vegetables and Potato or Rice*
• *Choice of Dessert* • *Beverage*
• *Full Sweet Table*

Also included in this offer, valid to March 31/96, are the use of a banquet room with private bar, piano, wait staff, table linens, and coat check.

— Ample free parking on site —

(416) 798-7246
8432 LESLIE ST. AT HIGHWAY 7

BEVERLY HILLS caterers
COR Glatt Kosher
Le Parc

$65 + taxes & gratuity
Min. 125 guests
PER PERSON / WEEKENDS

Let Pillow Talk outfit the bridal suite in your new home

Joanne Melegou opened Pillow Talk on December 16, 1995 after planning it for 10 years.

During that time she worked in the linen retail trade gathering knowledge and experience. Since opening day, she's been too busy to take more than the shortest time out; but she loves every minute of it.

Joanne exemplifies the truth that a successful retailer has to enjoy dealing with people. "I like to help a young couple," she smiles, "to finish their place with a fine bed, linens and accessories — without having to spend a fortune. Just give me a brief description of your bedroom, and I will help you make it beautiful."

Pillow Talk sells beds and bedding, cushions and pillows, towels and other bathroom linens, gift items, and a plethora of accessories. Here is the place to go to outfit the bridal suite in your new home. While you are here, register with Pillow Talk's Bridal Registry and let Joanne help you co-ordinate bathroom linen, bed linen, accessories, even your bed itself.

Joanne's approach to merchandising is tried and true: she appeals to the consumer who wants both quality and good price. Today, you have to take more care with your money, making every dollar go as far and last as long as possible and at the same time, tastes are more sophisticated and quality-conscious. In this economic and social climate, Pillow Talk's approach is bound to succeed.

Pillow Talk has 2,150 sq. f. of space, filled with quality merchandise. The lines of linen for sale include Fieldcrest, Wamsutta, Springmaid, Revelle, Burlington — and the Sheridan line from Australia, which Joanne is especially proud to be carrying on her shelves.

Not yet well known in Canada, Sheridan bedroom and accessory linens have been on the market elsewhere for 20 years, and earned a solid reputation in over 40 countries. Sheridan's designers and craftspeople are not content to be merely good: every design which emerges from their atelier must embody uncompromising excellence, and undergo rigorous reviews before becoming part of a collection.

One Sheridan design may be a riot of hot pink, rich red and gold that evokes the lush opulence of Imperial India. Another, in simple minimalist lines and monochrome tones, may reflect the austere balance and purity of a Balinese woodblock print. Yet, as great as the variety is, each design is perfectly integrated with the fabric.

Among the major Sheridan creations is the Chateau line. Characterized by refined, classic elegance, Chateau is inspired by architectural embellishments and monumental motifs. Your home is your palace; come home to Sheridan, and let Chateau give courtly cachet to any room.

There are beds galore, including wrought-iron beds by Kessler, with finishes developed to co-ordinate with a broad cross-section of their other furniture. Among these attractive finishes are Rust, Textured Black, and Cyprus, which is a deep green. Kessler also makes accessories, such as an elegant desk rack.

Then there are brass and iron beds by Wesley Allen, manufacturers of the best beds in North America. Each Wesley Allen masterpiece is created in a hand-crafted process, designed to produce a uniquely individual product according to your desire, with finishes customized as you wish them.

Wesley Allen's iron beds are available in a wide variety of painted finishes. Brass beds are available in polished satin, antique or patina brass finish, as well as custom finishes which enhance the uniqueness of your bed, and can be personalized with porcelain or brass finials, polished brass spinnings, elbows and castings.

Then there are the Montaage accent pieces, ranging from towel holders to disc chimes: honest, hand-crafted pieces of work recreating classic old-world motifs in hand-forged iron, hammered molds, hewn wood, fired clays, mouth-blown glass and centuries-old finishing techniques. Let these creative objects define space in your home

Joanne discounts 20-30% from the manufacturers' suggested retail prices — and she does this year-round. You won't find huge seasonal discounts; but you won't find seasonal mark-ups either. Whatever time of the year you come to Pillow Talk, you know you will find quality merchandise at a steady, reliable rate of discount.

"There's less profit per individual item sold," Joanne explains; "but besides more turnover, there's a chance to build customer loyalty and earn repeat business. Everything in Pillow Talk is high quality; and everything is brand-new. When word gets around, people will start coming back for more."

Pillow Talk is located at 180 Steeles Ave. West, just west of Yonge; hours are Mon.-Fri.10-9, Sat. 10-6, and Sun. 12-5. For information call **(905) 707-7388**.

GRAND OPENING

Pillow Talk Bedding & Bath Inc.

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• BRIDAL REGISTRY • GIFT CERTIFICATES • CUSTOMIZED WORK
• GREAT GIFT IDEAS & SELECTION
• EXPERIENCED CONSULTANTS • PERSONALIZED SERVICE

180 Steeles Avenue West, Unit 25
(West of Yonge St.)

(905) 707-7388

"Food which is anything but ordinary"

For 12 years, David Wood Catering has been catering, providing food and services to meet every taste. The only thing we refuse to offer our clients, is that which is bland, conventional or ordinary. Whether your event is small or large, a party for a few close friends or a gala wedding, we offer you elegance of presentation, professional service, and quality cuisine.

In 1996, along with our traditional offerings, we present you with an International Adventure: a selection of culinary treats from all around the world. Bring summer sunshine into your party, with a Mexican, Cajun or California flavor. From Europe, we bring you Italian and French menus; or you may journey farther east, for cuisine with a Russian or Asian theme. We also make our own pastries.

David Wood stays on the leading edge of food trends and styles. There is a full line of menus designed by a nutritionist who knows that "delicious" and "nutritious" rhyme for a reason; there are many tasty low-fat, low-sodium dishes. If delicious, health-conscious nutrition is in with you, try our "Light Style".

As to size, David Wood is flexible, ready to cater an intimate gathering of close friends, or a gala dinner for 2,000 people. With our wide experience in corporate catering, we may be your ideal all-round caterer, both for business functions and family affairs like birthdays or weddings.

We are full-service caterers, and can assist you with decor, party planning and event management. Our mobile kitchen allows for great flexibility as to location; and we have become experts on home, backyard and country events. You can take advantage of David Wood's on-site babysitting service.

David Wood has catered at St. Lawrence Hall, the Garden Centre in Edwards Gardens, Enoch Turner School, and the Design Exchange. We also do "house calls", and offer a gift basket service. David Wood Food Shop Catering is located at 366 Eglinton Ave. West; call Jeni at **(416) 487-7171**.

Weddings that are anything but ordinary.

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"We get raves for the pictures Stuart did for our son's wedding. Everybody loves them, and they ask who the photographer is."

— Jerry & Karen Papernick

"As a wedding co-ordinator who has worked with Stuart on numerous occasions, I highly recommend his services. He is professional, efficient and most important, he is fun to work with. That is why I chose him as my photographer when I got married."

— Nina Linder & Douglas Hoffer

"A photographer can make or break your wedding day. Stuart made ours. Capturing the sheer joy we all felt, on film forever. The problem we encountered was actually deciding which of the photographs we liked the best. Every shot was a winner."

— Sara Levine Petroff & Steven Petroff

"We have used Stuart Moscoe on many occasions for weddings and family portraits. He was always easy to deal with, and the quality of his work is excellent. We would not hesitate to recommend him when quality work is required."

— Elaine & Jerry Cooper

"Stuart Moscoe was easy to work with and very comforting on our hectic wedding day. The work he produced was highly creative, and the quality was excellent. We were thrilled, and we have referred him to many of our friends."

— Jason & Stacey Cloth

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Heirloom quality of Stavros suits sought out by savvy clientele

Hand-made tailored suits are an endangered species, says Stavros Theodoropoulos, a master tailor trained in Europe.

Most European-trained master tailors are in their fifties and sixties and there are no young people to replace these artisans, he explains.

Stavros, as he is known, has been outfitting celebrities and business executives with hand-made-to-measure suits for more than 40 years. His clients come from as far away as England and San Francisco for his quality and craftsmanship.

Pictures of some of his most famous clients — Jerry Lewis, King Constantine of Greece and Mr. T — hang discreetly in his shop, **Stavros Master Tailor & Shirtmaker**, located at 95 Cumberland St. in the heart of Yorkville.

The newly renovated premises emanate luxury with their mahogany cabinets and handwoven Chinese rugs. Hundreds of bolts of cloth from the finest mills of Italy and England sit in the display cabinets, offering clients a huge selection.

Stavros says today's mass-production techniques for manufacturing suits can't duplicate the quality and detailing of the hand-made product. Each button hole is sewn by hand, and the breast pockets are angled so the pattern of the material can be matched vertically and horizontally. Surgeon's cuffs are used throughout; the buttons actually open and close, unlike those on the cuffs of off-the-rack jackets, which are merely decorative.

It takes 32 hours to make a Stavros suit, 90 percent of which is hand-sewn. The tailors — the youngest is 55 — are all specialists; one does lapels, another does the pockets, and a third does the button holes.

These suits are cut from individualized paper patterns which follow the body's shape. They are more flattering than loose- or ill-fitting factory-made jackets, says Stavros: "they fit like a glove."

Discerning men the world over shop Stavros — especially those with an eye for fashion and a sense of humour

The outer cloth of a Stavros suit is hand-cut and stitched onto a canvas foundation in the shoulders and the front torso which holds the shape of the suit. "The foundation of the suit is like the foundation of a house. Without the canvas, the suit bags and sags." Many ready-made suits have glued-on synthetic foundations which disintegrate with dry cleaning, Stavros adds.

The custom-made suit is a dying art, Stavros laments. "When the master tailors of my generation retire, these fine suits will no longer be available." Thankfully for his customers, Stavros is showing no signs of slowing down yet.

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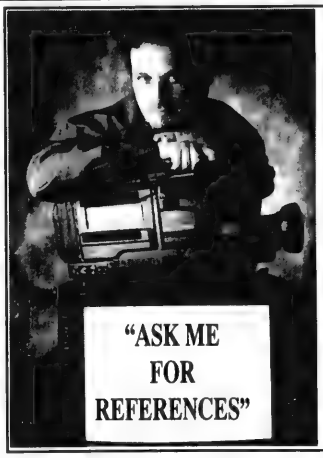

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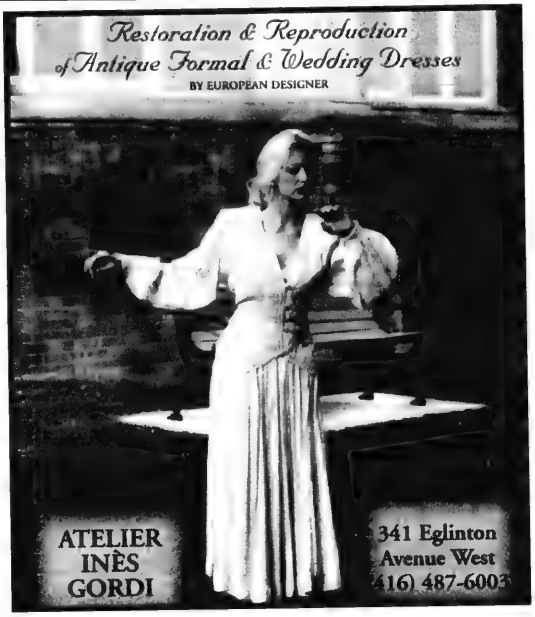

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Whether you're a custom couture veteran or are having a gown custom made for the first time, Carol will soon make you feel at home. "I earn a living at what I love," smiles Carol: "creating fine garments; and working with people. You have to love both."

After the initial consultation, Carol develops a style and cut to suit you, in accordance with your budget and the garment's ability to carry to another occasion and/or season. In the '90's, this is a must for many clients.

The wedding dress is created from fabrics such as brocade, lace, satin and silk crêpe; touches of trim, piping and beading make each gown unique. Carol works with traditional or contemporary designs for all types of figures, from petite to large.

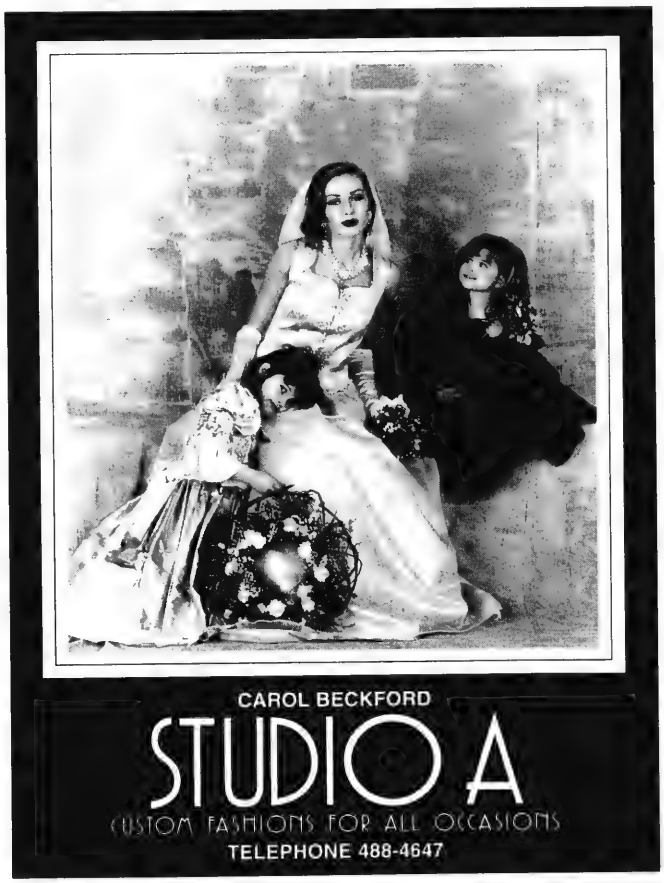
"Recently," she says, "I have been doing a lot of work for Orthodox women whose garments must meet strict standards of propriety. I create gowns and dresses which meet these standards, and are fashionable at the same time, for weddings or other special occasions."

Carol studied Fashion Design at Ellen Peterson Institute, and Commercial Design at George Brown College. The strongest testimony to her skills, however, is that most of Studio A's business comes from referrals. "This," she says, "tells me I have done my job well. This is the satisfaction I work for."

Carol will design and fit every dress worn at a wedding, for the bride, mother of the bride, bridesmaids, flower girls, and guests. She also designs business wear and daywear; and if you have rush work, you'll appreciate her timeliness.

Watch for Studio A at the National Bridal Show (Exhibition Place, Automotive Building, Feb. 9-11, in the Couture Fashion Show and the "Beauty and the Beast" Wedding Gown Finale.

PHOTOGRAPHY / MILTON LOWE: SPLIT IMAGE • MAKE-UP / MICHELE WEXLER



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Let the experts at Coles Catering Group take the worry out of your entertaining. Coles offers you two service values: the personal touch of a professional staff, attentive to your wishes and requirements; and the confidence of dealing with an established company.

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At the same time, we have a wide range of experience in all events, large or small, indoor and outdoor. Among the venues Coles has catered are Enoch Turner School, St. Lawrence Hall, the Garden Centre (Edwards Gardens), and the Design Exchange.

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Infinity's fashion consultants help you achieve just the right look, from easily understated to dazzling. Whatever the occasion, you can put together the complete package of clothing and accessories at Infinity.

Infinity is located at 379 E. Palmetto Park Rd. in Boca Raton, Florida. You can browse Monday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. For women whose schedules just don't allow time for shopping during the day, evening appointments are available by calling (407) 392-2723.

For every fashion need, Infinity's 17-year history of satisfying customers speaks for itself. As Grey and Spiegelman point out, "From Vero Beach to the Keys, and also in Canada, our reputation precedes us!"

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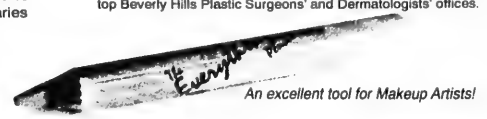

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Signature Photography: your portrait, your image

Greg Dean of Signature Photography has 10 years' experience working with well-known photographers. Although new, Signature is doing well and Dean's solid reputation is earning him many referrals.

A member of the Board of Professional Photographers of Ontario, Dean is also chairman of the Central Portrait Division. He is a member of Professional Photographers of Canada and Professional Photographers of America, and has won several portrait awards.

He has learned most, Dean says, from clients and other photographers. He learnt a traditional style from Al Gilbert; Dean Macdonnell taught him a more modern style, and a great deal about candid photography.

His personal style synthesizes these men's teachings with his own interest in fashion. He specializes in candid photography, and lectures on it at Humber College. In capturing a particular moment and expression, he says, candids are much like portraits.

Dean's approach to photography is casual and informal. He "goes with the flow," stays unobtrusive, and lets the client make the decisions. Especially at weddings, which can be stressful because you have to get along with people in large numbers, he values his ability to be patient.

About 50% of Dean's work is wedding and engagement portraits. At weddings, he unites casualness with speed, so as not to occupy the guests for too long; they usually do not want to spend much time being photographed. As to candid wedding shots, fun and a pleasant working atmosphere provide ample opportunities.

Many of his portraits are environmental, or set in landscapes. His shot of a man on a Harley-Davidson at the Bathurst St. bridge won international awards. Another environmental portrait, "New York, New York", has a cityscape at sunset as background. Dean also enjoys photographing at Vaughan Estates, amid the elegant stone buildings with their slate roofs. Another shot shows someone on a cottage pier at sunset, silhouetted against light reflecting off the water.

Always, Dean will try to get something typical of you, the subject, capturing your self-image. For this reason, he likes to photograph people dressed for their own pleasure, in settings where they feel they belong. Usually, he says, this involves casual dress — but with exceptions: many people's self-image includes a tux or gown.

"Book early," Dean advises, "especially for a big affair like a wedding; the bigger, the earlier."

In February, Dean will move Signature from Newmarket to the Yonge-Steeles area. Until then, he is making "house calls," seeing clients in their homes. For your "house call", telephone Greg Dean of Signature Photography, **(416) 399-1967**.

Custom-made gowns a Tomè specialty

Tomè was thrilled when National Bridal Show asked him to design a wedding gown for Belle of *Beauty and the Beast:* Only a small group of designers were chosen for the project, he says.

Tomè's design for Belle's gown will be modelled at the grand finale of the wedding show which will be held at the Automotive Building at the Ex. Feb.9-11. Tomè will also have a booth there.

He is the owner of the custom-made womenswear boutique that bears his name, Tomè's, nestled in the enclave of fashionable shops on Avenue Road between Lawrence and Wilson in Toronto.

"I always loved the area. It has a European atmosphere with all these specialty stores," Tomè says. His boutique certainly has a European feel. The garments are made from the finest European cloths and his three seamstresses are European-trained.

Tomè prefers creating custom-made designs, he says. "It's more creative. Every outfit is one of a kind. Custom-made is great for women with hard-to-fit shapes like women who are Size 10 on top and 14 on the bottom."

Tomè offers day and evening wear. He outfits many people for bar and bat mitzvahs, creating suits for the morning services and the dresses for the evening.

Tomè's specialty is bridal-wear. He often works with the entire wedding party from the bride and bridesmaids to the mothers of the bride and groom.

He creates slimming outfits for the mothers with four ply silk crepe, he says. "It doesn't stick or puff. It camoflages the body beautifully."

Brides generally come to him because they want to wear something different, he says. "They complain that the ready-made wedding dresses all look the same."

"This is a chance for the bride to create her own look that will also capture her personality. She gets a great selection from fabric to styling to beading. And it's a perfect fit."

The gowns are always made from silks – georgette, crepe, taffeta or satin – imported from Italy or France. Victorian-style gowns with full skirts, fitted torsos, lace and sprinkles of pearls are very popular, says Tomè. "The hand-made roses and finishings and the longer and fuller trains give these gowns a couture look.

Working with brides is very satisfying, he adds. "They're so excited about their gowns. They get to see it created step by step. And they get to give their input down to the last detail. Even the beading is done on the premises."

Signature Photography

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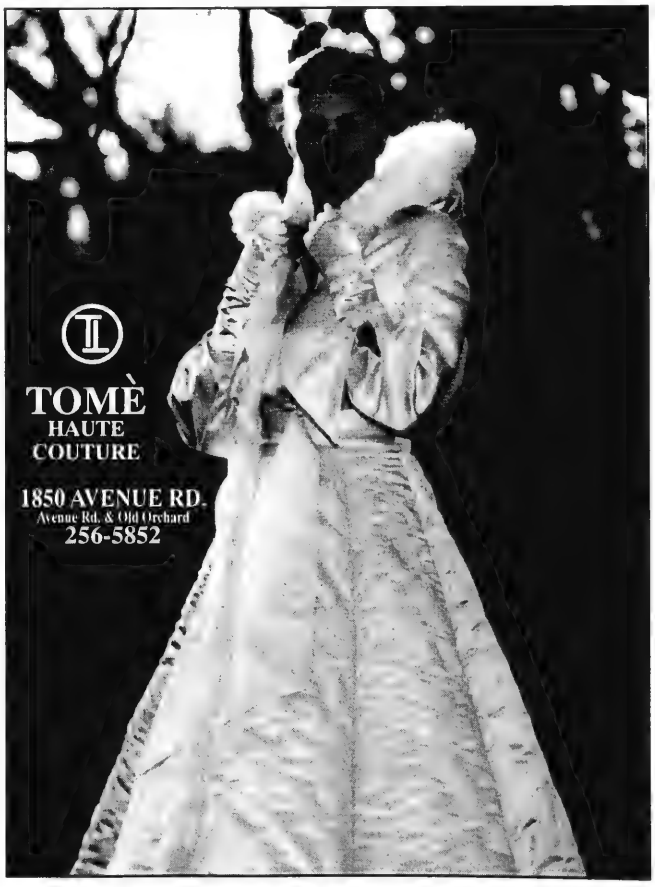

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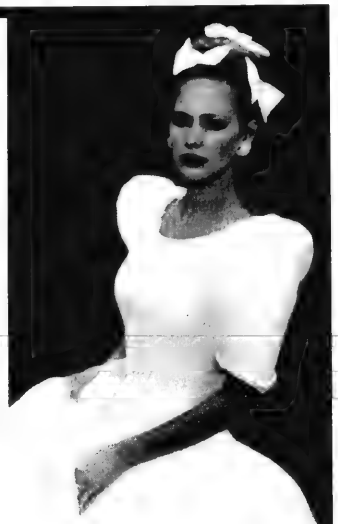

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What makes this concept work is the fact that the same professional creative team that masterminds the photography shoots is available to you exclusively through the Salon, which offers complete hair services, makeup artistry, bridal consultations, nails, full aesthetics and make-up workshops. Indeed, there is almost no wedding-related service that the Fashion Studio and Salon doesn't offer.

From a photographic standpoint, the Commercial Studio specializes in fashion and glamour photography and offers model portfolios, actor's head shots, business portraits and glamour make-over photo sessions — the real thing, not the gimmicky variety. The Portrait Division offers unique wedding coverage, achieving a perfect balance between the fashion and romance of the contemporary look and the timeless elegance of classical portraiture.

With many years of combined experience in the fashion and beauty industries (Bortolussi) and in wedding and portrait photography (Theo), the partners recognized the logic in making these complementary services — usually available together only on a film set — accessible to the general public. What better time to be photographed than right after you've had your hair and makeup done by a team of professionals who are involved in photo shoots on a daily basis and therefore understand that the camera needs to love your face as much as your friends and family do?

From the elegant pool table (red felt no less!) and the cappuccino bar that greet you in the reception area to the immaculate rooms dedicated to hair, makeup, and aesthetics, it's an altogether captivating environment that melts away your pre-wedding jitters like the sun on spring snow. And you ask yourself: who needs four-appointments-a-day-craziness when everything you need is available here under one roof?

A combination of services usually available together only on a film set are here under one roof

In addition to their impressive credentials, the Fashion Studio's team of professionals is warm and friendly. They know and understand the pressures leading up to your wedding day, and the importance of making you feel relaxed.

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"We are the image business" is The Fashion Studio's motto; it's refreshing to discover that their own image is more than skin deep.

To contact The Fashion Studio, call (416) 783-FOTO (3686); you can reach the Salon at (416) 256-HAIR (4247).

The Fashion Studio's wedding photography combines romance with timeless elegance

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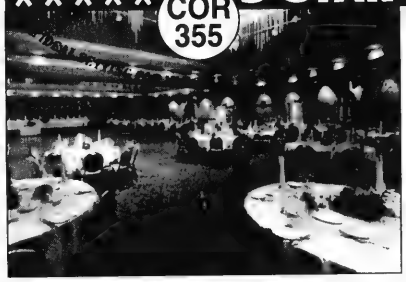
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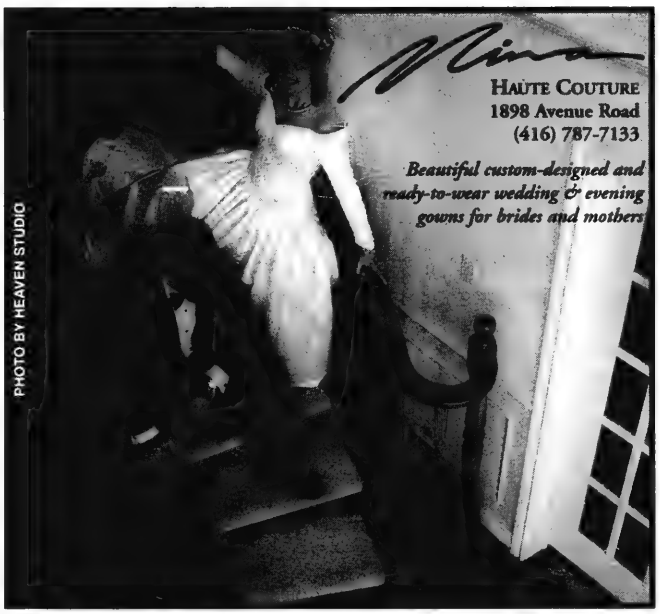

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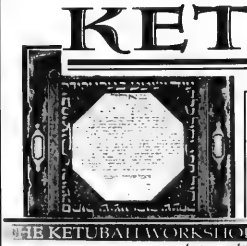

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With ABC Productions, the client is the star

In the field of wedding video-graphy, Zoran Karapancev of ABC Productions has plenty to be proud of. In Orlando, Fla., in July 1995, against stiff competition from around the world, ABC won the prestigious International Award for Wedding Videography. Not only were over 2,000 videographers there in person; about 500 tapes had been sent in from Japan, Korea, Europe and the United Kingdom.

In the 5 years since the first Wedding Video Expo was held, ABC is the only Canadian company to win an award of this magnitude. In a relatively new field, moreover, ABC Productions' excellence has some history. ABC has been in business for 15 years, and received its first award in 1983, several years before wedding videography had a large public.

ABC tailors the video to the client's needs. "The client," states Zoran, "is fully involved at every stage, from beginning to end." This is the only way, he explains, to guarantee that the needs and wishes of the "stars" of the video can be made real; and while it entails a little more work, the result is worth it.

Zoran takes pride in his ability to evoke clients' feedback, to draw them out so he is sure exactly what they want. For a good video, this input is a must; for while he is producing it, the client is both starring and writing the script. Zoran also considers it his responsibility to give the best advice possible — even though, as clients ultimately make the decisions, they have the right to accept or reject his ideas as they choose.

ABC makes everyone's video different; Zoran's approach to his work is that of an artist, who wants everything from his studio to be unique. At the same time, each video must reflect the personalities of the clients; as much pride as Zoran takes in his work, his abilities are at their service. It is they whom he must please, not himself.

An ABC video, Zoran says, is "more like a movie", where fine camera work and editing are the rule. ABC uses new editing techniques and state-of-the-art equipment and technology, which are of broadcast calibre. His cameras are sensitive enough that with no lights besides those normally in a room, he produces work of feature-film quality.

Besides weddings, Zoran has up-to-date broadcast experience: he shoots and edits for TV stations (videos only). Broadcast media today accept only the highest audio and visual quality; Zoran creates his wedding videos to meet this standard.

He emphasizes, however, that the technology is not there for its own sake. He enjoys using custom-made animation and digital effects at the appropriate times; but to have impact, "special effects must be limited to special moments".

Nor is this just a matter of the novelty wearing thin from seeing something too often. People are, to be sure, more visually sophisticated than they were 10, even 5 years ago; and special effects must work well esthetically in order to impress today's audience; but these are not the main issues.

As much fun as a wedding is, it is also a serious moment, a point of great decision in the lives of the participants. As such, it deserves to be treated with dignity — which is only possible if the making of each wedding video is treated like the creation of a work of art. A wedding video should be timeless: bride, groom and family should be able to replay it years or decades later, and be proud of it. The videographer's work is to bring out the best moments, in a way that will be cherished forever after.

"There are no packages," says Zoran: "everything is a la carte. Or, to put in another way, the client creates his or her own package." Besides the ceremony and reception, pictures at the beginning, highlights at the end, bride's or groom's house and park are optional. Music is of the client's choice.

Using his knowledge and experience, Zoran also has made the only Canadian instructional video tape for Wedding videographers "The Art of Wedding Videography" with which he is helping other videographers make more creative wedding videos.

ABC is a member of WEVA, the international association of wedding and special-event videographers.

For an appointment with ABC Productions please call Zoran Karapancev at **(416) 265-8313**.

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Zoran Karapancev

Amandalina's ascent to the top of brides' "short list" not long in coming

Enjoying an early success far exceeding what might be expected from a new bridal salon, **Amandalina's** has seen its appointment book swell admirably since its June opening. Says Sam Pollari, who founded the shop with his wife Rachelle, "we've been pleasantly surprised to find ourselves on many brides' "short list" of salons to visit."

Both seasoned veterans of the bridal business, Sam and Rachelle have seen their efforts rewarded by a steady influx of brides captivated by a new twist in bridal gown shopping: "appointment only" service available without an appointment.

The concept sprang from the conviction that today's bride wants the comfort and selection of a state-of-the art salon without the perception of all-or-nothing pressure that sometimes accompanies shopping by appointment. (For those who *are* more comfortable making an appointment, evenings and Saturdays are preferred). In a castle-like environment that will make romanticists feel right at home, Amandalina's offers a selection of the finest names in bridal attire that will also satisfy even the most rigorous pragmatists.

Weddings, however, are still about love, and love is about romance — a theme underlined in Amandalina's bridal brochure, available for the asking. Each page features a romantic gown accompanied by a charming epithet about the virtues of love. A couple of these gems are reprinted here.

The 1,500 square foot mezzanine-level showroom, accessed via a semi-spiral staircase, ushers you into a world apart. The selection is endless, the sklylit ambience breathtaking. Free as a bird, you'll flit from gown to gown, eventually alighting on the one of your choice. Between flights, you'll take a breather and relax on one of the exquisite leather sofas or lounge chairs. When you're ready to try something on, the deliciously spacious dressing rooms will afford you ample comfort. From the cream-and-salmon decor to the seashell-shaped tables, no pains have been spared to ensure that your visit to Amandalina's will be a pleasant one.

On the main floor, even larger at 2,800 square feet, you'll find a tasteful collection of suits and cocktail dresses for the mother-of-the bride. Indeed, Amandalina's has catered to so many mothers since opening that many mother-and-daughter teams are now addressing their dual needs in the same visit. Mothers who don't want to *look* like mothers are extremely gratified at Amandalina's compelling selection of suits and evening gowns. Crêpe and chiffon suits, dresses with shadow embroidery that creates marvellous accents without the loudness of beading, 3/4 jackets . . . everything is here for the morning brunch, afternoon bar mitzvah or evening wedding.

"A coward is incapable of exhibiting love; it is the prerogative of the brave" — *Jeremy Tayloy*

"Love, like life, catches us off guard. With all due respect to bungee-jumpers, *this* is the greatest freefall one can possibly experience" — *S.N. O'Graw*

A paradise for mothers

Ball gowns are back in style, and Amandalina's has a selection that will enable mothers to give their daughters a run for their money (though who's competing?).

To facilitate your visit, Amandalina's has a separate children's play room complete with large-screen TV and plenty of toys to keep your children occupied while you shop.

Preferring to convey a feeling of comfort rather than an aura of exclusivity, Amandalina's carries the top designer lines but displays them in a leisurely environment and with a low-key approach that many other shops lack. Many brides have expressed their satisfaction with being able to drop by and browse in an initial visit without feeling compelled to buy.

In keeping with the relaxed atmosphere, Sam and Rachelle encourage their customers to touch the merchandise. "Ours is not an ivory-tower approach," says Sam. "It's great to have beautiful silks and satins, but part of feeling comfortable with your purchase is being able to actually run the fabric through your fingers."

Amandalina's carries some of the top names in bridal and evening wear. Prices range from $300 to $2000 for cocktail dresses and from $700 to $4000 for wedding gowns. They're happy to custom fit your gown, and will also custom design a dress for you if that is your preference.

Located at 4040 Steeles Avenue West in "The Bridal Mall", Amandalina's is a ten-minute drive from north Toronto, twenty to thirty minutes from downtown. Parking is ample and free . . . as a bird.

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This Week

Coast to Coast

Israel-Canada free trade will enhance frienship, Israeli diplomat says. *Page 3*

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Dead Sea Scrolls hold no real secrets, scholar says. *Page 14*

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Ethiopian blood controversy causes riots in Jerusalem. *Page 21*

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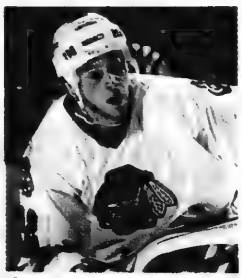
JVS' Start Smart program helps unemployed get back on their feet. *Page 36*

Sports news



Chicago forward Steve Dubinsky brings his 'in your face' style to the Blackhawks. *Page 37*

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Arafat: covenant won't change...

By MITCHELL DANOW
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

GAZA — Days after his election to head the Palestinian Council, Yasser Arafat will not commit himself to revoking the sections of the Palestine National Covenant calling for the destruction of Israel.

"The covenant is like your American Constitution," he said last week in an interview. "You do not delete sections of your Constitution; you amend it."

And in Arafat's view, the Palestinians "have already amended it."

Arafat's position – adopted either for dealing with recalcitrant members of the Palestinian leadership or for presenting a firm bargaining stance with Israel – could lead to a complete disruption of the peace process.

Since the elections, Israeli officials from Prime Minister Shimon Peres on down have insisted that Arafat must now revoke the offending clauses as agreed to under the Israeli-Palestinian peace accords.

Revoking those clauses is considered by Israelis to be an important symbol of reconciliation between the two peoples.

Speaking at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee last Tuesday, Peres said that if the PLO failed to live up to its obligation under the peace accords, there would be no final-status negotiations, which include the future of Jerusalem and other sensitive issues.

Continued on page 31

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres (left) greets Palestinian President Yasser Arafat with a handshake January 24 as they meet in an Israeli administration compound inside Gaza. *[RNS photo]*

... Peres: Palestine state 'a dream'

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has said Palestinian vows to create an independent state are "a dream."

Peres' comments came after he met last Wednesday night with PLO leader Yasser Arafat, who, speaking to Egyptian journalists earlier in Gaza, said a Palestinian state could come into being within a year and a half, if negotiations were conducted intensively.

The two leaders, meeting at the Erez crossing along the Israel-Gaza border, discussed the results of the Palestinian elections, a Palestinian demand for additional prisoner releases and Israel's insistence that the Palestine National Covenant be amended.

The meeting came a day after Arafat, in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in Gaza, said he would not commit himself to revoking or amending those sections of the covenant calling for the destruction of Israel.

Peres' meeting with Arafat was the first time the two leaders had come face-to-face since the PLO leader won the presidency of the Palestinian Council.

After the elections, Peres said he would permit all members of the Palestine National Council (PNC), even those opposed to the peace accords and those with Jewish blood on their hands, to return to the West Bank and Gaza to participate in a meeting of the PNC in order to change the covenant.

According to the peace accords, the amendment of the charter must occur no later than two months after the inauguration of the new Palestinian government. All of the 88 newly elected members of the Palestinian Council will become members of the PNC.

One of the PNC's existing members is Nayef Hawatmeh of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. He was behind the 1974 massacre in Ma'alot in northern Israel in which 21 schoolchildren were killed.

Continued on page 31

Funding argument made

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The briefs have been submitted, the arguments have been made and all that is left for Jewish parents with children in day schools is to await the careful deliberations of Canada's highest court.

A full nine-judge panel of the Supreme Court of Canada last week heard lawyers for parents with children in Jewish day schools and their colleagues representing parents with children in Protestant schools argue for provincial funding for their educational institutions.

Lawyer Ed Morgan, who represented the five Jewish parents on a pro bono basis, rested his case on two key arguments: that the current practice of funding only Roman Catholic religious schools violates the equality provisions of the Charter of Rights

Continued on page 23

A NEW DIMENSION

With this issue we reduce our page depth slightly both in response to record high newsprint prices and to accommodate a change to new presses where we now print on recycled paper using more environmentally friendly soya based ink.

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Jewish Highway: Our new Internet column — please see page 13

The News In Brief

International

CANADA

CIC Gets Web Site

TORONTO — The Canada-Israel Committee has established its web site on the Internet.

The new site will allow people to access a wide variety of services in Canada and Israel.

CIC's web site address is http://webcom.net/~cic.

Its e-mail address is 75057.364@compuserve.com.

League to Intervene

TORONTO — The League for Human Rights has been given standing by the Supreme Court to intervene in the appeal of the 1992 conviction of James Keegstra for willingly promoting hatred against Jews.

The appeal will be heard by the Supreme Court in Ottawa on Feb. 28.

Sephardic Rabbinate

TORONTO — The Sephardic Rabbinate of Ontario has been launched to enhance the spiritual life of the community and to preserve the Sephardi community's unique heritage.

The rabbinate will be under the leadership of Rabbi Amram Assayag.

ISRAEL

Teen Suspects

JERUSALEM — More than 100 teenagers — most of them Tiberias high school pupils — are suspected of using or dealing drugs, Ha'amakim District police said last week.

The district spokesperson said evidence had been collected against no less than 114 suspects, following three months of undercover work by drug squad detectives.

The operation, code-named "Solid Rock," has so far resulted in the arrest of 25 people, eight of them juveniles.

Bronfman Re-elected

JERUSALEM— Edgar Bronfman has been re-elected head of the World Jewish Congress for a fourth five-year term.

New Bar-Ilan U President

RAMAT GAN — Prof. Moshe Kaveh, a renowned physicist, has been appointed new president of Bar-Ilan University, Israel's third largest university.

Citizen Pollard

JERUSALEM — Interior Minister Haim Ramon granted Israeli citizenship and a passport to Jonathan Pollard, serving a life sentence in the United States for spying for Israel.

Pollard's wife, Esther, said the citizenship would help Pollard in his efforts to receive a pardon or parole.

PNC Chair to Return

JERUSALEM — The government has authorized the return of 93-year-old Sheikh Abdul Hamid Sayagh, the elderly chair of the Palestinian National Council, to his home in Jerusalem, after having earlier said he must live in territory under Palestinian Authority control.

Restitution Committment

JERUSALEM — In a historic meeting, five Eastern European officials committed their states to the restitution of Jewish property.

Officials of Poland, Estonia, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania made a special trip to Jerusalem to tell Prime Minister Shimon Peres and the World Jewish Restitution Organization that their governments accept responsibility for restitution of property the Jews lost in the World War II era.

Hershon Elected

JERUSALEM — Canadian Jewish Congress president Goldie Hershon has been elected vice-chair of the North American branch of the World Jewish Congress.

Underground Leader Dies

JERUSALEM — Israel Eldad, an underground leader of pre-state Israel and for 50 years one of the most influential figures of the Israeli right wing, died last week. He was 86.

Eldad, who was born in Galicia, immigrated to British-run Palestine in 1941 and, along with Yitzhak Shamir, led Lehi, also known as the Stern Gang, the most militant of the underground groups fighting for independence.

WORLD

Zundel blocked

BONN — Acting at the request of federal prosecutors, a German telecommunications firm has blocked access to an Internet site operated by Nazi apologist Ernst Zundel.

Deutsche Telekom AG blocked users of its T-Online computer network from accessing part of the Internet it said was being used by neo-Nazis, including Zundel, to spread anti-Semitic propaganda.

German officials said they would investigate whether companies like T-Online would face charges for providing neo-Nazis access to the Internet, the worldwide computer network.

Tunisian Ties

WASHINGTON — After several fits and starts, Tunisia has joined the circle of peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

The North African country and Israel agreed last week to establish low-level diplomatic relations by trading interest sections.

Special Shabbat

NEW YORK — A Special Shabbat will be held on Feb. 23 when students from the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) join synagogue communities across Canada and the United States for National Seminary Shabbat, a weekend of learning and celebration.

More than 100 synagogues are participating in this program linking JTS students with the Conservative Jewish community.

Mediterranean Forum

BRUSSELS — Jordan has decided to take part in NATO's Mediterranean forum on security issues, an official of the 16-member alliance said last week.

The decision by the Hashemite kingdom to join the forum was discussed when Crown Prince Hassan met with NATO Secretary General Javier Solana at the alliance's headquarters, outside Brussels.

Kielce Pogroms

WARSAW — Polish investigators are completing a new probe into the origins of a 1946 pogrom in which 42 Jews were murdered in the southern city of Kielce.

After the Kielce massacre, 100,000 Jews, about half of the survivors from a Jewish population of around three million before the Nazi Holocaust, quit the country.

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Free trade: a sign of the times

Will enhance friendship between countries: Yerushalmi

By MIRIAM SOBEL
CJN Correspondent

OTTAWA — A free trade agreement recently negotiated between Canada and Israel will enhance the friendship between the two countries, said Eli Yerushalmi, chargé d'affaires of the Israeli Embassy, last week.

"The relationship between Canada and Israel has always been friendly, but the amount of trade has always been small. When you are looking at friendly countries, part of this friendship has to be economical," he said.

The deal, which eliminates most tariffs on imports, is scheduled to be signed in Ottawa by Jean Chrétien and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres on March 19. It will go into effect in July.

Israel already has free trade agreements with the European Union, the European Free Trade Association and the United States.

Yerushalmi said free trade is just one sign of a warming relationship between Canada and Israel. Another is the successful government supported Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation, which promotes research partnerships between Israel and Canada.

In a wide-ranging interview with *The CJN*, Yerushalmi looked ahead to the key issues of 1996 for Israel.

The peace process continues to be the central concern. With the withdrawal of Israeli troops from most cities in the West Bank and Gaza and the election of Yassar Arafat and a governing council last week, Israel and the Palestinians have entered a new phase of the peace process.

"There is no way back in the peace process. This is something for which it is just a matter of speed: Is it going to go faster or slower? But the peace process is there and eventually it will lead, we hope, to a peace with all the Arab states surrounding [Israel]," Yerushalmi said.

The first red letter date arrives two months from now. According to the terms of the peace agreement, within two months of the first election, the PLO is to renounce those parts of its covenant that call for the destruction of the State of Israel.

In May, Israel and the PLO enter a three-year period of negotiating the most sensitive issues: the status of Jerusalem (which both Israel and the Palestinians claim as their capital), the future of the Jewish settlements in the territories, extending a right of return to Palestinian refugees and control of water sources.

"We hope that during those years the Interim Agreement will provide us with more opportunity to coexist and will lead us to an atmosphere of peace between the two nations," Yerushalmi said.

Negotiations with Syria continue. Peace with Syria is central to a comprehensive regional peace. The key issues are security, territory and control of water. But first Israel and Syria have to agree on what peace is.

"What exactly do the Syrians mean by peace?" Yerushalmi asked. "Is it the peace that we understand as peace? We mean open borders, tourists, embassies ... That's what we think peace is and for this we are willing to pay a tremendous price. But first we need to know if this is what the Syrians think peace is," he said.

Within Israel, the population will continue to struggle with divided opinions about the peace process, Yerushalmi said. The conflicts which ultimately led to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin have not disappeared. But while Israel hears from its extremists, he said, most Israelis lean towards the centre. Some he said, lean slightly right of centre, some lean slightly left. Whatever happens during the next few months of PLO rule will influence the way Israeli voters turn in the next Israeli election, which could be called as early as June.

"The next election in Israel ... will be a crucial election," Yerushalmi said. "This will be an election in which the Israeli people decide on the way we are going ... There is no doubt that both parties want peace, but everyone has a different scenario on how to do it."

MASSUAH RECEPTION

Canadian Friends of Massuah leaders (from left) Alex Grossman, Mendel Green, Harvey Solursh at a reception last week co-hosted by State of Israel Bonds. They were joined by Ontario Citizenship Court judge Pamela Apelt (right), who recently visited Massuah's Holocaust education complex near Netanya.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jerusalem plays host to world's Jewish media

This column is being written in Israel at my desk in a room on the 14th floor of a hotel on one of the highest promontories in West Jerusalem.

The sun has already appeared in the eastern sky. It slowly lifts away the night's starry curtain, giving shape and definition to the gold-beige hills below and the fine-lined horizon all around. Though it is yet early in the day, the pure, pale blue of this cloudless morning promises that before too long, the light will reach very far in a deep blue sky.

From my balcony facing south, merely metres away is the Supreme Court of Israel. Beyond it a small distance, in a straight line of sight, is the Knesset.

Each is a uniquely elegant architectural landmark, taking from and returning strength to the land on which it sits, an inspiring symbol of restored, sovereign Jewish life.

The hotel is a microcosm of the city. It is packed with visitors from all over the world, including, of course, this one from Canada.

On my way to breakfast, I overheard five different languages spoken, four of which I could identify, in a short but tightly-squeezed 14-storey elevator ride.

I am in Jerusalem to represent *The CJN* and to take part in the sixth International Conference of the Jewish Media, a biennial conference, described by the organizers as the world's largest gathering of international Jewish print, radio and TV journalists.

Not surprisingly, given the trimillennial birthday celebrations, the main theme of the conference is Jerusalem. The peace process also makes the week-long agenda, as does the Jewish conference "favorite," continuity and Zionism.

An impressive list of speakers has been lined up, including the prime minister, the leader of the Opposition and the mayor of Jerusalem. True to sabra form, virtually no subject is taboo; no opinion appears to be expected.

For example, one of the sessions highlights the opinions of the Holy See as well as those of the Islamic movement, on the subject of Jerusalem. It follows a presentation by Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau entitled Picking up the Pieces.

Ziad Abu Ziad, a member of the Palestinian Ministerial Committee on Jerusalem is slated to address the group about the Oslo accords, while Shulamit Aloni and Rabbi Yehuda Amital will be sharing a platform on the subject of Jewish Continuity in a Modern Society.

I intend to write about the conference and the general goings-on in Israel in the weeks to come.

As all readers of *The CJN* know, the goings-on in Israel are like a reel of film played at high speed. It is a fast-paced, intense melange of diverse peoples, ideas and ways of life. It can be, and for many is, emotionally as well as physically exhausting. The reality of Israel no longer matches the former comforting image of the youthful pioneer soldiers planting and defending the land, and dancing around the bonfire at night.

Israel today is a modern, successfully integrated agricultural and industrial society. They still plant and defend. But most of the dancing goes on till all hours of the morning in the clubs of Tel Aviv, not in the fields being harvested.

Occasionally, the reel slows down and we see the kindness and the kindred feelings of shared responsibility and common destiny that are blurred but deeply embedded underneath the "screaming" daily newspaper headlines, constantly honking car horns and ubiquitous cellular telephones.

* * *

Worthwhile reading.

Global Vision, Martin Peretz, *New Republic*, Jan. 22, 1996

Peretz, editor-in-chief and chair of the *New Republic* comments upon the tendency of the *Boston Globe* to overlook every dubious behavior of Yasser Arafat, except bullying a newspaperman. This is only Peretz's ostensible purpose.

His main aim is to show that many Arab Christians in the newly autonomous regions are choosing to leave their homes or become Israeli citizens, rather than live under Muslim PLO rule.

"Over the last decades, Christian Arabs have been fleeing the Holy Land by the tens of thousands, grasping finally that Palestinian nationalism is just another version of Muslim piety."

Jews, Muslims may form group to promote dialogue

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A meeting to explore the possibility of forming an association to promote dialogue between Jews and Muslims in the Greater Toronto Area was held in Mississauga recently.

"I thought it was a worthwhile exchange of views," said Mel Shipman, past president of Peace Now, one of 19 people who attended.

Because the meeting coincided with Ramadan, the 40-day Muslim fasting period, it was decided to hold off further action until after the next meeting, Shipman said.

There was a representative of Temple Solel, Mississauga, at the meeting.

"I was invited but I didn't know what the purpose of the meeting was and I didn't attend," said Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple, chair of the region's Israel Affairs Committee.

CJC has no link

"There are as many Muslims in the greater Toronto as there are Jews," said Jack Stevens, a Jew, co-convenor of the meeting along with Shahad Akhtar.

"We want to promote dialogue and understanding," he said.

The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) Ontario region has no links with the proposed new organization, according to Manuel Prutschi, executive director.

But CJC regional officers have attended and hosted other meetings with leading Muslims as part of Congress' interaction program, Prutschi said. These included a meeting with Baher Abdel Munem, PLO representative in Ottawa, his first official function in Canada.

A delegation of CJC officers also met in Ottawa with Faisal Hussini, a minister of the Palestine National Authority and chief PLO negotiator in the peace talks in October.

The next day, through the good offices of Shawhy Fahel, a prominent Palestinian leader in the Kitchener-Waterloo area, Hussini met with CJC regional officers and representatives of Peace Now.

To be effective, an organization promoting dialogue between Muslims and Jews should have official representatives of both groups, said Rashad Faleh, chair of Palestine House, who attended the meeting.

CORRECTION

The article titled *CJN student panel discovers bond despite differences* that appeared in the Education supplement (Jan. 25) was written by *CJN* staff reporter Frances Kraft.

Her name was inadvertently left out and we apologize to her.

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Greater Toronto Area

Finestone out; Gray stays in cabinet shuffle

OTTAWA — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) reacted to last week's federal cabinet shuffle by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, re-emphasizing its concerns relating to various government departments.

"We wish Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and his new cabinet the best of luck in carrying out their critical responsibilities and we express deep appreciation to the outgoing ministers for their years of dedicated public service," CJC president Goldie Hershon said in a statement.

The cabinet lost one Jewish member, as Montreal MP Sheila Finestone, secretary of state for Multiculturalism and the Status of Women, announced she is resigning from politics.

The other Jewish minister, House Leader and Solicitor General Herb Gray, stays in his post.

A number of departments involved in the shuffle relate to CJC's ongoing agenda. The following CJC analysis of areas of concern to the Jewish community includes the names of the new ministers, with their predecessors in brackets.

Finestone ... goes

Gray ... stays

Citizenship and Immigration, Lucienne Robillard (Sergio Marchi): Vigorous action against suspected Nazi war criminals in denaturalization and deportation cases; ongoing concern about the declining importance of family reunification as the cornerstone of Canadian immigration policy.

Foreign Affairs, Lloyd Axworthy (André Ouellet): Ongoing Canadian support for Israel and the peace process; protection for and promotion of human rights in the former Soviet Bloc and emerging East European countries and elsewhere; special emphasis on the elimination of anti-Semitism as a form of racism/discrimination.

Intergovernmental Affairs, Stéphane Dion (Marcel Massé): Ongoing efforts to strengthen Canadian national unity.

Human Resources Development, Doug Young (Lloyd Axworthy): Monitoring national and community impact of changes to social safety net; implementation of Employment Equity Act.

National Revenue, Jane Stewart (David Anderson): Ongoing role of Canada Customs in preventing the importation of hate propaganda; ensuring support for prosecutions of those who wilfully defraud the government by falsely claiming an exemption from kosher food taxes.

Public Works, Diane Marleau (David Dingwall): Ongoing role of Canada Post in keeping hate literature out of Canada.

Secretary of State (Multiculturalism and Status of Women), Hedy Fry (Sheila Finestone): Continued support for multiculturalism in Canada; ongoing role in developing anti-racism initiatives; support for initiatives to improve status of women.

The following ministers remain in their portfolios:

Solicitor General Herb Gray: Proactive efforts by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) against white supremacist and neo-Nazi groups and in fulfilment of its counter-terrorism mandate (changes to the CSIS Act to be implemented permitting the service to warn directly endangered Canadians of threats to their lives); maintaining effective, adequately-funded War Crimes and special Investigation Section of the RCMP; ensuring maximum cooperation with Justice Department counterparts.

Justice, Allan Rock: Urgent prosecution of Nazi war criminals in Canada through the use of civil as well as criminal remedies (applies to cases underway and the need for immediate action against other suspects, cases which will provide jurisprudence to take legal action against war criminals from other conflicts should they turn up in Canada; support for vigorous implementation of the anti-hate laws of the Criminal Code (in cooperation with provincial attorneys general); the attorneys general to ensure the consistent implementation across the country of the new sentence-enhancement provisions for hate-motivated crimes (in cooperation with Crown attorneys and judges); consideration of various options to deal with hate on the Internet; prompt tabling of legislation to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act. (The bill should include sexual orientation in the list of prohibited grounds of discrimination and should clarify employers' obligations regarding "reasonable accommodation" for employees with disabilities.)

National Defence, David Collenette: Rooting out white supremacist, neo-Nazi elements in Canadian Armed Forces and improving enlistment-screening and sensitization policies to ensure zero tolerance for racism in Canadian military; maintaining an effective anti-terrorist unit.

WZO VISIT

Zvi Stanislovsky of the World Zionist Organization's Torah education department visits Associated Hebrew Schools to conduct in-service training to teachers.

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Greater Toronto Area

Government seeks to deport 90-year-old war crime suspect

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A 90-year-old man living in Hope, B.C., is one of two war crimes suspects that federal immigration authorities are seeking to deport.

Antanas Kenstavicius allegedly misrepresented his wartime activities when he sought entry to Canada, Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) spokesperson Paul Hardy said.

Contacted by telephone at their home in Hope, about 150 kilometres east of Vancouver, Kenstavicius' wife Stella told *The CJN*, "You cannot talk to him. He's sick in bed."

She said her husband had suffered 10 heart attacks, had been revived four times from the brink of death by CPR and was currently suffering from a blood clot in his leg.

Asked if she knew about her husband's wartime activities, she said in heavily accented English: "I cannot answer for somebody else. I didn't know his history."

She said she met her husband for the first time in Montreal in 1952. Asked if he had ever spoken about his wartime experiences, she said her husband had been wounded during the war, and when asked again, she responded, "Nobody gives candy in the war. They only give bullets. I don't know what happens before."

She referred *The CJN* to her husband's lawyer, Rosanne Newman, but the Hope lawyer did not return telephone calls. She is quoted in the *Vancouver Sun* as saying, "I'm not prepared to make any comment at this time."

Kenstavicius, who worked for CN Rail until he retired at 65, is the fifth war crimes suspect federal authorities are seeking to remove. A sixth man, reportedly living in the greater Toronto area, has not been named.

The Justice Department's war crimes unit has transferred a total of 12 cases to Immigration Department authorities for legal action. Up to last week, four cases had been launched, three to strip suspects of their citizenship (Helmut Oberlander, Erichs Tobiass and Johann Dueck) and a fourth to deport (Joseph Nemsila).

Lawyers for Kenstavicius and the federal government have agreed to put the Kenstavicius case on hold pending the decision of Federal Court Judge James Jerome in the Nemsila case, Hardy said.

Kenstavicius, like Nemsila, is not a Canadian citizen and so Jerome's decision in the Nemsila case would set a legal precedent that would be binding on Immigration officials, he said.

Federal authorities are seeking to deport Nemsila, who allegedly was part of a Slovak unit that deported Jews to death camps, for misrepresenting his wartime activities. However, an IRB adjudicator ruled that Nemsila's domicile status prevented authorities from removing him.

That ruling is currently under appeal before Jerome, who is scheduled to hear legal arguments in the case on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1.

Irving Abella, a spokesperson for Canadian Jewish Congress on war crimes issues, said, "It's encouraging that the government is still continuing with these prosecutions.

"It's distressing that [Kenstavicius] has been in the country for almost 50 years and only after he's finished his life that we try to deport him. Given the slothfulness of the court system, he'll probably never be deported."

B'nai Brith spokesperson Frank Dimant applauded federal authorities for initiating legal action against Kenstavicius.

"For the sake of history and the victims of the Holocaust, all alleged war criminals should be brought before the courts. The passage of time does not diminish the nature of the crimes these individuals are alleged to have committed," he said.

Manager Galina Svechinsky sorts some of the stock at the Just a Second Shop. [Leila Speisman photo]

Shop combines charity with dignity

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Dignity and charity combine at the Just a Second Shop.

The choc-a-block store at 3418 Bathurst St., between Lawrence and Wilson, offers new and "gently-used" clothes for clients of Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS) and Jewish Immigrant Aid Service (JIAS) as well as those who just drop in, at bargain prices.

Clients of either agency are given a letter which entitles them to whatever they need at no or little cost.

But, explains Florence Weinberger, JF&CS executive assistant, "not everyone wants to announce" that they are needy, so some prefer not to show the letter.

Goods are not tagged, and the two staff, manager Galina Svechinsky and Clara Ifrah and eight volunteers use their discretion.

At a recent visit, for instance, a warm winter jacket was sold for $6 and a pair of shoes for $1.

Manufacturers often donate new clothes to Just a Second, and the public donate much of the stock.

"Everything is sorted, and we use the best stuff," Svechinsky told *The CJN*.

Although men's, women's and children's clothes are the focus of the stock, one can also find purses, toys, books, small appliances, dishes and kitchenware. There are even a few *sheitls*.

Many of the clients are recent Russian immigrants, Svechinsky notes, but others are, for instance, members of the religious community with large families and little income.

"It serves the needs of people in the community who have a need," Weinberger says. "Sometimes being able to shop here enables them not to become clients [of JF&CS or JIAS], or to need less help from us."

The Just a Second Shop has served over 30,000 people since it opened in 1982, sometimes as many as 150 to 300 a day, says Svechinsky.

The store also helps the volunteers, Weinberger says. "It helps them to keep active, and is an opportunity for them to give back to the community."

The store is open Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3, and Monday to Thursday from 11 to 6.

For more information, or to donate, contact Florence Weinberger at 638-7800, ext. 214. To volunteer, call Joan Stevens at 638-7800, ext. 266.

CHAT lectures set

TORONTO — The Judaic Studies department of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) is offering the public a series of lectures from Feb. 12 to March 13, at 8 p.m., to be given by CHAT staff members.

For a complete schedule of dates, topics and speakers, please call the school at 416-636-5984, or fax 416-636-7717.

There is no charge for attendance, but please register at least one week in advance for the lectures you will be attending.

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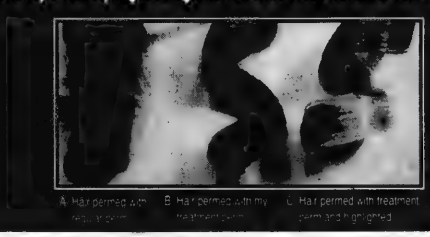

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Greater Toronto Area

Feminists gather to share social, religious views

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a Jewish feminist columnist, Michele Landsberg often feels like "a lone voice," but at a recent weekend conference, aptly titled From Memory To Transformation: Jewish Women's Voices, the *Toronto Star* writer was joined by 500 other Jewish feminists.

The group that gathered at the Colony Hotel from Jan. 19 to 21 was hardly homogeneous, however. Lesbians and straight women, young and old, Orthodox and secular shared concerns and ideas about a variety of social, political and religious issues.

A large number of participants said they were energized by the diversity of the conference, the second of its kind in Toronto (the first was held three years ago), but several younger women objected to the $125 fee on the basis of socio-economic class discrimination.

Although subsidies were available, "it's difficult to ask," said one woman, adding she'd prefer "a little less glamor and food, and more inclusion."

Landsberg was one of four speakers taking part in a wrap-up panel moderated by Judy Rebick, co-host of CBC Newsworld's *Face-Off* and former president of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women.

Sharing the platform with Landsberg were Aviva Rubin, equity consultant at the Ontario Women's Directorate and a founding member of the Jewish Feminist Anti-Fascist League (JFAFL); and the conference's keynote speakers Norma Baumel Joseph and Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz.

Joseph is president of the International Coalition for Agunah Rights and an assistant professor in the department of religion at Montreal's Concordia University. Kaye/Kantrowitz, former executive director of the New York City-based Jews for Racial and Economic Justice, is a feminist and lesbian activist who has also been involved in Middle East peace work.

"The world does not know that we [Jewish feminists] exist," said Landsberg. "The world thinks Jews are those people who turn up in the *Star* every Pesach — it's always a guy with a kippah ... [and] the traditional nuclear family.

"I have nothing against that family. I just don't want them to be the only family. I don't want Frank Dimant [executive vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada] to be the only voice of the Jewish community."

Lack of support

In a letter to the editor last year, Dimant objected to a controversial column Landsberg had written on the memorial service for Yitzhak Rabin, criticizing the Jewish community for not denouncing vicious rhetoric.

Landsberg bemoaned the lack of support for that column from "progressive Jews" — not for support per se, but so that readers know the writers exist.

"There's only one kind of Jewishness reflected in the media — male-dominant, reactionary, right-wing, moneyed, privileged, throwing their weight around.

"That's what all the unaffiliated Jews think we are. There are thousands of ethical, principled women who don't affiliate [with the Jewish community] because of the image that we have allowed to be in the media. They think that's all there is. We need you and want you back. You don't need to be right wing to be Jewish."

Letters matter tremendously, Landsberg emphasized, urging women to make their views known.

Along with the other panelists, Landsberg called on those present to translate their concerns into action, to push for change in Jewish institutions with which they are affiliated, and to join groups such as JFAFL and Jews Against the Harris Cuts, protesting Ontario government cutbacks.

• • •

For Joseph, who is Orthodox, religion and social activism are intertwined.

"Without putting your body on the line, it doesn't matter how hard you sway when you pray," she said to a burst of applause.

Although Joseph believes that traditional Jewish texts are authoritative, they are also flawed, she said. Regarding Jewish divorce laws and *agunot* (women whose husbands won't grant them a Jewish divorce), the texts are "radically" flawed.

"It takes great courage to be an activist," she noted, cautioning that the path is risky and lonely.

• • •

Rubin believes there is a "crisis" in activism. "Our Jewish memories of oppression can and must be put to work to eliminate all forms of oppression," she said.

She lauded JFAFL, a 3-year-old group which has organized events such as a commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, as representing for many of its members "the first time we could bring [to a group] all of our selves — our Jewishness, our sexual orientation, our activism and our strong sense of social justice."

(JFAFL does have heterosexual members, Rubin told *The CJN* later, but for non-straight members, it's "a comfortable place to be out and to be queer.")

• • •

Kaye/Kantrowitz noted that at a New York City anti-racism conference at which she spoke, lesbian attendees were quicker to identify themselves proudly by sexual orientation than Jews were to identify themselves as Jewish.

"There was nothing that had taught them to be proud [of the Jewish] heritage of fighting racism," she said.

She urged audience members to think about identifying themselves [publicly] as Jewish if they don't already.

Hadassah-WIZO to host Women for Women

TORONTO — Hadassah-WIZO will host its second Women for Women program on Feb. 18.

The program will focus on violent crime in Canada and how the present justice system must be changed in order to protect victims.

Priscilla de Villiers, president of Canadians Against Violence Everywhere Advocating Its Termination (CAVEAT), will discuss the topic Violence is Everywhere ... How Safe are Women?

The program and buffet breakfast will be held at the Holiday Inn, 7095 Woodbine Ave., Markham, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Admission is $20 per person. For reservations, call 416-630-8373 by Feb. 12.

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Sunday, February 11 at 8:00 p.m.
Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
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Israel and Diaspora

One of Israel's leading writers, A. B. Yehoshua, stunned Diaspora leaders into a disappointing and deflating silence in Jerusalem last week at a meeting of the Global Assembly of the World Jewish Congress.

In clear, forceful language for which the Israeli author is quite renowned, he was reported to have told the audience: "We don't need you any more. We don't need either the money or the political support. Go outside; you see a prosperous state, a blooming state. For it to take money is a real crime."

Yehoshua's message was condemned at the assembly the very next day by Yehiel Leket, head of the Jewish Agency's Youth Aliyah department.

For those of us who read Yehoshua's comments in the newspaper no less than for those who heard them first hand in the large assembly hall, his words cut like a hot knife searing pain deep into our hearts. It was not because he suggested financial aid from the Diaspora was no longer required that we felt the pain. After all, he is not the first prominent Israeli to offer that same advice. Yossi Beilin, a cabinet minister in the present Israeli government publicly broached the subject more than a year ago.

Israel is a prosperous land, thank God. It has a booming economy, ever-expanding industrial strength and relatively low unemployment. This wonderful, invigorating truth has not been lost on Diaspora leaders. Indeed they celebrate it. Moreover, it is weighed into their "allocations" equation along with consideration of increasing financial needs closer to home. Most federations across North America are already re-examining the paradigm of their funding formulas.

The pain in Yehoshua's admonishing words stems from the shallow, misconceived notion about the Israel-Diaspora relationship which his words betray. According to the *Jerusalem Post*, Yehoshua said, "The funeral of [former] prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, attended by hundreds of foreign dignitaries, showed that Israel no longer needs help from overseas Jews to *confirm its legitimacy.*"

He sees the entire purpose of Diaspora involvement in Israel's life as having been to "confirm its legitimacy" of place and status within the world of nations. With place achieved and status secured, Diaspora involvement according to Yehoshua is not only unnecessary, it is also unseemly — "a real crime." His view of the Israel-Diaspora connection is utilitarian, merely functional, devoid of any deeper meaning. It has no wider sweep than this one moment in time — February 1996. It lacks any memory and denies all history. It has no wider reach than a pat on one's back. Worst of all, it relegates to irrelevance the very core of the relationship, the heart of all hearts, the religious, cultural, national and metaphysical tie that ties us together — our Judaism. It is secularism carried to yet a new extreme.

Thankfully, it is a view which is rejected by most Israelis and Israeli leaders. Prime Minister Shimon Peres is working on a far-reaching program to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Conference in Basel in 1897, which, in the words of Prof. Yehezkel Dror, will "re-found Zionism" and re-shape the Israel-Diaspora relationships even as the people reshapes itself heading into the next millenium.

Avraham Burg, head of the Jewish Agency, is also proposing new, more responsive ways to take the Israel-Diaspora relationship to an even higher level. One of his suggestions is to establish the University of Judaism in Israel to foster leadership and connection and Jewishness through meaningful education and experience.

The relationship between Israel and the Diaspora is in transition. But it is not, as Yehoshua suggests, irrelevant. He might as well suggest that Jewish history itself has become irrelevant. On second thought, perhaps he should keep his suggestions to himself.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

A tree strikes roots in one place only.

THEY'VE HAD THEIR NEW YEAR'S FEAST AND THEIR YOM KIPPUR FAST.
THEY BUILT THEIR "SUKKAS" AND WAVED THEIR FLAGS ON SIMHAT TORAH
BUT THEIR BEST HOLIDAY WILL BE TU B'SHVAT WHEN THEY SAVE THE PLANET ?
THAT'S WHEN THEY PLANT THE TREES!!

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Feb. 2, 1921 the first nation-wide Canadian Haddassah-WIZO convention was convened in Ottawa.
(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

Criticism of Harris government unfair

Re: "Cutbacks hit women, youth and poor" by Feministyot (*CJN*, Jan. 18).

We all know the suffering inflicted on various groups within our society as a result of budgetary cutbacks at all levels of government. Because provincial cuts more directly affect us than those at the federal level, the Mike Harris administration is being targeted for a greater share of criticism, I believe, than it deserves.

Granted, the most vulnerable people are always the first to suffer, and I, for one, fervently wish that it wasn't so.

Unfortunately, critics like Feministyot fail to answer the crucial question: Just where, exactly, will the money come from? Over the years, administrations of all political stripes at all levels have successfully overspent to the point of bankruptcy. Do they continue to overspend and simply leave it to our children to find a way out of the ever-deepening financial bind?

Other critics have contended that "the rich" do not pay their fair share of taxes. Just who are "the rich"? Is it the couple who are fortunate to have jobs that bring an annual gross income of $100,000 into the household? How much extra tax should the greater-earning partner pay? Their tax burden, as it is, is crippling.

"Big Business" is also a popular target. To truly "create" new jobs the province has to attract even more "Big Business;" and to keep on attracting more job creators, the province or city has to provide a suitable climate for those enterprises to prosper. Designing ever-tightening taxation strategies ultimately becomes counter-productive, as the "job-creators" are driven to more favorable locations.

Finally, government spending to artificially "create" jobs has been tried before. It is precisely that type of policy that has created much of the debt that all levels of government are saddled with today.

Spending ourselves into the poorhouse is the last way to help the disadvantaged among us.

Raymond Gork
Toronto

Reduce air fares for national unity

I think it would be a great idea to mark the anniversary of the Montreal national rally, every October, with a National Unity Week, during which travel related expenses (air, bus and rail fares, hotel, car rental, tourist attractions) would be substantially reduced.

Elizabeth Maged
Montreal

Question views of Prof. Lockshin

At the end of his article "Orthodox Jews must do some soul searching" (*CJN*, Jan. 18), Martin Lockshin wonders whether he should identify with "Jews who share my views about the divine origin of the Torah but call Rabin a *moser*. Or with Jews who believe in change through democratic means, who renounce vigilante behavior, who pursue peace and eschew hateful rhetoric."

I was outraged that earlier in the article, he engaged in hateful rhetoric against the former rabbi of my synagogue and a renowned Torah scholar, Rabbi Nachum L. Rabinovitch.

Lockshin describes himself "as an Orthodox rabbi." He neglects to mention, however, that he was a supporter of the Peace Now movement long before the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. This information should have been included in the article. The reader could then decide whether the author's vicious attack against Rabbi Rabinovitch was motivated by concerns about Orthodoxy or political considerations.

Leonard C. Warner
Toronto

Orthodox Jews are target of attacks

In the interest of journalistic balance, you should have identified Prof. Martin Lockshin as an active member of Peace Now. (*CJN*, Jan. 18.)

Lockshin implies that Orthodox Jews unjustifiably see themselves as victims of systemic discrimination. He fails to give even a hint of the sources of the barrage of hateful rhetoric with which the Orthodox community is being bombarded, not by fringe elements, but by government ministers and officials.

Examples: a minister calls for cutting of funding for religious institutions; another advocates the shutting down of hesder yeshivot; yet another official calls for the expulsion of Jews from Hebron; and the head of the Jewish Agency compares Bar Ilan University to Teheran.

Lockshin's statement that Baruch Goldstein and Yigal Amir attended the finest Orthodox schools may be a fact. To even suggest that their heinous acts were the result of the education they received there, or that they are representative of the students of these institutions, is a slander of the worst kind.

Prof. Lockshin, in his singleminded pursuit of peace, would do well to take his own advice to also "eschew hateful rhetoric."

Joseph Winter
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Tu b'Shvat truly represents a sense of wonder

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

If the truth be told, Judaism does not trust nature. The religion which successfully banished paganism from the popular imagination has never wholeheartedly embraced the great outdoors.

To be sure, there are a myriad of biblical and halachic sources which detail our obligation to respect the environment. From the concept of *shmitta*, the sabbatical year in which Jewish farmers are commanded to let their fields rest for a 12-month period, to the prohibition against uprooting a fruit tree, the Bible decries any wanton waste of our natural resources. The Torah calls such abuse of the environment *bal tashchit*, a term that denotes the wary gaze which tradition casts on anyone who would throw away an uneaten tuna sandwich, much less poison the ecosphere.

Someone wishing to research Judaism's stance on the environment would have little difficulty in presenting source after source which, in theory at least, reveals the Torah's ecologically correct code of ethics. The Talmud devotes much space to the effect that everything on earth is God's creation and thus must be approached with sensitivity and temperance.

We are not allowed to exploit the world according to our whim, without restriction. As the medieval commentator Abraham Ibn Ezra points out, "The ignorant have compared humankind's rule over the earth with God's rule over the heavens. This is incorrect, for God rules over everything."

For those who might imagine that the sages were out of sync with the environment, guess again. Halachah displays a resoundingly contemporary attitude towards blue boxes and the ozone layer.

But as another Tu b'Shvat — the "birthday of the trees" — passes on the calendar, we hear yet again the sound of indifference in our Diaspora forest. To call it a minor festival is unfortunately to overstate the case; for many Jews, the day passes with nary a trace of recognition or celebration. Yes, there is a custom of eating different species of fruit on that day, especially fruit that is indigenous to the land of Israel. Still, with no references to the holiday in the Bible and little in the way of historical significance, Tu b'Shvat remains at the outer edge of the Jewish consciousness, even in many religious circles.

What remains peripheral to Jewish communities, however, often alerts us to what we value as a people and what we stress in our religious teachings. Put another way, were an ancient pagan to spy the arrival of Tu b'Shvat or its equivalent on the calendar, it would be the catalyst for serious devotion and even riotous revelry. The birthday of the trees — now that's cause for a holiday! During a drought in ancient China, for instance, the emperor offered himself as a sacrifice to the wood of a pine tree, perceived as a god. And of course, the Egyptians revered the sun as a deity. And so the Torah came as a desacredization of nature; no longer would the wind and the stars be sources of holiness or objects of worship.

The cautionary note that is sounded everywhere in Tanach is the inevitable result of the war that Judaism fought against polytheism and the idea that nature was divinity. Whereas Judaism would denounce the destruction or abuse of the environment, it views with suspicion and even horror those in the environmental community who often seem to approach nature as a source of some quasi-religious value or moral guidance. We are the people of the Book, not of the bark.

Probably the quintessential example of rabbinic caution when it comes to the enjoyment of the natural world can be found in the teaching of Rabbi Yaakov in the third chapter of Pirke Avot — The Ethics of Our Fathers: "One who is walking along the road and reviewing his [Torah] learning, and interrupts his study to proclaim, 'How beautiful is that tree! How beautiful is that field,' Scripture regards him as if he has sinned against [forfeited] his soul."

This sober warning against staring at the trees has been variously interpreted as a wholesale rejection of nature or, more moderately, as a parable about constructing the proper hierarchy of values in one's life (i.e. material pleasures are okay, but not when they interfere with spiritual pursuits).

If a brief glance at the farmer's field produces such a stern Mishnaic scolding, is it any wonder, then, that the appeal of Tu b'Shvat can become somewhat muted, especially when we mark the day surrounded by the high rise structures of the modern urban landscape? Perhaps Rabbi Yaakov would have little to fear today, given that few of us even stop to glance at the trees at all, even when we have forgotten our pocket Mishnayot at home.

In our current context, Tu b'Shvat becomes a poignant reminder of the gulf between Diaspora Judaism and the potential for Jewish life that can only be fulfilled in Eretz Yisrael, where even the most secular of school children is aware of the birthday of the trees, and where the preservation of the environment garners meaning as a distinctly Jewish imperative.

Indeed, according to Ahad Ha'am, our Mishnah in Avot was really referring to nature in the Diaspora, where Judaism rests exclusively with our attachment to our religious texts. Once the Jewish nation returns to Israel, however, the balance between words and woods can again be harmonized.

Philosophically, there is much to appreciate in this Mishnah. We live in an age where every children's tape is filled with the requisite song about the environment. As Dennis Prager once noted, given the choice between saving their dog and a stranger if both should be found drowning in a river, many young people would opt for the canine, or at least have a hard time deciding.

The determination of Judaism, in contrast, is consistent and unapologetic. Human life supersedes everything else, whether it be whales or trees or butterflies, and human life is grounded in the imperatives of the divine word. All things being equal, there is nothing wrong with getting up before the crack of dawn and breathing in the wonders of the rain forest. But in human life things are not equal very often.

Most of the time, we are faced with an either/or situation. Either we watch an hour of television or devote an hour to studying the weekly Torah portion; either we spend Shabbat in conversation with our family or we disperse to the four corners of the video store. For Rabbi Yaakov, the moral life inherent in the study of Torah must never get short shrift, not even when the marvels of nature beckon.

Yet one can't help but feel a certain stinginess in Rabbi Yaakov's ostensibly rational pronouncement of Judaic priorities. The heart protests: "But what's wrong with a momentary appreciation of the world around me, with a fleeting glance directed at the beauty of he environment?" Must the study of texts and the carrying out of rituals constitute the be all and end all of religious accomplishment?

According to one 19th-century scholar, the proverbial walk in the woods would actually comprise a superior form of spiritual awarenesss, if human beings could consistently link what they saw with the glory of God. Says the Minhat Shabbat, Rabbi Yosef Hayim Caro, in his comments on this Mishnah, that "were it not for the danger of failure, this way [the contemplation of nature as opposed to textual study] would be the superior one. If people's consciousness were fuller they would know the Creator from the wonder of His creatures and His acts."

But Rabbi Caro concludes that most of us would inevitably fail to discern God in every grain of sand and eventually a tree would just appear to us as well ... a tree. Here the study of Torah is indispensable, gracing us with a formidable perspective from which to interpret what we look at and to invest what we see with spiritual value.

In short, the world without Torah becomes rather prosaic, where the stars in the sky are just another subject for scientific journals. But with Torah — that is, the kind of Torah to which Rabbi Caro so wistfully alludes, a Torah which fuses study with a larger reality rather than closing in on itself — nature becomes, as the medievals were wont to call it, "God's book."

In my interactions with Jewish high school students — the vast majority of whom are intelligent, good natured and, for the most part, respectful — one of the things that has become most striking for me is their remarkable lack of a certain kind of innocence, or as Heschel might have it, a genuine sense of wonder. As I thought about this, I could not simply pass it off with the wearisome "alas, the kids of today ..." pronouncement that vaguely attempts to vilify contemporary adolescents to satisfy our own feelings of perplexity. Rather, this inchoate sense of wonder has been forgotten on a societal scale and so is inevitably reflected in our youth.

Have we lost touch with the enchantment of the world? We are enlightened, rational, scientific. We have hi-tech control over vast quantities of information, but often remain utterly alienated from words like sacred. When I scoff at taking the time to appreciate the flowers, I scoff at my own peril. We live life too hurriedly and with too little serenity.

Oliver Sacks, in his brilliant book on the world of the deaf, points out that it is all too easy to take language, one's own language, for granted — one may need to encounter another language, or rather another mode of language, in order to be astonished, pushed into wonder again.

What Tu b'Shvat represents more than enything else is a sense of wonder, a profound reawakening to the possibility of meaning that imbues everyday life. For those who yearn to reconnect to a living vibrant essence of Judaism, it is worthwhile learning to read the language of the divine in the world around us, to proclaim, in the words of the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins: "Glory be to God for dappled things." Only then can nature truly regain its place as one of "God's books."

Elliott Malamet teaches Tanach, rabbinics and Jewish ethics at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

Israeli children celebrate the New Year for trees. [IPPA and ISRANET photos]

Opinions

The not-so-secret service

For the first time in its 50-year history, Israel's secret service, the Shin Bet, is the focus of an unprecedented public debate. The recent publication in the Israeli press of the name of the Shin Bet's incoming chief, Gen. Ami Ayalon, in defiance of censorship regulations, stripped away yet another veil from the secretive, mythical ranks of Israel's domestic intelligence service.

By Shira Herzog

The security failure that preceded the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin on Nov. 4 led to the resignation of several senior directors of the service, including its chief, Carmi Gilon, whose expertise lay, ironically, in the field of extremist Jewish groups, and who served in the job only 10 months. Although his appointment was controversial at the time because some felt that he lacked sufficient experience in the field of Arab terrorism, Gilon's brief tenure was marked by several significant achievements.

In January of last year, Islamic terrorism was at a high. Rabin viewed these attacks as a strategic challenge that was demoralizing the people and endangering the peace process. Under Gilon, the number of attacks diminished and, more importantly, over 40 terrorist attacks were prevented. The lengthy list of wanted men was reduced to one page and several active terrorist cells were eliminated.

Gilon also actively prepared the Shin Bet for the challenges of a new era. In the aftermath of Oslo 2, the service can no longer operate freely in the field under the cover of the Israel army. The future battleground will be one of classic counter-intelligence, wit and cunning. Unlike his predecessors, Gilon warned the country's political leadership of the dangers inherent in extremist Jewish groups. He met with Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu to urge him to disassociate from these groups, and in an unusual step, even briefed the editors of Israel's newspapers on the issue.

Gilon resigned because of a one-time failure on that fateful night last November, the seeds of which had been sown years earlier in both philosophy and operation. Israelis have compared the breakdown to the flawed intelligence assessments that preceded the surprise attack of the 1973 Yom Kippur War. In both cases, a theoretical approach to the apparent dangers led to operational decisions that proved inadequate at the moment of crisis. In both cases, too, the result was a shakedown in the senior leadership of the IDF and the Shin Bet respectively.

But there are other similarities: 1973 represented the first crack in the wall of invincibility that had protected the IDF, especially since 1967. The intelligence failure and subsequent massive Arab attack led to a recognition by Israelis of the fallibility of the previously infallible. Many political observers saw 1973 as the beginning of an understanding of the limitations of military power on the one hand, and the development of a consensus for a political resolution to the conflict with Arab neighbors on the other hand. The IDF was no longer untouchable. Army reservist demonstrations during the 1982 Lebanon war, and later, growing public scrutiny of army operations and internal, fatal military accidents were natural consequences.

For the Shin Bet, 1995 will be viewed as a similar watershed year. Its successes in preventing terrorist attacks and in eliminating terrorists will be appreciated, even as its failure on Nov. 4 will be remembered. There will likely be greater scrutiny of its activities and the wall of secrecy will not be as impenetrable as in the past. The publicity given to Ayalon's appointment is symptomatic of this new attitude. Israelis would rather have a secret service they know more about, even at the expense of its halo of silence. The Shin Bet will have to continue to rehabilitate itself from within, and to prove its external capabilities in the face of new challenges and a changed reality.

Some observers view the demythologizing of the IDF and more recently, the Shin Bet, as part of a larger breakdown of historic symbols in the Israeli ethos. The military legends and prowess of the past, they argue, no longer command the same unstinting loyalty and support as they did at a time when the security of the collective was all-important. It is perhaps more appropriate to analyze the new transparency of old institutions as the inevitable result of the "individualization" of Israeli society and the power of a free, aggressive press.

Israelis may no longer "buy into" cliches and dogma as they did, and they may demand greater accountability where it never existed in the past. These are not necessarily negative developments. The commitment and loyalty of a younger generation will come from a base of greater knowledge, some skepticism and a sober realism.

A close look at the Knesset

As electioneering gets under way in the various political parties, the 13th Knesset enters its home stretch. Many of the members who grace the parliamentary dining room more often than they occupy the legislative chairs in the plenum will not be here after the ballots are counted, first in the party primaries and then at the national polls.

By Carl Alpert

The 13th Knesset has not overly distinguished itself. To the citizen who watches its operations via the daily television coverage, it has been marked not only by skimpy attendance but also by some rowdiness and much name-calling. Still, it should perhaps be judged in comparison to the Knesset which preceded it, when the Likud controlled the government. Some of the comparisons are instructive.

From a statistical abstract of Knesset operations thus far, we learn some interesting facts. When Yitzhak Shamir and Likud headed the majority coalition, the opposition parties, including Labor, sought to put spokes in the legislative process by filing and voting on no less than 132 motions of non confidence. In the same period of time in the present Knesset, Likud and the other opposition parties put forward only 91 non-confidence votes.

How much genuine business did this knesset actually transact during this period of approximately three-fourths of its life? The government put forward 202 resolutions, of which 149 were actually passed. On the other hand, private members of all parties proposed no less than 3,260 resolutions, of which only 168 were passed. Why the large number? Very simple: each proposer of a law gets an extra niche on the roster of speakers in addition to those allocated by his party. No matter that only 168 of the private members' bills were passed; the members all got time on the agenda to address the nearly empty chamber and to be recorded in the Knesset records.

Still, some of the legislation passed is of more than passing interest. Here are a few examples:

A new law provides for setting maximum profits to be made from the sale of pharmaceuticals.

A law already on the books provides that a civil servant must take action within three months on a request made of him by a citizen. This period has now been shortened to 45 days.

A bill presumably introduced by female members of the Knesset provides that the number of seats must be increased in all public women's washrooms.

All car owners must pay the annual radio licence fee, even if their cars do not have a radio.

Close relatives of one who fell during one of Israel's wars, may on the *Yahrzeit* day take a day off from work without being docked for the day.

Fax owners who have been receiving unwelcome messages will welcome new legislation which now makes it an offense to fax advertising material without the advance consent of the recipient.

Owners of business premises are forbidden to put up signs disclaiming responsibility for physical harm caused there.

Blind people accompanied by a seeing eye dog may take the dog with them into public places of entertainment without having to pay any extra admission fee.

Lobbyists, who have hitherto had an almost free hand swarming all over the Knesset building, will now be subjected to special regulations governing their admission.

Legislation on the books provides for strict segregation of the sexes in the prisons. A new law now makes it possible to bypass this restriction if it will in any way affect possible rehabilitation of the prisoner.

The government pays a special maternity grant to all mothers of newborn children. That law is now amended to provide that the grant be subject to income tax.

Morton Weinfeld will return to this spot next month.

Austria begins to remember

Back in 1961, my wife and I had occasion to make an official visit to Germany.

I had been asked to make a survey of German educational literature, in order to assess the way in which German schools taught about the Jews and their fate. Travelling through many cities, I came away with the impression that German textbooks were on the whole trying to make students aware of what had happened during the Hitler days. There were pictures and descriptions of Kristallnacht, smashed shop windows, concentration camps and gas chambers. I could not evaluate how this material was being taught, but the information was certainly there.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

We ended our trip in southern Germany and thought that a week in Austria might be a good idea. We wanted to see whether the Austrians were on the same track as the Germans.

What we found was deeply disappointing; in fact, it was disgusting. Austrian educational authorities were quite clearly unwilling to admit that their country had any responsibility for what had happened to the Jews. It was all "the Nazis' fault." No word about their own enthusiastic reception of Hitler in 1938; no word about Hitler himself being an Austrian; no hint that Austrians had had any share in the atrocities that had been committed.

What did their textbooks say? Something like this: "From 1938 to 1945 we were occupied by the Germans, and terrible things happened." That was it, and that was the way Austrian education handled this subject for some years. It was a policy of total denial and, not surprisingly, anti-Semitism continued to flourish. None of the soul-searching that went on north of the border, and of course no reparation and restitution payments to Israel or any Austrian Jews. There was nothing to atone for, because nothing was supposed to have happened.

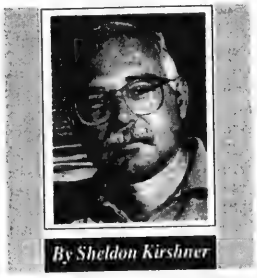
Not surprisingly, when it was discovered that Kurt Waldheim, erstwhile secretary general of the United Nations, had been a Nazi, Austrians were appalled — not at Waldheim, but at the accusation. Waldheim's denial was matched by the worthy citizens of his nation, who proceeded to elect him their president.

A recent evaluation of where Austrians stand today on these issues shows a significant change. In fact, an observer tells us, the very Waldheim affair broke the ice. For the first time, Austrians learned that Nazism was not a disease imposed on them by German conquerors; it was something of their own making as well. Witnesses came forward in the media who testified that Austrians had not just been tools in the hands of their masters, but partners in every way, and had in fact outdone the Germans in many respects. In 1991, Chancellor Franz Vranitzky stated that Austria shared responsibility for the Holocaust, and two years later, at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, he emphasized that Austrians had a responsibility not only to remember, but also to seek justice.

The Kirshner File

Jewish property claims on way to being settled

Negotiations have begun, to settle a matter which has pressed on the conscience of the world for decades. At long last, Jewish property and assets that were confiscated by the Nazis and the Communists may be returned to their rightful owners one day.



By Sheldon Kirshner

Worth billions of dollars, the property consists of synagogues, buildings which housed shuls, schools, libraries, hospitals and social clubs, as well as cemeteries.

For years after World War II, the issue lay virtually dormant, a ghost of the past. But with the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, it assumed a prominent place on the agenda of world Jewry.

"This is a hugely important, unfinished legacy of [the war]," Richard Holbrooke, a U.S. assistant secretary of state, said recently, voicing a widely-shared sentiment.

At the root of it all is theft, pure and simple. In countries occupied by Germany, the Nazi authorities, in league with local collaborators, dispossessed Jews of their belongings. The injustice was compounded by Communist regimes which nationalized all property.

During the Cold War, the matter was largely ignored. Even Israel let it lie, being loath to rock the boat. But as communism waned, attitudes changed. By the early 1990s, the World Jewish Congress was ready to deal with it in a forceful manner.

In July 1992, at the initiative of Congress president Edgar Bronfman, the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) was established to coordinate Jewish claims in Europe.

Mainly funded by the Jewish Agency in Israel, the WJRO is composed of eight bodies: World Jewish Congress, Jewish Agency, Claims Conference, American Joint Distribution Committee, World Zionist Organization, B'nai Brith International, Association of Holocaust Survivors in Israel and the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors.

The United States is fully behind the effort by the WJRO to resolve the problem through compensation or restitution.

President Bill Clinton, as well as Senator Jesse Helms, the chair of the foreign relations committee, have written letters of support to Bronfman.

The U.S. ambassador to the European Union, Stuart Eizenstat, has held discussions with East European officials.

Everyone recognizes that the recovery of Jewish property and assets in Eastern Europe will be a complicated and protracted affair.

The nations in contact with the WJRO have acknowledged their obligation to Jews. Last week, officials of five of these countries — Poland, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Estonia — released a statement in Jerusalem committing themselves to restitution.

However, these states are beset by enormous economic problems. The transition from a centralized Communist system to a free market economy has been extremely wrenching and costly and, not surprisingly, these governments have pleaded poverty.

The entire question is framed by the fear that the wholesale return of property may cause popular resentment and thereby exacerbate anti-Semitism in the region.

And, as observers have pointed out, it is clouded by internal disputes on the Jewish side concerning the true ownership of the spoils.

But before this conundrum can be resolved, the negotiations currently under way will have to be brought to a successful conclusion.

In concrete terms, relatively little has been achieved so far, according to Tony Lerman, director of the Institute of Jewish Affairs in London.

The record speaks for itself:

Poland — In May 1993, a WJRO delegation signed an agreement with Polish Jewish communities and secular organizations. Under the accord, the WJRO was given a mandate to reclaim communal, organizational and private heirless and unclaimed property.

At present, Poland is working on two basic restitution laws, according to Krzysztof Sliwinski, Poland's ambassador to the Diaspora, who visited Canada recently.

Once they have been approved by parliament, the Jewish community will be able to win back the following: cemeteries which were neither destroyed by the Nazis nor plowed under by the Communists to make way for roads and housing, 228 synagogues and 40 *shtiebl* buildings, 25 mikvahs, 27 schools, six orphanages, one old people's home, four hospitals, 22 community centres and five ritual slaughter facilities.

The communal property legislation will probably be enacted by this spring or summer. The legislation pertaining to private property should be passed within about a year.

Czech Republic — In April 1994, three years after adapting a restitution law, the government unveiled legislation which presages the return of confiscated property to their owners or heirs, provided they are citizens of the Czech Republic or live there permanently.

Czech Jews, however, have accused the government of deliberate delays in returning property and of downsizing the restitution package.

Slovakia — Restitution legislation, a model of its kind, was promulgated in January 1994. Many communal and private properties have been returned since then.

Hungary — Seven months ago, after lengthy and sometimes inconclusive discussions, the WJRO and the Hungarian government signed a pact under which the Ministry of Finance will establish two subcommittees to study the issue.

Romania — An agreement was signed last summer, but the WJRO is still in the process of submitting claims.

Ukraine — Almost three years ago, Ukraine became the first of the Soviet successor states to create a clear legal process for the restitution of properties. A number of buildings have been handed back, but bureaucratic obstructions prevent further progress.

Russia — Restitution legislation does not yet exist, but the authorities have returned some synagogues.

Bulgaria — A restitution law has been implemented and property has been restored to the Jewish community.

The Baltic states (Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia) — All three governments are amenable to restitution claims. Some property has been returned.

In Western Europe, the battle has only begun. The WJRO has amassed a wealth of documentation with respect to the confiscation of Jewish property in France, Belgium and Holland, and a flurry of claims can be expected.

Germany, of course, has paid out billions of dollars in compensation payments to Holocaust survivors since the 1950s. But of late, Bonn has closed the circle, having passed legislation enabling claimants to recover property in the former East Germany. Germany has also returned several communal buildings in Berlin and promises to act in thousands of similar cases.

In yet another development, Switzerland is finally coming clean with respect to frozen Jewish funds which have lain unclaimed in Swiss bank accounts for many years now. Under pressure, the Swiss Bankers Association has loosened regulations to facilitate claims by owners and heirs. Progress on this front will likely be slow, but the impasse has been broken.

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"Spousal & Child Support in the '90's"
Fran Weisberg, Lawyer

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"Dealing with Life Cycle Events When Parents Separate"
Beth Feffer, M.S.W., Manager, JF&CS

THURSDAY, MARCH 28
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Enrolment Limited. Pre-registration is necessary

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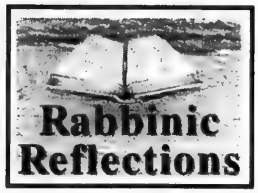


Dealing with Israelis' concerns

By RABBI JOSEPH KELMAN

During a recent visit to Israel, I participated in two conferences. The first, under the auspices of the Rabbi Joseph Kelman Educational Research Centre at Tel Aviv University, was a symposium on the significant issues confronting world Jewry, namely the universal hope that Jewish education will be a major factor in the search for Jewish identity for young people — in Israel and the Diaspora.

At first glance, it may seem that we should take it for granted, certainly in Israel. However, the question still remains: How do the secular Jewish young people express their identification? Does their Jewish education give them the knowledge and concrete ways of expressing the values they should learn at school and hopefully see at home? Living in Israel is not enough but they should see themselves as part of a historic process that includes the 2,000 years of Diaspora life. This subject is very much related to the search for continuity in North America.

The conference was really a seminar or think-tank of 12 educators from Israel, North America and Argentina. They discussed Jewish identity as something that could be expressed in religious forms through prayer, rituals and the study of Jewish texts. Others today express it through relationships to Israel, Hebrew language, the Holocaust and various components of Jewish culture, art and music.

There was a general consensus that even the schools in Israel must strengthen the teaching of traditional Jewish values. The discussions, questions and suggestions that came out of the symposium will be published and distributed to the Ministry of Education and Jewish Agency in Israel, as well as to educators throughout the world. Hopefully, it will lead to self-examination by people in the field of Jewish education and serve as an impetus for ongoing seminars in the future to implement new programs to ensure continuity and a sense of Jewish identity for Jews in Israel and the Diaspora.

I also had the opportunity to participate in the Rabbinical Israel Bond Conference with over 120 rabbis from North America, Mexico and Germany. We heard directly from Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu and other cabinet ministers, as they presented their views about the peace process, the most important issue in the Middle East today, as well as about the general political and economic situation in Israel today.

We heard directly from the Israeli minister of finance that the economy of Israel is very good. The inflation rate is the lowest in 26 years. Obviously there are differences of opinion about the concessions that the Israeli government has made and is willing to make to the PLO and Syria. There is a need for more dialogue between the left and right, the secular and religious, and Israel and the Diaspora.

In a way, the two conferences dealt with the two most important needs of Israel and world Jewry. The first one dealt with the ongoing concern for the spiritual welfare of the Jewish people; the Bond conference gave us additional insight into the realities of the hopes of the Israeli people for a meaningful and secure peace. It also strengthened the relationship of 120 rabbis with Israel; they, in turn, will relay the importance of Israel-Diaspora relations.

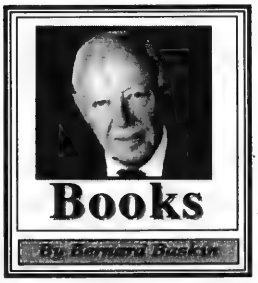
It is a two-way road we share in Israel's economic development by investing in Israel Bonds at a very respectable rate of interest. In turn, Israel can offer Diaspora Judaism spiritual values and identity.

The Peres government established a new cabinet committee on Israel-Diaspora relations, headed by the new minister and advisor to Peres, Rabbi Yehuda Amital, who went to Moscow after addressing both our conferences. His goal was to assure the Russian Jews that Israel is continuing to help Russian Jewry express itself in Jewish ways, something they could not do publicly until a few years ago.

Judaism and the Jewish people throughout the world can only benefit by strengthening the bonds between Israel and the Diaspora as strong partners since we share common goals and aspirations.

Rabbi Kelman is the spiritual leader of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue in Toronto.

Peres: ever the loyal soldier



Battling For Peace: A Memoir by Shimon Peres (Random House, $25 US).

This engrossing study traverses the author's 71 years and a political career that spans six decades of unswerving loyalty to his country.

Shimon Persky emigrated with his family from Poland to Palestine in 1934 when he was 10. He took a new name — Peres — the Hebrew word for the family of birds to which eagles belonged.

Bright, energetic, astute, a skilled diplomat and francophile, Peres, despite his age, was chosen by David Ben-Gurion in 1952 as director general of the Defence Ministry — the most important post in a highly-strategic department. During a parlous and uncertain period in Israel's early history he arranged valuable military purchases from France and other countries.

In time, he became the prime architect of Israel's military-industrial complex and creator of its Air Force.

Of absorbing interest is his account of how a chance for peace with Jordan a decade ago was thwarted by the caution of the American State Department after being warned by the Shamir government not to intervene in Israel's internal affairs.

In the light of his undeniable achievements why isn't Peres more popular and respected among his countrymen? Why is he regarded as superficial, mercurial and self-seeking? Perhaps, because in addition to his practical concerns he is an abstract thinker concerned with the future as much as the present.

A stubborn optimist he avers that "I have earned the right to dream. This book is my personal testimony to the fact that it is permissible for a man to dream — not just any dreams — but great dreams."

Today, Peres leads a nation divided and in turmoil, rent by political and religious schism and division. He must find healing for the nation's wounds, achieve peace with the Palestinians, and perhaps Syria, and assure Israel's progress and well-being.

He predicts a time when peace and prosperity will reign in the Middle East with Jews and Arabs working in tandem to create a model community. All persons of good will must say amen to this glorious vision of tomorrow.

Jewish Life

Go ahead ... take a ride

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A few years ago, a conference was held in Ottawa for survivors of the Holocaust and their children. Over the course of several days, many excellent speakers appeared and their talks were well received. But perhaps one of the most popular features of the conference was a bulletin board.

The place where people pinned their notes and their hopes trying to find word of relatives who had survived the Shoah.

A few were successful. Unfortunately, many were not.

Now, through advances in technology, there is a new kind of bulletin board out there that spans the entire world. Actually there are tens of thousands of electronic bulletin boards out there devoted to almost any topic imaginable.

For example, by using electronic bulletin boards devoted to the Holocaust **[soc.culture.jewish.holocaust]** and to Jewish genealogy **[soc.genealogy.jewish]**, people can share information and conduct their searches for lost relatives around the world. And through the Internet's World Wide Web site "JewishGen: The Official Home of Jewish Genealogy" **[http://www.jewishgen.org]** they can have some of the best research available at their fingertips from anywhere, anytime.

Quite a leap from that solitary bulletin board in Ottawa.

This is only one small example of the power of the Information Highway.

Sure, that phrase has become a bit tiresome. But like it or not, the Information Highway is an accurate depiction of the revolution that has linked millions of computers. But more important, it has linked the millions of people sitting behind those computers.

And for a nation scattered to the four corners of the earth, this new technology presents a unique opportunity. Now we can meet...

...on **"The Jewish Highway."**

In this column, I want to take you to many places where you can:

- Track down old friends from your Jewish youth movement.
- Listen to newscasts from the same day's Kol Yisrael.
- Look up Kosher restaurants in Montreal.
- Debate the peace process.
- Or debate the very best recipe for gefilte fish.

You can already do all those things on the hundreds of Internet sites devoted to the Jewish people and the State of Israel. With more sites appearing every day.

As your tour guide, I will take you on a jargon-free trip along the Jewish lanes of the Internet. In order to come along for the ride, you will need a connection to the Internet and have a basic knowledge of a World Wide Web browser such as Netscape or Mosaic. (If you need help getting started, there are many excellent books available written in clear English. A favourite of mine is the *Canadian Internet Handbook* by Jim Carroll and Rick Broadhead.)

I do welcome your feedback especially if you have found an interesting new site. You can contact me at **mdm@inforamp.net** with your finds. In the next column, I'll talk about some great starting points for finding Jewish information on the Internet.

Breuchim haba'im to the Jewish highway. I hope you enjoy the journey.

* * *

P.S. Monday is Tu b'Shvat, the Jewish new year for trees. So here are some sites you might find interesting.

Dr. Nurit Reshef of Edmonton's Talmud Torah School has a tale for Tu b'Shvat at **[http://www.ualberta.ca/~yreshef/tuintro.htm]**. Pay attention!

There's a quiz, too.

If Tu b'Shvat puts you in an environmental frame of mind, check out "HOLIT, Hebrew University's Environmental Online Information System" at **[http://www1.huji.ac.il/www_teva/]** This is a large database for environmental information in Israel and around the world. Be warned, a lot of the information seems quite technical, there are no graphics and some areas are in Hebrew only.

And if you want to do something off the beaten path on your next trip to Israel, take a look at the nature trips available from The Society For The Protection Of Nature In Israel. **[http://www.macom.co.il/nature/index.html].** Happy Holiday.

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet.

Writing contest to focus on Holocaust

TORONTO — Students in grades 7 to 9 and Grade 10 to OAC are invited to submit their work to the third annual Writing Contest on the Holocaust.

This year's contest is sponsored by sculptor and painter, Wanda D. Lerek, a Holocaust Survivor and author of *Hold on To Life, Dear.*

Lerek says she hopes to leave a legacy of understanding and tolerance for future generations, so that our youth will "never experience the horrors and atrocities of racial discrimination."

The Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto gratefully acknowledges Lerek's generosity.

The subject for the 1995-96 provincial writing contest is: What are the Lessons of the Holocaust for Canadians?

Submissions may be fiction, nonfiction, poetry or drama. The deadline is Feb. 28.

The awards ceremony will take place May 1, at 5:30 p.m. at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St., Willowdale.

First prize includes transportation to and from wherever the winner resides in Ontario, a $100 cash award, a *Schindler's List* limited edition collector's boxed set and a Holocaust library bookshelf for the school.

Second prize is a $50 cash award and a Holocaust reference book; third prize, $25 and the Holocaust reference book.

All winners and their schools will receive a certificate of honor. Winners will also receive an autographed copy of Lerek's book.

"In the past two years, over 500 schools from across Ontario participated in the essay contest," says Pnina Zilberman, director of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre.

For information or a brochure, call Zilberman at 416-635-2883, ext. 144.

Wanda D. Lerek now

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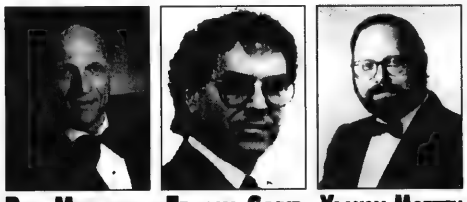

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Dead Sea Scrolls hold no real secrets: scholar

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Lawrence Schiffman

Part of the excavations at Qumran

TORONTO —Contrary to popular myth, the Dead Sea Scrolls will not provide any startling revelations about either Judaism or Christianity, asserts a leading expert on the subject.

Dr. Lawrence Schiffman, a professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University, is one of a consortium of scholars involved in publishing the Dead Sea Scrolls.

This year, he is Shoshana Shier Distinguished Visiting Professor in Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto. He is teaching an undergraduate course on the Scrolls, as well as giving a series of public lectures.

Many people are expecting them to prove or disprove their own and other religious beliefs, Schiffman told *The CJN* in an interview in his temporary office at the Centre for Religious Studies.

Carbon 14 dating, however, proved that all the material was composed before the rise of Christianity and therefore can't give any direct reference to it.

For Jews, he said, it only proves that the Bible as we know it today had been set by the time the Scrolls were gathered together, between 300 BCE and the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE.

What they do do, Schiffman said, is to "illuminate the tremendous richness of debate in the Jewish community [at that time]."

After the Maccabean revolt, which ended with the establishment of the Maccabean kingdom in 152 BCE, there was extensive debate on the nature of Judaism, he said.

These debates Schiffman said, were not over issues like assimilation.

"These were arguments between Sabbath observant, kashrut observing Jews, who held strong differences of opinion about theological beliefs and Jewish law."

Thanks to the scrolls, we know what Judaism was like before Christianity and how the Jewish sects of the time must have influenced the development of the new religion. They also allow scholars to trace what happened between the time of final shaping of the Bible and that of writing of the Mishnah.

For Christians, Schiffman believes, "the more the Scrolls authenticate the wide debate in Judaism, the more they can see themselves as a sect. When Christians are educated to understand themselves as having emerged from Judaism, this lessens anti-Semitism."

Schiffman acknowledges that there is a great deal of misconception about the material among non-scholars. One tabloid, he said with a twinkle, even claimed that Elvis was mentioned in one of them.

The story of the scrolls, material probably collected and copied by a somewhat obscure sect called the Essenes, are the stuff of Hollywood movies. Discovered in 1947 by Bedouins in a series of caves in Qumran in the Judean desert, the 80,000 pieces of text were eventually combined into about 1,200 larger plates, kept first under glass and now, to preserve them properly, between sheets of rice paper.

It was not until the 1980s that the material began to be widely circulated and studied, with the whole thing available on microfiche.

Efforts now are centering around making sure the reconstruction is accurate (many letters are fragmented and it is not always certain which bits go together) and in interpreting and understanding the content.

Schiffman explained that the scrolls consist of Tanach, the Chumash, Prophets and Writings we know today (except for the Book of Esther); apocryphal texts, additions to the Bible which have also been found in other excavations, such as Masada. About one-third of the material has never been previously known.

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Provincial budget cuts threaten survival of Jewish agencies

Michael Scheinert

By Howard English

Toronto's Jewish agencies are bracing for even worse news than they have already received because of government budget cuts.

There were predictions of a rougher ride ahead at a recent meeting of agency presidents and executives, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

"The gun is loaded and the trigger is going to be pulled whether it's in three months or six months," warned Morris Zbar, Director of the Federation's Community Planning & Allocations Department.

Senior Care Executive Director Michael Scheinert suggested that some agencies may not survive as independent entities. "The fact that we've been around for 75 or 100 years does not guarantee that we will be around in the next 10 years," he said. Scheinert's analysis was confirmed by Community Planning & Allocations Chairman Alan Sandler who advised the agency heads to think about major change. "The Federation will not be able to raise sufficient money to make up for what the government is cutting," he added.

Jewish service agencies have been badly bruised by government spending reductions at all levels. Jewish Family & Child Service is being forced to close the Jerome Diamond Centre for troubled teens. It is also losing other programs, including one which counsels clients on government social assistance.

JF&CS Executive Director Gordon Wolfe believes that counselling for abused women is at risk because it may not be viewed by the province as a core service. He is also worried about the government's commitment to service delivery by Jewish agencies, rather than through amalgamated organizations.

Metro Toronto, which can expect about $220 million less from Queen's Park, has already notified recipients of community grants to expect less as well. "Fewer agencies will be funded," explained Bernard Betel Centre Executive Director, Esta Wahl. "An agency can no longer assume funding."

The Federation's Zbar reminded participants of a $3 billion dollar reduction in federal transfer payments. "If Ottawa maintains the same formula," he noted, "there will be no transfer payments to the provinces in 10 years."

According to Zbar, the Jewish community must identify its most essential services, because "the Federation will not be in a position to fund all of them."

Sandler sees the need for "very close cooperation among the agencies and between the agencies and Federation."

"It's a changed world," he observed. "It's not the same game as it was before."

Economist questions tax cuts at UJA forum

Get spending under control first. Then worry about tax breaks. That's the advice from the Bank of Nova Scotia's Senior Chief Economist, Dr. Warren Jestin, who spoke last week to members of UJA's Young Construction Network.

Jestin took issue with the Ontario Conservative party promise of a 30% tax cut. "The arithmetic doesn't add up," he said. "I don't think that reducing taxes a little for the average household will ignite consumer spending."

Jestin believes the provincial government should adopt the Alberta strategy of first reducing the deficit, then "holding out lower taxes as a goal."

However, Jestin, who is a strong proponent of government budget cutting at all levels, offered a stark analysis of federal debt. "Canada, on a per capita basis," he noted," is the most indebted country in the world to foreign investors. We have to borrow $15 billion a year to pay back $40 billion in interest." Despite federal spending levels dropping by 6% a year, "$8-10 that the government was able to cut was eroded by debt service costs."

Among Jestin's other observations:

- Toronto is going to benefit "big time" this year from tourism.
- Interest rates will go down by 1/4 - 1/2% in the first half of the year before picking up in the second half.
- The value of the Canadian dollar will be 72-74 cents U.S.
- The average price of a home in the Greater Toronto Area will be under $200,000.
- The number of 45-65 year olds in Canada by the year 2,000 will be ten times what it is today.

UJA's Young Construction Network brings together 25-40 year old men and women in the real estate, development and construction industries.

Dr. Warren Jestin

Mission 3000 ready for take off

The countdown to Mission 3000 has begun. Less than three weeks are left before more than 1100 participants from across Canada embark on what promises to be the trip of a lifetime to Israel.

It's a nine day mission sponsored by UJA and United Israel Appeal, coinciding with Jerusalem 3000 celebrations.

Herb Rosenfeld, who is co-chairing Mission 3000 with Rosanne Ain, is looking forward to "1100 Canadian Jews standing strong to celebrate the birthday of a city which is the heart of the Jewish people."

Nearly 200 mission participants from Toronto and other surrounding communities have never visited Israel before. Many are planning to extend their stays beyond the mission's conclusion to see more of the country.

Mother-daughter team Ruth Richler (left) and Sheila Lancit are preparing for an unprecedented mission.

Mission highlights include meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, shabbat dinner at Jerusalem's Great Synagogue, a gala concert in Jerusalem, opening ceremonies in Metulla at Canada Centre's new Olympic ice rink and a closing dinner in Eilat.

Mission members are even bringing along used hockey equipment for Canada Centre, children's books that will be donated to Israeli libraries and other gifts.

A comprehensive itinerary with visits to UIA/UJA-supported sites has been designed with first-timers and veterans in mind

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A tribute to a tireless leader

A little over a month ago, Toronto's Jewish community lost one of its best. To mark the end of shloshim for Phil Granovsky, Community Matters contributing editor, Adi Waksman, prepared this tribute from those who knew him well.

Phil Granovsky

If ever there was one man who exemplified loyalty to his community, it was Phil Granovsky. The dedicated community leader died from leukemia on December 24, 1995 at age 74. He left behind a legacy of vision and generosity to which those who knew him well are paying tribute.

Granovsky, who came to Canada from Romania when he was 5, grew up in the College and Bathurst area and never forgot his Jewish roots. His business success as the founder of Atlantic Packaging Products Ltd. was mirrored in a distinguished career of community service which continued until his death.

Granovsky was a former UJA Campaign Chairman and one of the co-chairs of Operation Exodus. Steve Ain, the Executive Vice-President of United Israel Appeal, Canada, remembers Granovsky as a man of "incredible determination".

"His was the first million dollar annual gift to UJA," Ain recalled. "He single-handedly raised the level of giving in the Toronto campaign by his example."

Granovsky was also very active with Keren Hayesod serving as World Chair and Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1979-1985 and 1987-1992.

"He was respected by world leadership and his wife Shirley has received numerous letters of condolence from many different countries," noted Julia Koschitzky, who currently heads the Keren Hayesod Board of Trustees.

Dr. Gerry Halbert, a friend of Granovsky for 40 years, called him "one of our foremost community leaders." According to Halbert and many others, Granovsky continued his community work throughout his long illness. "His drive and determination," said Halbert, "were legendary."

Students remember Rabin

With the Federation's assistance, Vaughan Secondary School students assembled a memorial to Yitzhak Rabin on display at the school. Left to right: teacher Patricia Obadia and students Maayan Kasimov, Noam Sharabany, Ron Einbinder and Ofir Gik.

CZF joins UJA on Community March day

Jeff Cohen and Maura Cooperberg are back this year to chair UJA's Community March for Israel.

Mark May 26 on your calendar. That's the date for this year's UJA Community March for Israel and the Jerusalem 3000 Festival that follows.

For the first time, the festival will be a joint United Jewish Appeal-Canadian Zionist Federation project.

According to CZF coordinator Tillie Margolis, the two organizations are joining forces for the festival in order to demonstrate "the significance of a united Jerusalem." The festival, she stressed, will last long after the march ends. "We're planning a wonderful event for marchers and non-marchers alike," she said.

This year's march, called Journey to Jerusalem, and the festival are dedicated to Jerusalem 3000, marking the 3000th year since King David designated the city as Israel's capital.

The march will begin at the Promenade Shopping Centre and end at the North York Centennial Centre on Finch, west of Bathurst, this year's new festival location.

UJA's Maura Cooperberg, who is co-chairing the march with Jeff Cohen, considers the Centennial Centre a "bonus" as the festival site. "It permits a fun-filled day rain or shine," she said.

Last year, despite pouring rain, 2,000 marchers turned out. The year before, some 7,000 people participated on a warm, sunny day.

Proceeds from the march, which is UJA's single largest event, benefit children in Israel.

Gifts keep coming from UJA's Tzedakah All Stars

Hundreds of Jewish kids are demonstrating how much they care to share.

More than 500 presents have already been donated for distribution to underprivileged children all over Toronto, thanks to UJA's growing Tzedakah All Star Team.

The Tzedakah All Star program encourages kids to drop off an unwrapped gift they've received at one of the 9 Tzedakah All Star boxes located in schools and at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. The response to the All Star team, which has been up and running since December, has been "tremendous," according to chairperson and founder Elizabeth Erlich.

Erlich is pleased with "the excellent network of parents and volunteers" working on the year round project, which she considers "a great vehicle for teaching the concept of tzedakah to kids."

Eight year old Noah Turk, a grade 3 student at Netivot Hatorah Day School, has also caught the Tzedakah bug. He donated $5 to the All Star effort because he didn't have a gift to give.

"Noah wanted to do something, but his birthday isn't until July," his mother Elizabeth explained. "So we counted the money in his piggy bank and he brought the donation directly to his school."

Florence Weinberger of Jewish Family and Child Service, which distributes the presents, is happy that "hundreds of smiling kids are getting them."

Tzedakah All Star donors automatically become members of the Junior UJA Club, entitling them to participation in parties and other events.

Tzedakah All-Star Noah Turk (top) with his siblings (from left to right) Rebecca, Daniel and Sarah.

The Tzedakah All Star program is the only one of its kind in North America.

Society supports Project Renewal school

The Wierzbniker Mutual Benefit Society, one of Toronto's oldest, celebrated its 60th anniversary last year with a large contribution to the Rambam School in Beit Dagan. The Israeli town is one of three regions assisted by UJA's Project Renewal program. Project Renewal helped Beit Dagan become an attractive community from a troubled development town.

Holding a cheque designated for the school is Wierzbniker President Howard Kleinberg beside Vice President Howard Chandler and Abe Zukerman, the Society's UJA Chairman.

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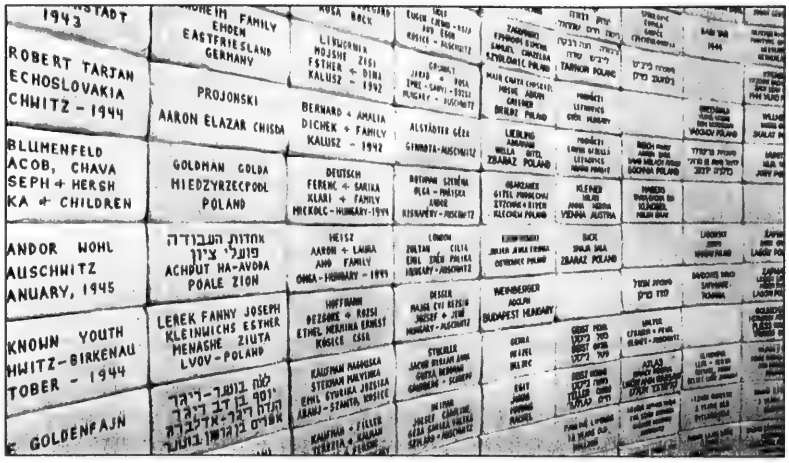
New Holocaust Resource Centre



The Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre is expanding its wall of tiles.

With 1,000 books, a web site and access to the internet for visiting researchers, Toronto's new Holocaust Resource Centre will be officially unveiled on February 18. An open house, featuring former Ontario premier Bob Rae, will be taking place from 1-5 p.m. at 4600 Bathurst Street, the resource centre's location.

"Anything that deals with the Holocaust can be found here," says Pnina Zilberman, Director of the Federation's Holocaust Educational and Memorial Centre, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year.

The new Holocaust Resource Centre's library will feature volumes on genealogy, history, memoirs and yizkor books, produced by Jewish organizations.

The centre's hi-tech, multi-media equipment will serve the entire community including journalists, students and educators.

Eleanor Getzler, chair of the Holocaust Education Committee, is pleased with how much the Centre has grown in the last 10 years. "We really have become an integral part of the community and an important player in spreading information about the Holocaust," she said.

The Holocaust Memorial Centre is also in the midst of a tile campaign with a quickly approaching deadline.

Relatives and friends of Jews who perished during the Holocaust have until March 1 to submit the names of their loved ones. Each name will be engraved on a tile and added to a thousand others already on the wall at the Centre. A special unveiling ceremony marking the completion of the campaign will take place on April 21.

For more information please call (416) 635-2883 ext. 153 or 301.

Federation invites graduates to Reisman reunion

By Adi Waksman

The guru of education for Jewish communal professionals is coming to Toronto later this month. And Bernie Reisman is not surprised that so many of his former students chose to live and work in Toronto's Jewish community. Reisman, who is the founding director of the Hornstein Program in Jewish Communal Service at Brandeis University, sees our city as a "magnet for young people."

"Toronto has more professional opportunities, higher professional standards and more social life for young Jews," he noted "than many other cities in North America."

Reisman will be meeting many of his former students at an alumni reunion on February 19. His two day stay, starting the day before, will include a public lecture and talks to UJA/Federation professionals.

Reisman, who still teaches full time, is very proud of the world renowned reputation of the 25 year old Hornstein program. He considers it "unique" for a university to have a department devoted entirely to the study of Jewish communal work. Students earn a Masters degree after two years and graduate with specialized skills in, among other subjects, fundraising and mobilizing volunteers to work with professionals.

David Gotfrid, Hornstein Grad

Zac Kaye, the Federation's Director of Jewish Campus Services, a graduate of the Hornstein program, recalls Reisman's "tremendous insight and ability to plant seeds in his students' minds."

Judith Urbach, who worked for the United Way and Reena Foundation after she graduated in 1987, considers Reisman "a visionary."

David Gotfrid is still using some of the people skills Reisman taught him even though he no longer works in community service. "Ever since I opened my business 4 years ago, I've been building a community among my staff," explained Gotfrid who plans to attend the reunion.

Hornstein alumni, interested in the reunion, should call Mara Koven at (416) 631-5728 for more information.

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Reform leader to speak out on Torah, Israel

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A stirring message to place Torah at the centre of Jewish life was delivered here recently by the leader of the Reform movement in Canada and the United States.

Rabbi Eric Yoffie, who takes over as president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) in July, also said Reform will challenge the claim of some Orthodox groups that they represent the Torah position against giving up land in Israel.

"We've all been too quiet on this, including you in Canada," he said.

Rabbi Yoffie succeeds Rabbi Alexander Schindler, who has ben UAHC president for 23 years.

Since Israel is now a "rich country," Rabbi Yoffie said money donated to Israel from Diaspora Reform Jews should be directed to strengthening Judaism in that country. "But this does not mean, God forbid, that we should turn our backs on Israel," he said.

Rabbi Yoffie gave a far-ranging review of Reform policy at a Town Hall meeting with rabbinic and lay leaders of the movement at Holy Blossom Temple recently.

The meeting broke into applause when Rabbi Gunther Plaut declared: "There is more than one interpretation of Torah. We don't want to leave the debate to Orthodox spokesmen. We must involve ourselves in the religious debate as well as the political debate."

The UAHC president commented in reply: "I agree 100 percent."

Responding to a question on how Jews can be motivated to donate to Israel if the economic urgency no longer exists, Rabbi Yoffie said it is a complex matter, fraught with difficulty. "We are walking a tightrope. Above all, we cannot say not to give to Israel."

He maintained that since the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and given the evidence that the peace process will likely succeed, it is clear that "religious issues" are paramount in Israel today. Whatever Reform Jews can do to strengthen Judaism in Israel will also strengthen Judaism in the Diaspora, he said.

To this end, Rabbi Yoffie said Reform must seek alliances with other groups "to break the monopoly of Orthodoxy in Israel."

In reply to another question, the UAHC president said the Reform movement is not abandoning its championing of social justice or its insistence on equality for men and women, a pluralist society and "reaching out to intermarrieds and others on the fringe."

Rabbi Yoffie said he hopes prayers in Reform synagogues will be revitalized and updated "and that we will define our goals in terms of Torah."

Israel has done so well economically that it has more companies on the New York stock exchange than any other country except Canada, Rabbi Yoffie said.

But Jews must be challenged to support Jewish causes in other ways. Baby boomers are among those asking, "What's in Judaism for me?" he said, declaring that the recent trend to give more money raised by the United Jewish Appeal to local needs is a healthy one.

He claimed that anti-Semitism, job discrimination, education and housing restrictions are no longer obstacles facing Jews.

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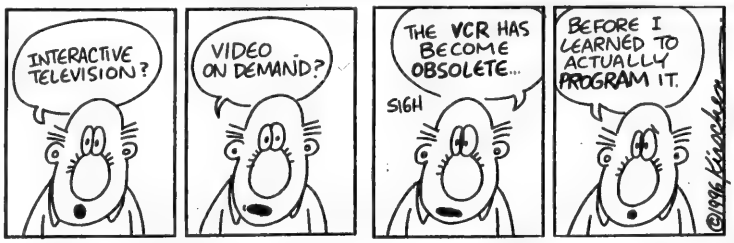

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סבתר במרתף - עמוס עוז חדש

ספר חדש של עמוס עוז הוא תמיד אירוע מרגש. תחשבו על זה: שנתיים תמימות מחכים מיליוני ישראלים שהאיש הזה ימתיק את חייהם בספר חדש! ברבות השנים - הלכה וגדלה הביקורת של מבקרי הספרות על כל מיני אלמנטים בכתיבה של עמוס עוז: למה הוא כותב ככה ואומר ככה. אבל הכל שטויות - הוא כותב נפלא, וקונים את ספריו במאות אלפים לא רק בישראל אלא בכל העולם.

הפעם - העונג היה אמיתי. קראתי לאט לאט, בתקווה שלא ייגמר עלי מהר מידי. "פנתר במרתף" הוגדר על ידי המבקרים כ"ספר נעורים"- רוצה לומר ספר לילדים. האירוע שמתואר בספר קורה לפני קום המדינה ואני בספק אם ילדי הטלביזיה והניינטנדו יסכימו להתמודד עם הכתיבה האיטית, השקולה, הבלתי חברמנית שלו. האמת היא שזהו ספר למי שהיו ילדים בשנות הארבעים והחמישים. אתם תרגישו ממש בבית, ולי בכל אופן הוא גרם התרגשות רבה וגעגועים לילדותי. כדי לתת לכם טעם טוב, הינה מספר קטעים קצרים:

"לירדנה היה ארוס, והיה ארוס לשעבר, ומלבדם, אמרו, יש גם צייד מהגליל ומשורר מהר הצופים וגם המעריץ הביישן שרק מסתכל בה בעצם ואף פעם לא מעז להגיד לה, מלבד בוקר טוב ותראי איזה יום נהדר. בתורף נתתי לירדנה לקרוא שני שירים ואחרי כמה ימים אמרה, אתה כנראה תכתוב עוד. המילים האלה נפלאו לי יותר מרוב המילים שבאו כעבור שנים, כשבאמת כתבתי".

(אביו של המספר, שהוא ילד בן עשר, מדבר אליו תמיד גבוהה גבוהה ולא ממש מתעניין בו, כפי שהיה מקובל אצל מבוגרים כלפי ילדים לפני ארבעים שנה...) "אמא אמרה לאבא: במקום לעשות לו כל רגע מעמד הר סיני כזה, אולי תמצא פעם זמן לשחק איתו קצת? לפחות לשוחח איתו? שיחה? אתה עוד זוכר? שנים יושבים יחד, כל אחד מדבר, וגם מקשיב? ומשתדלים לקלוט?"

ואחרון חביב: "החזקתי אז בהשקפה שגיעית בת בבן משפילה את כבודו של הבן. בנגיעת בן בבת, לעומת זאת, ראיתי מעשה גבורה שיכול להתרחש אולי רק בחלום. או בסרטים. ואם אירע בחלום מוטב לא לזכור".

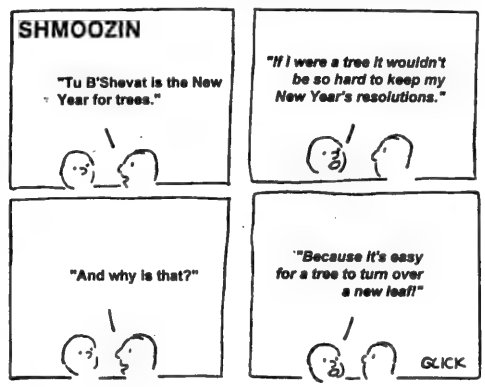
אהבתי בספר הזה הכל: השפה, חוש ההומור, העלילה, אבל מעל הכל אני מעריץ אותו על הריסון העצום שלו: אין לו שום בעיה לספר "עלילה מוֹתֶחת", אם הוא רוצה, כמו א.ב. יהושע או מאיר שלו. אבל לא עמוס עוז! הוא לא יתפתה לעלילה עוצרת נשימה אם הוא מרגיש שהדברים לא היו צריכים להיות עוצרי נשימה.פנקו את עצמכם עם "פנתר במרתף"! מגיע לכם! אבל שישאר בינינו.

מקום מדליק בירושלים:

אם יוצא לכם לבקר בארץ ואתם מגיעים לירושלים ובא לכם לראות משהוא באמת מדהים - תלכו לראות את בית המשפט העליון החדש. זהו מבנה שסמוך למשכן הכנסת ולמשרדי הממשלה, ובו נערכת כל הפעילות של בית המשפט העליון. האדריכלים (כמו המון אחרים שבנו בירושלים) קיבלו כאן השראה שהחזירה אותם לימי התנ"ך ובית שני. יש לך הרגשה שאתה מסתובב במבנה מתקופה קדומה. הכל שַׁיִש, קשתות, אבני ירושלים מסוּתָתות. תדרי הדיונים, הספריה, החצר, הכל בנוי ממש בתחושת קדושה. יצא לי אפילו להיכנס לדיון ולראות את נשיא בית המשפט, פרופ. ברק ושניים מעמיתיו מאזינים לטיעוניה של עורכת דין במשפט חוזי כלשהוא. אין מה לעשות - ירושלים עושה לאנשים טראנספורמציה ומוציאה מהם כוחות בלתי ידועים ואת מיטב ההשראה. כדאי לכם לנסוע - הסיבוב לוקח אולי עשרים דקות אבל שווה כל שניה.

שאלות שוק ישראלי שואל:

כמה אתה עושה בחודש? איפה עשיתם את ליל הסדר? איפה היית בצבא? אולי יש לך סיגריה? איפה אתה במילואים? למה אף אחד לא עומד בתור? יש לך אולי פרוטקציה שם? מי קפה ומי תה?



From coast to coast

Teens lobby to move embassy

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

WINDSOR — A group of Windsor teenagers has embarked on an ambitious project it hopes will snowball into a national Jewish campaign: getting Canada to move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.

The recently-formed Canadian Israel Public Affairs Committee (CIPAC) hopes that the United States' plan to move its embassy to Jerusalem by 1999 will embolden Ottawa to do the same.

The group is an outgrowth of Herzl AZA 112, a chapter of the B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO) in Windsor, and has about 20 members, all under age 18.

Its goal, according to its two-page manifesto, *A Vision of Jewish Unity*, is to get the Canadian Embassy relocated from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, thus recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's "undisputed" capital in this, the city's 3,000th birthday. It also hopes to unite Canada's Jewish community around the issue.

Only El Salvador and Costa Rica currently maintain embassies in Jerusalem. All other nations, including Canada, have regarded the city as disputed since 1967, when Israeli troops captured Arab East Jerusalem and reunited the city.

The group has undertaken a letter-writing campaign to local MPs, including Solicitor General Herb Gray, and then Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Ouellet.

It hopes national Jewish advocacy groups will come aboard to pressure Ottawa. The group has the blessing of the Canada-Israel Committee and BBYO.

But so far, the pressure seems to have had little effect.

Just after the U.S. Congress passed a bill last fall to move Washington's embassy by May 1999, Ouellet criticized the move as an "inappropriate" bid to influence Jerusalem's final status.

He said much the same thing in a December letter to CIPAC, saying it is important "to refrain from activities that would prejudge the outcome" of negotiations on Jerusalem. "I have therefore concluded that it would be inappropriate for Canada to take any action at this time to relocate our embassy to Jerusalem."

Talks on all land occupied by Israel in 1967, including Jerusalem, are slated to begin this May.

CIPAC chair Aaron Lazarus, a Grade 12 student at Vincent Massey High School, told *The CJN* his BBYO group was spurred to action following a visit to Israel last summer, when the teens befriended an employee of AIPAC, the mighty American Israel lobby.

"We thought if the United States could do it, why not Canada?" Lazarus said he's "discouraged that Ottawa seems to have made up its mind. But we'll keep trying."

Canadians are not unfamiliar with the sensitivities of moving their embassy in Israel. In 1979, then Tory leader Joe Clark promised to move the mission to Jerusalem, only to suspend plans as prime minister following an outcry from Arab groups. In what became a debacle, Clark backed down completely after a report from former Tory leader Robert Stanfield urged Canada not to move its embassy to Jerusalem.

But as the fledgling group says, optimistically, "We can get the embassy moved, one letter at a time."

CIPAC may be reached at 519-972-6635.

Cantorial concert set for Kelowna

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

KELOWNA, B.C. — Cantor Murray Nixon of Beth Israel Synagogue in Vancouver will be featured in a cantorial concert at the Kelowna Community Theatre on the evening of March 26.

The concert is under the sponsorship of the Okanagan Jewish Community (OJC) in cooperation with the Pacific region of the Jewish National Fund. Proceeds will aid the amphitheatre project to be built in Jerusalem by the Jewish National Fund as its gift to Jerusalem 3000.

The cantor will be accompanied by local pianist Kaye Patterson.

Honorary patrons of the event are longtime friends of the OJC and former Negev Dinner honorees, MLA Cliff Serwa and his wife Lois.

The program will include songs of Israel in Hebrew and Yiddish. Also on the program will be a short review of the current situation in Israel by Brig.-Gen. Itzchak Fuchs, the Jewish National Fund's *shaliach* in the region.

Tickets are now available from Mel Kotler and Larry Teale in Kelowna or any member of the OJC, as well as the Towne Ticket Centre.

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Scenario #2

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From coast to coast

Amir not representative of Bar-Ilan: Eckstein

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

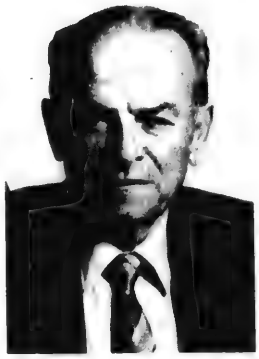
MONTREAL — Slowly but surely, the campus of Bar-Ilan University is returning to a semblance of normalcy, according to its outgoing president.

Prof. Shlomo Eckstein said in an interview with *The CJN*, that he has spent three nightmarish months defending his university against charges of being a hotbed for radical right activities.

"There was a definite search for a scapegoat, some of it malicious, by the media," says Eckstein, after it came out that Yitzhak Rabin's confessed assassin, Yigal Amir, was a Bar-Ilan law student.

Literally within hours of the assassination, recalled Eckstein during a recent visit to Montreal, hordes of media descended on Bar-Ilan. They churned out stories that portrayed the university — and especially its Institute for Advanced Torah Studies — as a centre for radical right thinking.

To Eckstein, such vilification was extremely painful since the 40-year-old Bar-Ilan's very foundations, ironically enough, were built upon the principle of the Orthodox and secular worlds coexisting in harmony and mutual tolerance.



Prof. Shlomo Eckstein

He noted that for this reason, Bar-Ilan has never allowed political party activity on campus. If a partisan political poster was discovered on campus, it was immediately removed. The Torah studies centre also does not allow political activities.

"But Yigal Amir could have been a student at any of Israel's universities," Eckstein said. "He just happened to go to Bar-Ilan."

In the days and weeks and months since the assassination and prior to his retirement as president, Eckstein said, his time has been spent trying to repair the damage done to the university's image and reputation.

First, the university, itself in a state of shock because a Bar-Ilan student murdered Rabin, immediately condemned the act in the strongest possible terms, stressing it went against every Jewish religious and Zionist principle the university was built upon.

The university then began organizing a series of seminars and symposiums on issues related to religious fanaticism and Jewish values, which have continued to this day.

Bar-Ilan, Eckstein said, will continue on this course. One idea is to implement a mandatory course in democracy for all students. Bar-Ilan also announced the establishment of a "mega-centre" in Rabin's name for the promotion of unity, democracy, and tolerance.

Asked if such a high number of activities might make it appear as if the university was reacting overly defensively to the accusations made against it, Eckstein did not dismiss the point.

But he insisted that concrete gestures were absolutely necessary in order to remind the world of what Bar-Ilan has always stood for.

Eckstein is firm in his belief that Bar-Ilan will not suffer permanent damage as a result of the negative publicity generated by the assassination.

Bar-Ilan, he said, was one of Israel's universities closest to Rabin's heart.

Exhibit honors Japanese envoy

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Hundreds of Vancouver residents are visiting the Holocaust Education Centre here to pay tribute to a Japanese diplomat who, by defying his government, saved the lives of more than 6,000 European Jews during the Holocaust.

A photographic exhibit tells the story of Chiune Sugihara and his family who, without Japan's authority, approved visas for Polish Jews fleeing Europe via Lithuania, just ahead of the Nazis.

Sugihara, who operated a one-man consulate in Kaunas in Soviet-occupied Lithuania, died in Japan in 1985, a disgraced man. He had been dismissed from the foreign service and was working in a warehouse.

But in a book about him by his wife, Yukiko, who encouraged him in saving the Jews, he is quoted as having said, "I may have disobeyed my government but if I didn't I would be disobeying God."

Through a complicated arrangement, Sugihara stamped exit visas for refugees who had been approved by the acting Dutch consul for entry into the Dutch Caribbean islands of Curacao and Surinam. The occupying Russians in Lithuania agreed to let the refugees out, as long as the Japanese approved, and thus Sugihara became involved.

All foreign consuls were kicked out of Lithuania by the Soviets and the last family to get Sugihara's stamp of approval included Nadia Kaplan, originally from Germany, who now lives in Vancouver. Her husband raced after Sugihara's car, which was just leaving Kaunas and managed to get his visa stamped to cover the whole family.

Another Vancouver resident, Susan Bluman, who was then 19, and her young husband, came to Vancouver thanks to the Japanese consul's help.

Sugihara was recognized by Yad Vashem in 1985 as a Righteous Gentile.

The exhibit, called Visas for Life, includes about 65 photos and artifacts from the Sugihara family collection. It was developed in San Francisco and has been seen so far in New York and Seattle. Vancouver is the first Canadian city to show it.

Frieda Miller, education coordinator of the Holocaust Centre, told *The CJN* the exhibit is helping cement relations between Vancouver's Japanese and Jewish communities.

The exhibit opened Jan. 15 and runs until March 29.

Yeshivah geared for women

MONTREAL — Normally, the head of an Orthodox yeshivah from Jerusalem coming to town to recruit students would not make news.

But this particular yeshivah was founded by a woman, caters to women and is taught by women.

Holly Pavlov, 46, founded the She'arim (Hebrew for gates) Yeshivah in Jerusalem only 16 months ago, and says it has spurred unusual interest for its unique, "holistic" approach to connecting Jewish women to their religion and to the Jewish texts.

While not the first yeshivah in Jerusalem to have female students — there are five in all, she said — Pavlov says that hers is the first to use the above approach and to hire an almost all-female staff.

The school's slogan is: Where educated women educate women.

"This yeshivah allows women to learn that they wield a certain intellectual and religious power and strength they might otherwise not know about," says Pavlov, who moved to Israel in 1983 with her husband from her native Silver Spring, Md.

While faithful to the Orthodox belief that women should play different — but not inferior — roles to men, Pavlov's yeshivah is patterned after men's in the sense that women study Chumash in pairs, a first for a yeshivah of its kind, she said.

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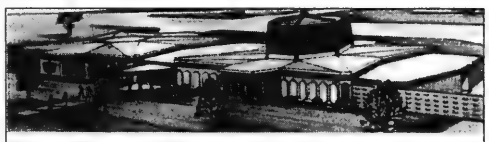

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From coast to coast

Torontonian trying to restore Warsaw cemetery

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Michael Horowitz, in a quest for his roots, has vowed to save a 182-year-old cemetery in Warsaw, Poland.

The Okopowa Street Jewish Cemetery lay in the shadow of the legendary Warsaw Ghetto.

"It's a miracle that the cemetery is still there," said Horowitz, 25, son of Bonnie and Harvey Horowitz of Toronto.

The 75-acre cemetery, which has 150,000 graves, is overrun with trees and parts of it are inaccessible. A solitary Jewish caretaker, Boleslaw Szenicer, 47, is doing his best to record the names which are still legible on the gravestones. Many of the monuments are cracked and weatherbeaten or have toppled over.

Despite this, Horowitz, a management consultant based in the Brussels office of Deloitte and Touche, is convinced that with updated technology and professional help — which he is willing to give — names of the Jews buried there can be rescued.

It was the Toronto man's interest in his own Polish forbearers — his grandparents come from Czestochowa and Ostrowiec — that led him to the Warsaw cemetery.

Michael Horowitz

An official tour in December of the small Jewish community in Warsaw and of the cemetery left him dissatisfied and he went back for a private talk with caretaker Szenicer.

Though he was not able to find any of his own relatives in the incomplete records, he became convinced that the cemetery can give up its secrets.

"All that's needed is a good data base and some restoration projects. We're not talking about an exorbitant amount of money," he told *The CJN*. "I'm going to see this project through."

Horowitz was also fired up by the caretaker's determination and quiet dedication. Szenicer's father, Pinkus, discovered the decrepit and abandoned cemetery in 1960 and volunteered to look after it. When Pinkus died in 1983, his son, then 31, gave up his job as a chef, along with any thoughts of emigration, and devoted himself to finishing his father's work.

The Warsaw Jewish community and other agencies provide about $10,000 a year for restoration and record-keeping, an amount Horowitz says falls far short of what is needed.

Only a small section of the large property has been cleared and only a few of its mausoleums have been restored. A large part of it is impenetrable, except in good weather. But the gravestones and their names are an irreplaceable part of Jewish history.

There are still a few Jewish burials at the Okopowa cemetery, although for many years it was in such a terrible state it was not used.

Szenicer said Jews still living in or near Warsaw have told him they hope he will still be there when they die.

The Warsaw cemetery

From his Brussels office, Horowitz intends to visit the Warsaw cemetery often and do what he can to update its record keeping.

For more information, contact his parents in Toronto at 416-489-8863.

Funding arguments presented

[Cont'd. from page 1]

and Freedoms; and that the Charter guarantee of freedom of religion requires the government to fund Jewish schools as well.

While the equality argument was his main line of attack, Morgan also argued that Jewish schools would be entitled to government funds even if Roman Catholic schools received nothing.

That was "an affirmative rights argument" that compared the funding situation to wheelchair access-ramps at public schools, he said.

Without those ramps, the disabled cannot use school facilities. Similarly, since the government requires parents to educate their children, it must also make that education accessible to all, he reasoned.

Morgan also addressed arguments advanced by government lawyers who suggested that funding would fragment the existing public school system and that these schools are needed to promote the values of tolerance and pluralism.

"Given that Roman Catholic schools get funding, [how do we] explain to children that it elevates pluralism and tolerance to fund only Catholic schools?" he asked.

Morgan concluded his submissions by calling for health support services for children in Jewish day schools. Those services should be considered health matters available to all and not an education service that's unavailable at Jewish schools, he argued.

For Susie Adler, who attended the day-long court hearing in Ottawa, the issue came down to one of morality and ethics.

"I feel very strongly about it," she said. "I don't understand why it's possible in other provinces [to fund Jewish schools] but it's impossible in Ontario."

Adler has two children attending Bialik Hebrew Day School in Toronto — Maya, 10, and Ilan, 6. Tuition for the two reaches about $14,000 per year. "So I have a vested interest in the outcome of the case," she said.

In fact, she is one of the five parents suing the province of Ontario and since hers is the first name on legal documents, the case is often referred to as "the Adler case."

She first got involved in the issue years ago by joining a parent support group that pushed for equal treatment for Jewish schools. Learning that Canadian Jewish Congress was preparing to launch a legal action, she agreed to lend her name to the effort.

Congress had been lobbying a variety of governments on the issue for decades, but all their arguments had fallen on deaf ears. After the SCC upheld the extension of funding to the upper grades of Catholic schools in the Bill 30 reference, Congress decided to take its case to the courts.

Moshe Ronen, chair of Congress' Ontario region, is "cautiously optimistic" about the outcome.

Ronen believes that the SCC's decision even to hear the case gives grounds for hope. Since the Supreme Court of Canada is not obliged to hear cases where the appellate court ruled unanimously (as is it did here against the parents), Ronen said he is heartened by their decision to do so.

A graduate of Toronto Hebrew Day Schools, Ronen said "the issue of funding is a high priority matter for our community and I made it a top priority for my administration."

The current situation imposes "a very harsh financial burden and there's no reason, when money is available for Roman Catholics and where government funds education, that we should not get funding," he said.

Looking ahead, Ronen said, "A political step is what we want, but experience shows us that politicians need a judicial firecracker to be applied to their rear ends.

"I'm hopeful there will be something in the written judgment that would allow Congress to go to the government and say, 'Here's a justification for acting.'

"Fairness and pluralism is what Canada is all about and we want politicians to see that," he added.

Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Preferred area of practice: Family Law
Author of Religion and Culture in Canadian Family Law

Are marital agreements becoming meaningless?

PART 1 OF 3

A recent minority decision of Madame Justice L'Heureux-Dubé of the Supreme Court of Canada has sent a significant chill down the spines of matrimonial lawyers.

These lawyers attempt to craft legally binding deals to settle spousal support claims or to draft marriage contracts that purport to limit spousal support or alimony rights. The finality of all such arrangements that presume to finalize forever spousal support or alimony claims has been called into question by Madame Justice L'Heureux-Dubé's decision in a case originating in Quebec named *B.(G.) v. G. (L.)*, which was released on September 21, 1995 with surprisingly little fanfare in the media. Her Lordship developed a fresh interpretation to amendments to Canada's Divorce Act, 1985, which stipulate that agreements which appear to specify alimony or spousal support payments (or extinguish them) in exchange for "full and final" releases in marital agreements may be ignored by the Court if the provisions for such support were not "fair." Such agreements are now to be treated by the courts as only one of several relevant considerations in a spousal support or alimony claim.

According to the language of the Divorce Act, the overriding considerations that dictate the Court's approach are the condition, means, needs and other circumstances of each spouse, including the length of cohabitation and their respective marital roles. Its orders should also recognize any economic advantages or disadvantages to the spouse arising from the marriage or its breakdown.

It should also relieve any economic hardship of the spouses arising from the breakdown of the marriage and promote, insofar as practicable, economic self-sufficiency. Note that none of these factors take precedence, not even a supposedly binding and final separation agreement or marriage contract or earlier court order that was supposed to prevent a spouse from asserting any further claims, notwithstanding any change in circumstances. Such an agreement is very relevant, but if the spouse is in need or the payer spouse (almost always the husband) is now enjoying more income, then the Court may no longer say: "Sorry, it may seem to be unfair. But a deal is a deal."

FEBRUARY 15 ISSUE: Legal limbo.

John Syrtash is a litigation lawyer with the Toronto firm of Kronis, Rotsztain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler. Mr. Syrtash's preferred area of practice is Civil Litigation and Family Law. Neither Mr. Syrtash nor the law firm of Kronis, Rotsztain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler nor B'nai Brith Canada is liable for any consequences that may arise from any party relying upon the information in this material. Mr. Syrtash can be reached at (416) 225-8750.

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From coast to coast

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She's no George Burns but Messer's still 100

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Like George Burns, Mary Messer celebrated her 100th birthday in January.

Unlike George Burns, she did not expect all the attention she got.

On Jan. 11, there were flowers and good wishes from her fellow residents at Shalom Village Nursing Home and visits from family and friends.

Mary Messer celebrates her 100th birthday.

In the evening, certificates were presented by Shalom Village chair, Leslie Lasky, on behalf of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien; Premier Mike Harris; Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario Henry Jackman; as well as Hamilton West MP Stan Keyes; MPP Lillian Ross; Mayor Bob Morrow and Regional Chairman Terry Cooke. A certificate also came from her native United States.

Certificates presented

The following Sunday afternoon at a party hosted by family and friends, she celebrated with her daughter Mary Lions of Toronto, granddaughters Janice Armenta and Sandy Clark, seven great-grandchildren and friends Lu Loucks and Ursula Beerman from Toronto, as well as residents and staff.

Born in Rochester, N.Y., Messer has been a resident of Hamilton for the past 72 years. She was widowed 18 years ago and continued living in her own apartment until the age of 97, when she moved into the nursing home.

A real homebody, is how her daughter describes her. Her mother was always a good cook and especially, she says, "a great baker. I still use all her recipes. They're the best." She also enjoyed bridge, gardening, caring for her houseplants, embroidery and needlepoint.

A member of Temple Anshe Sholom, Messer was actively involved in Deborah sisterhood and Hadassah-WIZO.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Jewish Contemporary Singles is now offering personal service. Let us introduce you to someone special. Call today! (416) 484-9733

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 910 members. Averaging an engagement every 7 1/2 wks. 416-398-7068.

Mark and Ari invite you to the **Valentine Bash**. Saturday, February 10, 1996, 9:00 p.m. at **Power Bar,** the new split level night club at 230 Adelaide Street West. Door Prizes. Pool tables and great D.J. Dance Music. Admission $12 Advance/at door. Advance ticket holders do not wait in line. Call TicketMaster 416-870-8000. **Mark Brodkin, Ari Huber hotline 416-733-1419.**

Metro Toronto Singles Presents **Saturday, Feb. 10,** 8 p.m. "Matchmaker, matchmaker, find me a match" at our **pre-Valentines Day Party** at the **Richmond Hill Country Club,** 8905 Bathurst St. N,, 1/4 mi. N. of Hwy 7, 1 entrance N of golf club entrance. Special guest: Yenta the Matchmaker to find your match at the party. (No charge for this service.) Cover $15. For info: 416-222-7111.

New Leadership of Beit Halochem (Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel) invites you to hear a leading expert on Middle East Affairs discuss *'Rabin's Israel; Three Months Later'*. **Sunday, Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m. Adath Israel Synagogue,** 37 Southbourne Ave., Toronto. Lecture to be followed by a Dessert Reception. Tickets $15. Call 488-7649.

WE MAKE HOUSE CALLS. Made In Heaven Introduction Service for Jewish singles 30 and up. For a free consultation call Duane and Ronda. 416-512-2994.

Why is everyone circling Thursday, March 21, 1996 on their calendar? Could it be the **3rd annual Jewish Bachelor and Silent Auction** for Anshei Minsk Synagogue? Call 416-410-5677 and see why tickets are selling so quickly!.

Chocolate Sunday draws record crowd

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — More than 6,000 visitors came to the fifth annual Hadassah Chocolate Sunday, which occupied two floors at the local Convention Centre.

Stephanie Gilbert, chair of the event, says it was the best attended Chocolate Sunday yet, noting that hundreds waited outside in a torrential rainfall to see the 50 exhibitors and demonstrators of how to make special chocolate dishes, and to fill up on samples.

Chocolate pasta, chocolate sculptures and a tower of chocolate-dipped strawberries were among the highlights. The huge sculptures, displayed first at the Empress Hotel and then moved to the Conference Centre, were called Sweet Message of Peace. They depicted the Torah with a dove of peace attached, a menorah and the Jerusalem 3000 logo.

The sculptures will be sent to Vancouver for the community's celebration of Jerusalem 3000.

Sculptors Laurent Lhuillier, Maarten Schaddellee and George Wagner used over 1,000 kilos of chocolate for their work.

A children's corner with a fish pond was a popular feature.

All proceeds of Chocolate Sunday, which is fully organized on a volunteer basis, will go to Hadassah-WIZO.

From coast to coast

Computer software caters to bridge fanatics

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There aren't many people who can successfully combine their pastime passion with their vocation, but Fred Gitelman is one of the lucky ones.

Gitelman has combined his knowledge of computers with his passion for bridge to come up with a lucrative business selling educational software programs.

The programs are found on diskettes that are plopped into computers to help both bridge fanatics and casual *coortin shpielers* (card players) sharpen their skills.

Working through his company, Bridge Base Incorporated, Gitelman devised a program designed for elite players. The program uses sophisticated mathematical formulae to determine possible card distributions in any number of dealt hands. The program helps top-level players solve problems that most weekend players wouldn't even realize existed, Gitelman said.

Since they were introduced in 1991, about 1,000 copies of the IBM-compatible diskettes have been sold at around $200 each. Gitelman marketed them through mail order and through companies that specialize in bridge-related products, and he sold them at tournaments, he said.

Realizing elite players constituted a very limited market, Gitelman decided to develop something more appropriate for the masses of weekend kitchen table bridge players.

The result of his efforts is *Bridge Master*, a computer program that helps improve the games of players of any level. Since its release in late 1992, about 7,000 copies have been sold, with about half going to European customers — the world's really hot bridge market, he said.

Featuring exceptional graphics, hundreds of possible hands to learn from and detailed explanations about the consequences of your play, *Bridge Master* received rave reviews from bridge mavens when it was released.

For Gitelman, that response from his peers — and subsequent sales of the product — was a valuable return on his investment. Coupled with his participation in tournaments around the world, Gitelman has turned bridge into a full-time career.

Now 30, he began his ascent up the bridge ladder during his high school years when friends enticed him into his first game.

"They thought I'd be good at it since I was good with computers," he said.

Attracted to bridge's problem-solving dimension, Gitelman took to it like a Webcrawler to the internet.

"I've worked very hard at it. I've done nothing else for the last 13 years, immersing myself in it," he said.

It even affected his education. Though he breezed through computer courses at York Mills Collegiate, studying computer science at the University of Toronto was a different story. "By that time I was pretty obsessed with bridge. I was cutting classes to play and to enter tournaments."

As a result, his marks were nothing to write home about and much of his knowledge of computers is self-taught.

After leaving university, he found a job with a software company where he worked for about three years. His girlfriend, Sheri Wine, suggested they go into business for themselves and write their own software programs for bridge.

Gitelman quit his job and borrowed $10,000 from his grandfather, while Wine put in some of her own money. For the next six months, Gitelman worked at devising the specialized program for expert players.

He also kept up his tournament play. Over the years, he developed contacts in the lofty regions of the bridge elite and was invited to join other top players in tournaments.

Playing with better players has helped him improve his game and he believes his desire to learn from the best has stood him in good stead.

"For many, bridge is an ego-driven game and a lot of people don't want to admit that they're wrong, so they don't get better. I went out of my way to solicit opinions from top players," he said.

Recently, he was part of a seven-man Canadian team that won a silver medal at the world championships in Beijing, China.

He frequently gets offers to play for prize money in U.S. tournaments, with one L.A. bridge aficionado offering him $1,000 (US) per day to team with him.

"I play for two weeks a year doing that, though I could spend 50 weeks a year doing it," he said. The going rate is closer to $400 (US) per day than $1,000, he added.

Money can be an important part of a formula for tournament success in bridge, Gitelman said. One wealthy U.S. amateur sponsored five top players to be his teammates for the chance of winning a world title. The strategy worked for that particular amateur, though most sponsors aren't good enough to hold up their end of team play, he said.

When he's not busy globetrotting the world (in 1995 he played in tournaments in Iceland, Holland, India, Denmark and China), Gitelman is making plans for his next computer venture.

He plans to develop a CD-ROM (a compact disc for computers) containing better graphics, visuals and sound effects than are found on diskettes. He's also considering going "online" (on international computer networks) to teach bridge seminars to subscribers.

And he's interested in writing a bridge column so that he can correct the annoying mistakes he says he regularly spots in newspaper features.

ZAMLER

Robert Goldenberg, of Fort Erie, Ont., is the regional zamler (book collector) for National Yiddish Book Centre in Amherst, Mass. He and his wife, Penina, have zamler on their license plate. They pick up in Toronto and points beyond. Phone (905) 871-1098.

For the people who helped me —
I'm Back!
Thanks for your prayers.
Howard Rocket

CAMP KADIMAH DIRECTOR REQUIRED
The Jewish Community Centre of Hamilton-Wentworth and area is hiring a Director for its highly successful Camp Kadimah summer day camp. Applicants may apply directly to the Administrator of the Jewish Community Centre. Applicants should possess the following:

•Experience in camp management •Knowledge of Jewish holidays and traditions •Outgoing and fun personality •Ability to work closely with peers, campers and the community •Good managerial, organizational and communication skills

Please send your resumé, c/o The Administrator, to the Jewish Community Centre, P.O. Box 7258, Ancaster, Ont. L9G 3N6 by no later than February 29, 1996.

HOLD THIS DATE:
The Gerald Schwartz/Heather Riesman Lecture Series at Holy Blossom Temple
presents as its next speaker:
Rabbi David Hartman
Prominent author and lecturer, widely respected observer of the mix of politics and religion in Israel, Director of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem
Tuesday, April 23, 8 p.m.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 1, is deadline for Feb. 15 issue and Thursday, Feb. 8, is deadline for Feb. 22 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Sunday, Feb. 4

JEWISH HEROES, HEROISM

Rabbi Mordechai Becher, senior lecturer, Ohr Somayach, speaks on Jewish Heroes and Jewish Heroism, as part of ongoing Scholar Series, 8 p.m. Kehillat Shaarei Torah. 229-2600.

SOVIET IMMIGRATION

Congregation Habonim breakfast meeting features **Perry Romberg**, Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, speaking on Soviet Immigration — Changing Trend, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. (Bathurst-Glencairn). Breakfast and lecture $6.

HALACHAH & TRADITION

First Narayever Congregation adult education, 187 Brunswick Ave., presents **Rabbi Mark Dratch** speaking on Halachah and Tradition: An Orthodox Perspective, 10 a.m. Series continues Sunday, March 10, with **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl** discussing Halachah and Tradition: A Conservative Perspective.

PNAI MEETING

At the PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) meeting, the Israeli video *Skating in the Sand* (in English) will be shown, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Visitors welcome. 783-7872.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m. All welcome to listen or tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Monday, Feb. 5

TU B'SHVAT SEDER

Rouhama Danto and **Barbara Schneider** focus on the significance of Tu b'Shvat, 7:30 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, sponsored by the sisterhood. Tu b'Shvat special refreshments. Members $2, nonmembers $3.

Thursday, Feb. 8

ISRAELI SINGER

Israel Educational and Cultural Institute presents Israeli singer **Yehoram Gaon** 8 p.m., Minkler Auditorium, 1750 Finch Ave. E. $30, $40, $50. 905-770-4720.

And What Else Is New...

JSF ISRAEL WEEK

Join Israel Week, held by Jewish Student Federation at York Lanes, York University, through Feb. 1, with Israeli representatives and speakers, Israeli dancing, activities and food. 736-5178.

AISH HATORAH

The Nature of Things: Environment, Ecology and the Beauty of Creation, Monday, Feb. 5, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

Go Where No Man Has Gone Before, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamensky**, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 8 p.m., Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Daytime Men's Learning: Lessons in Ethical Living, an examination of the text *Ethics of the Sages*, every Thursday, 9:30-11 a.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill.

GREEK SURVIVORS

Generation to Generation, Children of Holocaust Survivors (subcommittee), is seeking Holocaust survivors of Greek descent who were rescued by non-Jewish Greeks. **Linda** 534-2515, leave message.

YARCHEI KALLAH

National Conference of Synagogue Youth is sponsoring the unique learning program, Yarchei Kallah, March 14-17 at Toronto's Ramada Meadowvale. 782-4426.

DINNER DRAW

This year's annual Dinner Draw, at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation Thursday, April 25, will be cochaired by **Dave Anisman, Jack**

[Cont'd. on page 27]

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Sun. 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., MON. - WED. 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., THURS. 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., FRI. 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., SAT. 8:00 A.M. - 10 P.M. KOSHER Area Closed FRI. 2:30 P.M. & SATURDAY. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

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Rainbow Trout Fillets Fresh! 16.51 kg 7.49 lb.

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Rokeach Soups Ready to Serve, Assorted Varieties 10.5 oz. tin 1.29

Apple Pie Fresh Baked 600 g 2.99

Green Peppers Sweet, Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade, 2.64 kg 1.29 lb.

Prices effective until closing Saturday, Feb. 3, 1996. at CLARK & HILDA FOOD CITY, 441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

Schwartz and **Henry Zieleniec.** Proceeds go to Jerusalem College of Technology and Bet-El Educational Centre. Grand prize is $5,000 donated by Anisman, second prize is a trip for two to Israel. Tickets are $150. To order, **Noreen Azoulay** 787-7565.

GAY, LESBIAN STUDENTS

Coalition of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Students weekly peer support group meets Tuesdays 6 p.m., Bloor JCC. Confidentiality guaranteed. Meetings facilitated by a social worker from Jewish Family & Child Service. 925-9872, ext. 2114 or **Pearl** at JSF 736-5178. Sponsored by Jewish Campus Services of Toronto.

CLUB BEERSHEBA

This is a good time to get involved with Club Beersheba Na'amat. Now in its 41st year, the group is raising funds for a new Women's Shelter and Counselling Centre in Tel Aviv and also helps support nursery schools and high school training facilities in Israel. Meetings also offer speakers, discussions and socializing. **Judith Ross**, immediate past president, 491-8913, or Na'amat 635-5425.

CHAPLAINCY SERVICES

Chaplaincy Services of Jewish Family & Child Service encourages your involvement in the services offered the community. Chaplaincy volunteers make a real difference! **Toby Maskowitz**, coordinator, Chaplaincy Services, 638-7800, ext. 287.

DEAD SEA SCROLLS

Public lectures on Scrolls, Scholars and Scandals by **Prof. Lawrence Schiffman** of New York University, the first Shoshana Shier Distinguished Visiting Professor in Jewish Studies — The Dead Sea Scrolls: Sectarianism and Schism in Ancient Israel, Wednesday, Feb. 7; The Dead Sea Scrolls: The Rise of Christianity and the Jewish Revolts, Wednesday, Feb. 14. All lectures 8 p.m., Arthur Kruger Hall, Woodsworth College, 119 St. George St., University of Toronto.

SEPARATION & DIVORCE

Jewish Family & Child Service separation and divorce workshops. Registration/information, **Elinor Gertner**, 905-882-2331.

How to Develop an Effective Parenting Plan, **Dr. Howard Irving**, Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7 p.m., 4600 Bathurst St.

Spousal and Child Support, **Fran Weisberg**, Wednesday, Feb. 28, 7 p.m., 4600 Bathurst St.

KOFFLER GALLERY

Opening at the Koffler and Loggia Galleries Thursday, Feb. 1, are exhibitions by two Toronto artists: *Faith*, a large-scale minimalist sculpture by **Lynn Campbell** and inflatable sculptures by **Max Streicher**. Premiere evening features opening remarks and refreshments. Exhibitions run to March 3. 636-2144.

ISRAEL AFTER RABIN

Canada-Israel Committee and Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev lecture series with **Prof. David Newman**, Ben-Gurion U —

Unity or Division: What Is the Outlook for Israeli Society? Thursday, Feb. 8, 8 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

What is the Future of Religious Zionism?, Sunday, Feb. 11, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

Where Is the Peace Process Heading?, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m., Holy BLossom Temple.

KLEZMER BAND

Toronto Klezmer Band, under musical direction of **Rick Kardonne**, features Prague-born singer **Lenka Lichtenberg** and former Ukraine National Symphony trumpeter **Slavo Chakahnievitch** at North York Winter Carnival, North York Civic Centre Memorial Auditorium, Sunday, Feb. 11, 10 a.m.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Step-Parenting begins Feb. 13; Adult Children Losing a Parent, begins Feb. 5; For Women Only (stress management, self-esteem, relationships) daytime, begins Feb. 5. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

For Seniors

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. Feb. 8 is a Tu b'Shvat celebration with musician **Yitzhak Argaman**, refreshments. Members $1, non-members $2. 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club trips: Tulip Time Festival, Ottawa May 14, 15, 16, with seven kosher meals, touring, entertainment, is filling up quickly; Homowack Hotel in the Catskills Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hotel in Israel **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Good Age Club at Bloor JCC presents **Moishe Oysher** in *The Cantor's Son* (1937) in Yiddish with subtitles, Thursday, Feb. 8, 2 p.m. Members $1, non-members $2. **Judy** 924-6211.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: dance to live band, Sunday, Feb. 4, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; Purim Party, Tuesday, March 5, 1-4 p.m., Community Centre; Buffalo, March 14; Atlantic City April 22. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Registration for the winter semester courses offered by the Centre and North York Board of Education takes place the week of Feb. 12. Winter session continues until April 26, a total of 10 weeks. **Norma Steiner** or **Bookie Kwart**.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre health lecture series presents Healthy Cooking with dietician/nutritionist **Sharon Zeiler**, Tuesdays, Feb. 6 and 27, 1:30 p.m. Register with **Sandra** at Wellness Desk.

Low Vision Support Group meets Tuesday, Feb. 6, 1-3 p.m.

Valentine Luncheon Wednesday, Feb. 14, noon, with Songs of Love by **Piter May** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**. Members $8. Concert 1:30 p.m., members $2, non-members $8. Tickets at Information Desk.

If you have a family member, friend or neighbor who is interested in finding out more about the centre, call **Helen Issenberg**. Service is provided in English, Yiddish, Hebrew.

Book Club, **Mike Kilpatrick** continues as North York Board of Education program leader Tuesdays 1-3 p.m., Feb. 13-April 30.

Sunday evening dances Feb. 11 and 18 have been cancelled. Sunday dances will resume in May.

Movie *Shower of Stars*, Sunday, Feb. 4, 2:30 p.m.

Afternoon of song, Wednesday, Feb. 7, 1:30 p.m. with **Rita Maslov**.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays for movies, lectures, sing-alongs, dances. **Anna**.

at the JCC/BJC

BJC Fitness and Recreation Department will design a program to help you lose weight, tone-up, redefine or increase muscle size. 636-1880, ext. 291.

Spring brochure for Institute for Jewish Learning now available. 636-1880, ext. 352.

At the BJC, Summer Fun, a co-op program for children 12-30 months, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:15-11:15 a.m. General Store for children 12-24 months and parent/care giver Wednesday mornings. 636-1880, ext. 248.

Stress-free children's birthday parties at the BJC. Plan parties now for February, March and April. 636-1880, ext. 248.

BONDS DINNER-DANCE

Pictured at the Raoul Wallenberg Yorkdale Lodge B'nai Brith dinner-dance at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue for State of Israel Bonds honoring Mary and Wilfred Shiff, (from left) Michael Rosenberg, dinner co-chair; Wilfred and Mary Shiff, honorees; Alex Grossman, chairman of the board, Canada Israel Securities Inc.; Genia Grossman; and Ralph Snow, dinner co-chair.

GROUPS MEET

Representatives of the Jewish community and the Anglican Diocese of Toronto get together for a breakfast meeting in the Lipa Green Building. Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC), and Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto have just completed a round of talks with a number of religious and ethnocultural groups regarding provincial budget cuts. Seated (from left) Anne Keating, director, Anglican Community Ministries; Morris Zbar, director, Community Planning and Allocations, Federation; and Rev. Maylanne Whittal, Committee on the Permanent Diaconte. Standing (from left) Rabbi Dow Marmur, Congress; the Very Rev. Douglas Stoute, dean, St. James Cathedral; Terry McCullum, director, Anglican House; Gerry Richler, Social Planning, Federation; Manuel Prutschi, CJC Ontario region executive director; Rev. Brian Prideaux, rector, St. John the Baptist-Norway, and Harold Brief, CJC vice-chair. [Stephen Epstein photo]

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Ethiopian olim, police clash at PM's office

By BILL HUTMAN and BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Thousands of Ethiopian immigrants clashed with police outside the Prime Minister's Office Sunday, in one of the most violent demonstrations Jerusalem has seen in recent years. More than 70 people were hurt.

Police used tear gas, rubber bullets and stun grenades to break up the protest. One demonstrator was seriously wounded, after apparently being clubbed in the head by a police officer. A police officer was wounded in the eye by a stone.

The other wounded were reported suffering from only minor injuries, mostly tear gas inhalation. About half the wounded were police officers. Five demonstrators were detained, but released by the end of the day-long protest.

"Today the anger, built up from all the years of being lied to and expected to remain quiet, is being expressed," said Addisu Messala, head of the Unified Ethiopian Immigrants' Organization.

The protest was sparked by last week's revelation that the country's blood banks discard most blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants, because members of this community are 50 times more likely to be HIV carriers than other Israelis.

Protesters threw stones and bottles, beat police officers with umbrellas and vandalized parked cars.

At one point, the stone-and bottle-throwing forced many police officers to run for cover inside the Prime Minister's Office compound, as did the tear gas that turned on them with the wind.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres agreed to meet with Messala and other community leaders during a lull in the protest, and accepted their demand to set up a commission of inquiry to look into the immigrants' complaints.

Peres also issued an apology on behalf of the entire government for the slight to the community caused by the blood policy. But he also criticized the immigrants for the violence displayed during the demonstration.

The Prime Minister's Office, a multi-storied building surrounded by a fence, was under siege for most of the day by a crowd of demonstrators police estimated at between 8,000 and 10,000.

Border police stood atop the building and a police helicopter flew over the crowd. A water cannon and mounted police quickly proved useless in breaking up the protest.

"Stop the racism against black Jews," and "We are not viruses; we are black humans," were among the signs held by the protesters.

"I want the blood I donated over the last three years back," said Gideon Getahu, 25, of Karmiel. Getahu carried a club, that he said he would use to defend himself against police.

Another protester, his face covered with an Ethiopian flag, chanted: "Stop the racism," as he marched around holding a Magen David Adom blood donor's card in his hand.

Progress in talks reported

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Israel and Syria made some progress on normalization and economic matters in their last round of talks in Maryland, but there was no breakthrough, Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday.

U.S. Middle East peace coordinator Dennis Ross met at his home for seven hours with the Israeli and Syrian delegation heads, ForeignMinistry Director-General Uri Savir and Ambassador Walid Mualem last Sunday.

No specific information on the session was available at press time.

"There is progress. It is still not a breakthrough. We have not solved all the problems. It's always a matter of definition," Peres told Channel 1.

"It is correct that on the issue of normalization there is progress, on the economics issue there is progress," he said. "On the issue of security arrangements, talks have begun."

[Cont'd. on page 32]

The right to serve

Orit Toubol, pictured right, won the right to join the Israeli army recently after the IDF rejected her three times because she is only four-feet two-inches tall. Israeli women do two years of mandatory service. [Reuter]

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CJN Purim Art Contest

It's time again for our second annual Purim Art Contest. We are asking students in elementary schools to submit drawings of the pageantry and the drama of the story of Purim.

Who can enter: Children from grades 1 to 6 inclusive are eligible. The children of *CJN* employees are not eligible.

Prizes: The judges will choose one drawing from two different contestants in each grade. These "winning" drawings will be published in *The CJN* Purim issue. In addition, each of the 12 children whose drawings have been selected will receive a prize worth $25.00.

How to enter: You may submit as many drawings as you want. However they should not be smaller than 5 by 7 inches. Please paint, draw, or color bright, colorful, evocative art. You can draw on any paper you wish, but keep in mind we are looking for pictures which will show bright colors well. You may use markers, crayons, paint or pencils. And you can even give them a title.

Please send us your name, address, phone number, school and grade along with your drawings.

You may mail or deliver your drawings to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3A1. If you want us to return the pictures to you, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5:00 pm on Monday, Feb.19, 1996.

We will undoubtedly receive many wonderful submissions from children all across the country. But only 12 of the drawings will be chosen for publication. The judges will base their decision on a number of factors such as: the use of color, the imaginative quality of the drawing, and the way it tells part of the story of Purim. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and quality of submissions received.

How the Winner will be announced: The children whose pictures are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of Shabbat on Friday, Feb. 23, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning pictures will be published in *The CJN* of Feb. 29, 1996. Have fun and good luck.

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Palestinian council faces big challenges

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

With the euphoria of the Jan. 20 Palestinian elections receding, Yasser Arafat faces the enormous challenge of building a democratic, economically viable Palestinian entity in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

The task falls to Arafat because he is not only the leader of the PLO and head of the Palestine National Authority (PNA), but president of the 88-member self-governing council.

The Palestinian exercise in nation building is fraught with ambiguity and tension because the Palestinians and the Israeli government have fundamentally clashing interpretations of the Oslo peace accords.

For the Palestinians, the ultimate goal is a full-fledged Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with East Jerusalem as its capital. For Israel, however, Palestinian self-determination is not synonymous with statehood.

As important as it is in the long run, this issue will be temporarily shelved as the Palestinians try to come to grips with the crushing day-to-day burdens facing them in the wake of last month's elections.

The Palestinian economy tops Arafat's agenda. By design and neglect, it is in a shambles and too reliant on Israel.

There is little in the way of industry, production is insignificant and the unemployment rate is catastrophically high — between 30 percent and 50 percent.

The Palestinians want to build a productive, technologically advanced free market economy. To do this, they will need massive support from local entrepreneurs, the Palestinian Diaspora, Arab regimes and the international community.

At a donors' conference shortly after the 1993 Declaration of Principles was signed in Washington, foreign sponsors, spearheaded by the United States, pledged $2.5 billion over a five-year period.

Due to a number of difficulties, notably the PNA's patchy accounting procedures, the donors did not disburse the allotment expected by the PNA.

But with the PNA having improved its methods, the donor nations convened again last month and promised the Palestinians $850 million for the 1996 fiscal year, bringing to $1.3 billion the funds committed to the PNA since 1993.

Israel supports the infusions, since they bolster the PNA and, by definition, the peace process. That is why Israel itself has channelled funds to the PNA.

With a self-governing Palestinian council now in place, the question is whether the PNA can build a functioning democracy characterized by a respect for the rule of law, an independent judiciary, a tolerance of political diversity and a free press.

The outlook is not bright, given Arafat's penchant for arriving at unilateral decisions, his track record in the territories and the makeup of the self-governing Palestinian council.

Arafat has been chair of the PLO since 1969 and has run it in an autocratic style despite its democratic trappings. Democracy is not deeply rooted in the Arab world and Arafat has acted accordingly.

Since Arafat took up residence in Gaza in July 1994 to oversee the affairs of the PNA, he has come under sometimes sharp criticism for violations of human rights.

Human rights violations

Reports issued by Amnesty International, the U.S. State Department and B'Tselem (an Israeli civil rights organization) have accused the PNA of torturing and killing prisoners and of making arbitrary political arrests. Arafat himself has been criticized for his tight personal control over appointments and his failure to establish the mechanisms of democratic government.

The intimidation of opponents is also a cause for concern. Last August, a vocal political science professor who claims that Arafat is a dictator was shot and wounded in Nablus, an event ascribed to Arafat's secret police.

Furthermore, Arafat has exhibited little tolerance for human rights activists. Last December, Iyad Sarraj — director of the Independent Palestinian Commission for Citizens' Rights — was briefly detained without explanation. Last month, Bassm Eid — a B'Tselem official — was also arrested, then released.

In addition, Arafat has arbitrarily closed three Palestinian newspapers for various periods of time.

During the election campaign for the self-governing Palestinian council, charges flew thick and fast that the PNA had engaged in irregularities and gerrymandering.

And now that the council is packed with pro-Arafat Fatah members, there is a sense of unease that it will be little more than a rubber stamp for Arafat's decrees.

Jan. 22

• Israel Eldad, an underground leader in pre-state Israel and for years the ideological guide of the right, died at the age of 86.

Eldad immigrated to Palestine in 1941 and, along with Yitzhak Shamir, led Lehi, also known as the Stern Gang, the most militant of the underground groups fighting for independence.

• Justice Minister David Liba'i said that if Israel releases Palestinian prisoners guilty of killing or injuring Jews, he will consider President Ezer Weizman's suggestion to release Jews guilty of killing Arabs as well.

Jan. 23

• Former Supreme Court president Meir Shamgar, who now heads the commission probing the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, was co-awarded the prestigious Israel Prize for lifetime achievement to the state.

Also named a winner was Father Marcel Dubois, a former philosophy professor at Hebrew University.

Jan. 24

• Israel must apologize to the Palestinians for its behavior toward them throughout history, in the same way Germany apologized to Israel for persecuting Jews in Europe, said senior Palestinian Authority official Afif Sa'afia.

• About 60 Kiryat Arba residents gathered to tell the media and two Meretz MKs that the security situation on the roads has made their lives unbearable and that they expect the government to help move them across the Green Line now.

The widely publicized event was organized by Peace Now.

Jan. 25

• Speaking from Damascus, Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said he wants to live under Palestinian rule and that violence is legitimate "until the end of occupation."

Jan. 26

• Four Palestinian gunmen were killed in clashes with the IDF in Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Arafat hesitates to change PLO covenant

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"The train will stop," Peres said of the peace process. The final-status negotiations are slated to begin in May.

Among the offending clauses of the 1964 Palestinian covenant are:

- Armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine.
- The establishment of Israel is fundamentally null and void.
- Zionism is "a racist and fanatical movement in its formation; aggressive, expansionist and colonialist in its aims."

Failure to revoke or amend the accords could also lead to an end to U.S. aid to the Palestinians.

In Washington, a congressional aide responded to Arafat's remarks, saying, "This Congress will not approve aid to the PLO if the covenant is not changed. It's that simple."

The United States has committed $500 million to the Palestinians over five years, but that aid is contingent on legislation known as the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act, which expires at the end of March.

According to the accords, the amendment of the charter must occur no later than two months after the inauguration of the new Palestinian government.

But Arafat sees it differently.

He said that in 1988 and in 1991, the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament in exile, passed declarations that obviated the need to change the covenant.

The 1988 declaration affirmed Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism, and in 1991, "we agreed to attend the Madrid peace conference. There is no need to confirm again what has already been confirmed," Arafat said.

Sitting in a cushioned chair in the official reception room at his Gaza headquarters, he tapped his feet impatiently when the issue was pursued.

It seemed beside the point that he had promised in a September 1993 letter to Yitzhak Rabin that the offending passages in the Palestinian Covenant would be revoked.

Instead, he talked of actions already taken by the PNC, maintaining that they had de facto and de jure – by force of fact and law – implied their acceptance of Israel's right to exist.

"What we have to do is approve the Oslo II accord," he said, referring to the agreement signed last September in Washington to extend West Bank autonomy.

This, too, he maintained, would reflect official Palestinian acceptance of the Jewish state.

Arafat has given mixed signals in recent years about his intentions on the covenant.

He often has referred to the clause as inoperative or *caduc* (the French word for null and void), when trying to justify why revocation is unnecessary.

In his 1993 letter of mutual recognition to Rabin, Arafat reiterated this but went further.

He said the "articles of the Palestinian covenant which deny Israel's right to exist" are "inoperative and no longer valid."

Consequently, the [Palestine Liberation Organization] undertakes to submit to the Palestinian National Council (PNC) the "necessary changes" for formal approval.

Last October in New York, he told a gathering of American Jews that he would definitely convene the PNC after the Palestinian elections to repeal the clause, if Israel would let all the members of the council enter the territories to vote.

Peres has said he would allow all members of the PNC into the autonomous areas to vote on abrogating the anti-Israel clauses of the charter.

On the future of Jerusalem, the eastern portion of which Arafat has repeatedly claimed as the capital of a future Palestinian state, Arafat confirmed a report that Israeli and Palestinian academics have been meeting to study the issue.

The talks could prove enormously significant. Similar discussions held in Oslo between academic specialists of the two sides paved the way to the historic 1993 Declaration of Principles that laid out the framework for what became the first step in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Indeed, the significance of Jerusalem to Arafat could be seen in the decor of his reception room. Directly behind his chair is an oblong photograph of the Old City, with the Dome of the Rock looming large in the foreground.

Asked whether he had any vision of a preliminary framework that might settle the Jerusalem question to the satisfaction of both sides, Arafat referred to the Rome-Vatican model he has often spoken of before.

"The details have to be discussed," he said, but he was hopeful that answers could be found.

The interview with Arafat took place in the context of a meeting between him and the director for interreligious affairs of the Latin American Jewish Congress.

Brazilian-based Rabbi Henry Sobel presented him with a sculpted dove of peace on the occasion of the Palestinian elections.

Israel wants PNC to alter document

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Peres said it did not matter whether Hawatmeh stayed in Damascus, where he is based, or came to the self-rule areas.

However, in a statement to reporters in Damascus, Hawatmeh said he wanted to return, but not under the conditions set by Israel.

"We are ready, leadership and members, to return home. But that should not be under the conditions set by Peres," he said.

Israeli officials have made clear their expectation that the PNC will be convened to take action to amend or abrogate the covenant, and have cautioned that the peace process will be stopped if the PNC fails to do so.

Israel Radio, quoting Palestinian sources, said contacts were already under way in preparation for the permanent-status negotiations scheduled to begin in May.

On the agenda of these talks will be some of the most difficult issues that have yet to be resolved, including the status of Jerusalem, Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, borders and the political status of the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, Peres said that in the permanent arrangement, Israel would insist that Ma'aleh Adumim, a Jewish city in the West Bank near Jerusalem, remain under Israeli law.

Peres said he would follow the policy set by his predecessor, the late Yitzhak Rabin, on the matter.

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Amir's lawyer angers judge

By RAINE MARCUS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Money from the United States intended to help fund Yigal Amir's defence is being blocked by the government here, Amir's lawyer, Jonathan Ray Goldberg, told Tel Aviv District Court Sunday.

As during previous hearings, Goldberg succeeded in incurring the wrath of Judge Edmond Levy for his apparent inability to defend his client.

"I have spent sleepless nights going over the evidence," shouted Levy.

"I don't understand why you are not well-versed in the evidence."

However, after much badgering, Levy agreed to consider financing expert defence witnesses, as long as Goldberg filed a formal request.

Scores of other objections raised during the hearing were repeatedly turned down by Levy, who eventually lost his patience and suggested that Goldberg be tried by the Israel Bar Association's disciplinary committee for "scandalous violation of ethics." He also threatened to charge him with court costs.

Amir's second lawyer, Mordechai Offri, officially resigned from the case Sunday.

"I took on this case on two conditions," said Offri. "The first was that the family would pay for all my expenses, which they haven't done. So far I have paid out of my own pocket for everything and haven't received a cent from them."

The second condition, said Offri, was that he would have the final say in how to conduct the defence.

Since the two lawyers' lines of defence did not correspond, Offri decided to quit.

"However I am convinced that Yigal did not mean to kill [Yitzhak] Rabin," he concluded.

Witnesses put on the stand by prosecutor Penina Guy did not agree, and described Amir's "calm state of mind" and his admissions that he intended to murder Rabin.

The prosecution is expected to bring its last witnesses Monday, including Rabin's bodyguard Yoram Rubin, who was wounded by Amir.

The first witness, Chief Supt. Mordechai Naftali, head of Hayarkon sub-district's investigations division, where Amir was first taken after his arrest, described his shock at Amir's reaction when he told him that Rabin was dead.

"He said that he had arrived at the square to execute the prime minister," said Naftali.

At this point, he added, Amir did not know of Rabin's death.

"Then I got a phone call from the sub-district commander [Ya'acov Shoval] who said: 'He was apparently successful.'

"I decided to get a confession, which he [Amir] dictated to me, and then tell him the premier was dead."

"When I told him, he did not move from his chair. 'Is he dead?' he asked.

" 'Yes,' I replied.

" 'In that case I have done my part,' replied Amir," said Naftali.

Hussein backs Arafat on capital

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Jordan's King Hussein expressed support for an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Hussein made the comment while speaking to reporters Sunday at Amman Airport, where he saw off Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who had been on a visit to Jordan.

During his stay in Jordan, Arafat met with members of the Palestine National Council, the parliament in exile, to discuss the Jan. 20 elections in which Arafat won nearly 90 percent of the vote to become the elected head of the Palestinian self-rule areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Jordan now has custodianship over Islamic holy sites in eastern Jerusalem.

Hussein has already said he would be willing to discuss that role once Israel and the Palestinians negotiate the final status of Jerusalem. Permanent-status talks between Israel and the Palestinians are set to begin in May.

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Progress reported

[Cont'd. from page 29]

He refused to elaborate.

But he said time was short — given that both Israel and the United States are to hold elections in the fall — and the work ahead long.

"I am a partner [to the idea] that there is a contradiction between the shortness of time and the seriousness and depth of the problems," Peres said.

Because of the wide gaps between the sides, the government is holding out little hope for real progress during Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to the region next week.

In Washington, it is already accepted that if there is no real progress in the next few weeks, the talks will be put on the back burner. But contacts, if not negotiations, between the sides will be maintained until after the U.S. and Israeli elections, to prevent any regression from what has already been achieved.

At Sunday's cabinet meeting, the ministers heard the second part of a report from the IDF Intelligence Branch. No information was relayed to the media about its contents.

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Lufthansa

Yiddishe mama captures 'man's soul' in paintings

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Israeli painter Ahuva Elisha (Huvy is her professional name) believes that her life is a miracle and that G-d assists her with what she creates.

Her faith has given her the inner strength to cope with and overcome the hardships she has faced.

On a recent visit to Israel, while strolling through Meah Shearim Toronto Rabbi Henry Hoschander and his wife Bea spotted an unframed painting in a store window.

"It was so vibrant and compeling that we felt an urgent need to inquire about the artist and the history of the painting," Bea Hoschander says.

"Her native talent and, of greater consequence, the genuineness of this petite middle-aged Yiddishe mama fascinated us," explains Bea. "We purchased several of her paintings and on our visits we gained an insight into what makes Huvy tick."

She was born in the Bucharian quarter of Jerusalem and at the age of six moved with her family to Vienna and then to Prague. In 1937, they settled in London, England, where she attended school.

Encouraged by her teachers, Huvy studied painting, sculpting and modelling at the St. Martin School in Charing Cross.

She was married with two sons when she returned with her family to Israel.

After she fell down a flight of stairs, her hands and neck became paralyzed and she suffered great pain. Because she was unable to paint, she became depressed, but found comfort in the Breslower chassidic movement.

Referring to the miracles in her life, she told the Hoschanders she believes G-d has a way of making things right. Her younger son had moved away from Yiddishkeit, but shortly after he completed his army service and returned home, Huvy woke up one morning and found her paralysis and pain were gone.

She was preparing to go tell her husband the good news, when her son appeared at her bedroom door in tallit and tefillin and told her he had just finished praying for her.

Huvy resolved to dedicate her life and talent to mitzvot and *ma'asim tovim* (good deeds), and whatever G-d gave her to do, she would accept it with love.

Huvy told the Hoschanders she believes her success comes from the fact that she doesn't paint bodies, but tries to capture man's soul on paper and canvas.

Rabbi Hoschander says her painting is "so vivid that the viewer actually feels and does not simply see the scenes."

Huvy has received acclaim for both her oil and water color paintings, which are exhibited at galleries in London, England, and in Israel at the Plaza and Hilton hotels in Jerusalem and at the Great Synagogue of Jerusalem.

Plans are underway for Huvy's paintings to be exhibited in Toronto and New York.

Ahuva Elisha's paintings are on exhibit in England and Israel.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Found Treasures: Published in Canada in late 1994, the compelling short story anthology *Found Treasures: Stories By Yiddish Women Writers* has sold more than 5,000 copies and has thus attained the status of a Canadian bestseller.

The book has gone into a second printing and, according to co-editor Frieda Forman of Toronto, has been picked up as an alternate selection by the hugely influential U.S.-based Book-of-the-Month Club. Over a period of five years, Forman and co-editor Ethel Raicus examined hundreds of Yiddish manuscripts in archives and private collections before choosing the two dozen "found treasures" that make up the anthology.

The book is used in university courses across North America and has received favorable reviews as far away as Germany, says Forman. "It's an astonishing response and one that fills us with great joy," she says.

In her 37-page introduction, American feminist and yiddishist Irena Klepfisz points out that women writers of Yiddish had been largely overlooked in a literary field that has been traditionally dominated by three great patriarchs – Mendele Mokher Seforim, Yitzhak Leibush Peretz, and Shalom Aleichem. As an example, Klepfisz cites *A Treasury of Yiddish Stories*, the best-selling 1954 anthology by Irving Howe and Eliezer Greenberg, which features 25 stories, all by men.

The editors and translators responsible for *Found Treasures* have brought new and long overdue attention to 18 women writers of Yiddish. Published by Second Story Press of Toronto, *Found Treasures* lives fully up to its name. It is available for $19.95 in many bookstores.

* * *

Cosmopolitan Connections: Ex-Torontonian Bonnie Hurowitz Fuller, former editor of the Maclean-Hunter fashion mag *Flare*, will be the next editor of *Cosmopolitan*, replacing the long-standing Helen Gurley Brown in the top post of America's largest and most influential woman's magazine.

Like myself, Hurowitz Fuller is a scion of the large, multi-branched Rubinoff family of Toronto (previously Belarus).

* * *

Free Klezmer Performance: The Toronto Klezmer Band under the musical direction of Rick Kardonne, featuring Prague-born singer Lenka Lictenberg and former Ukraine National Symphony trumpeter Slavo Chakhnievitch, is set to give a free two-hour concert at the North York Winter Carnival, in the Memorial Auditorium at the North York Civic Centre, Sunday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m.

* * *

Freedom to Read Week: In support of Freedom to Read Week, the Harbourfront Reading Series is offering an evening recognizing authors whose writings have been or are currently banned in Canada. Among those scheduled to read from banned or challenged works are Nobel Laureate and University of Toronto professor John C. Polanyi, TV impresario Moses Znaimer, broadcaster Jay Ingram, visual artists Joanne Tod, and former CSIS director Ron Atkey.

Admission $8. Tuesday Feb. 27, 8 p.m., Brigantine Room, York Quay Centre, Harbourfront, Toronto. 416-973-4000.

* * *

Mothers and Daughters Wanted: Veteran TV producer-directors Maureen Judge and Janis Lundman are developing an hour-long documentary for TVO about the highly-charged mother- daughter relationship as seen during the planning, execution and final stages of weddings.

"No matter what their age, women can talk for hours on the subject of their mothers and/or daughters," says Judge. "We felt the all-encompassing atmosphere of a wedding is the ideal place to capture the secrets and silences that mothers and daughters live with, and reveal those shared moments of anger, compassion, humor and love."

Expressive mother and daughter pairs who are planning a traditional wedding or something a little bit different are needed for this project. It doesn't matter which one is planning to be the bride. 416-504-3960.

* * *

In Brief: If today is Jan. 31, there's still time to catch Brian Katz's solo concert tonight at Mezzetta Cafe, 681 St. Clair Ave. W., Toronto. The noted guitarist-composer is presenting two sets (9:15 & 10:30 p.m.) of original modern jazz compositions, jazz standards and compositions inspired by Jewish themes. Reservations, 416-658-5687.

Markham architectural firm looks to China for projects

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

MARKHAM — In 1991, when construction in Canada hit an alarming low, Markham-based Petroff Partnership Architects (PPA) began to look to China.

PPA partner David Kwok, who was born in Hong Kong, had heard that the Chinese government was planning to redevelop a 20-block parcel in the Pudong suburb of Shanghai to create a multi-purpose complex merging eastern life styles with western know-how.

PPA's proposal was accepted and the firm was commissioned to design four of seven buildings slated for the initial stage.

There were adjustments — learning to work with the Chinese government as an associate, and adapting to different building codes and other requirements.

Senior partner Henry Petroff, a University of Toronto alumnus, started studying Mandarin.

With the design completed, construction, which was the purview of the Chinese, began in 1994.

Since then, PPA has expanded its presence in Shanghai and other parts of the country.

Last year, the Chinese government sponsored an international design competition for a major renovation that would transform an eight-storey 61-year-old warehouse into a mammoth state-of-the-art shopping centre. "And we won!" Petroff exclaims.

The outstanding design, he says, is the concept of the firm's Michaela Weiner, who was able to preserve the integrity of the building's Art Deco facade while creating a sympathetic architectural ambience in the atrium which had been opened up through implosion of the core.

Almost everyone at PPA except Weiner doubted that sufficiently skilled craftsmen could be found to execute the fine detailing and accomplish the metamorphosis within the time frame set by the owners,

[Cont'd. on page 35]

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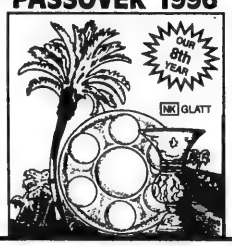

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TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

For Jewish travellers especially, some very fresh breezes are blowing across Spain.

More than 500 years after the Jewish expulsion, municipal officials in six Spanish cities have begun to work together to rehabilitate their country's long-forgotten Jewish heritage. One is the Catalonian city of Girona, situated about 80 kilometres northeast of Barcelona, between the Pyrenees Mountains and the Mediterranean Sea.

"You must realize that in Spain, that part of our history was not told for many years," said Assumpcio Hosta, who is contributing to a Jewish revival in Girona, where the Jewish presence dates from the ninth century, if not earlier. "Generations have grown up without any awareness of the Jewish past. Now we're trying to fill that gap."

According to Hosta, many Spaniards have become increasingly interested in Spain's Jewish and Muslim past, just as she herself first became intrigued by these exotic elements of her country's history about a decade ago.

"Ten years ago, it was not the same as today. Now many cities are hosting congresses in Jewish history, which would have been totally impossible even five years ago. Things have become more open. You can find classes of Hebrew and Jewish cooking, for example, in many cities."

Hosta, who recently visited Toronto, is director of an ambitious project in Girona called the Bonastruc Ca Porta Centre, which occupies a complex of restored 13th-century buildings in the Jewish quarter. The centre is the home of two institutes – the Catalan Museum of Jewish Culture, and the Nachmanides Institute for Sephardic and Kabbalistic Studies. The latter is named after Girona's famous 13th-century kabbalist-scholar, also known as R. Moses ben Nachman or the Ramban.

Over the past decade, workers have reclaimed and restored much of Girona's medieval Jewish quarter, a labyrinthine maze of ancient arcades, archways courtyards and passages locally referred to as the Call – the word derives from *kahal*, the Hebrew word for community. Additional elements are being uncovered all the time. As part of the Bonastruc Ca Porta Centre, planners intend to build a bookstore, a vegetarian restaurant and a lecture hall that will resound with concerts of Sephardi music and exhibitions, lectures and international symposiums on Jewish history, metaphysics and theology.

As well, the hunt has already begun for rare Hebrew manuscripts for the research library, in keeping with Girona's one-time predominance as a centre of Jewish mysticism or kabbalah. Besides the writings of the Ramban, works would include the commentaries of Ezra ben Solomon on the Song of Songs, the treatises of Ariel of Girona on Prayer, and many other important treatises conceived by the local circle of Jewish mystics. According to scholar Gershom Scholem, the "kabbalists of Girona were a group of epochal importance ... [who] stepped into the light of the history of religions undisguised and in full force."

Although the project involves Jewish heritage, Jews are not involved in planning to any great extent, Hosta acknowledged, for a simple reason; after the expulsion, the Jews never returned in sizeable numbers to Spain. Today, the country has fewer than 20,000 Jews out of a total population of about 40 million people.

"Whatever we do, we're doing from a non-Jewish point of view," she said. "This is not being directed by Jews. We're trying to focus on the common memory that we have together – not just the Jewish past, but the collective history of the Jews, Muslims and Christians who once lived together in harmony."

Organized itineraries and a rich assortment of tourist literature are available. For details, contact the Tourist Office of Spain in Toronto, 416-961-3131. Or write to the Friends of Girona Museum and Institute, 419 E. 57th St., Suite 10-B, New York, N.Y. 10022 (phone 212-715-1588).

Girona, Spain: Houses along the Onar river.

Architectural firm wins China design competition

[Cont'd. from page 34]

the Municipal office of Finance and Trade.

"To our amazement," says Petroff, "the project came in beautifully fabricated and on schedule."

The dazzling, skylighted, 36,000-square-metre Donghai Commercial Plaza with its shopping, restaurant, entertainment and office levels plus roof garden and underground parking, opened to considerable fanfare in June 1995. The site on Nanjing Road East is comparable to Toronto's Queen's Quay.

Donghai, according to the newspaper *Shanghai Star*, caters mainly to wage earners, but also sells luxury goods to meet diversified demands.

PPA is now looking to projects in Putuo (Shanghai), Beijing, Suzhou and Guangzhou.

Locally, in North York, Boigon Petroff Shepherd Architects (a division of PPA), in joint venture with A. J. Diamond, Donald Schmitt and Company, is designing the new Jewish Home for the Aged at the Baycrest Centre on Bathurst Street. Construction is expected to begin this year.

Heart attack claims Lennick

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ben Lennick, one of Toronto's best known Jewish actors, died suddenly of a heart attack on Jan. 22. He was 77.

His long and successful career took him from the Theatre of Action in the 1940s to appearances with Wayne and Shuster on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, to CBC-TV. Along the way he acted, directed and produced plays at different theatres in Toronto. He was one of the few thespians in these parts who knew Yiddish theatre first hand.

This spring, he was scheduled to produce and direct *Three Viewings* at the Ford Centre Studio Theatre with his wife, Sylvia, also a well-known actor, and their daughter Julie in the cast.

Lennick's gravelly voice and skepticism were trademarks of *At Home With The Lennicks*, which ran on CBC radio in the '50s.

In addition to his wife and daughter, he is survived by two sons, radio producer David, and TV producer Michael.

Funeral services were held Jan. 25 at Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel, with burial at Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park.

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Business Profile

JVS program helps entrepreneurs get their start

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Richard and Tina Adler's swim school is a success story as refreshing as, well, an early-morning dip in the pool.

Not only have the 30-something couple made a go — and then some — of Swim Swim Swim, but Richard's transformation from employee to entrepreneur in difficult economic times has made him a role model for unemployment insurance (UI) recipients in the business training program that helped give him his start.

With a second pool about to open, the Adlers, who also run birthday parties at their small-but-cheerful Mississauga location, have come a long way from the days when they ran the business from their dining room and shlepped flutter boards and toys to rented hotel pools.

Three years ago, Richard was laid off after a 10-year career in retail management. The company for which he worked had downsized; it eventually went out of business.

While on unemployment insurance, Adler entered Jewish Vocational Service's Start Smart program, an intensive nine-week course for UI recipients funded by Human Resources Development Canada.

Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) is one of six Toronto agencies to offer the program. Each agency serves a different area of the city. Start Smart is the moniker chosen by JVS, which serves North York, but the official title of the country-wide initiative is the Self Employment Assistance (SEA) program.

"I think the government feels this is the way to go," said Kay Saunders, a longtime JVS employee and the Start Smart co-ordinator. "Growth in the economy has often been with small business. Many of [our] clients have been in the position where they're hiring. It's the big companies that are downsizing."

Last week, 23 new clients — men and women of various ages and backgrounds — attended their first session with business trainer Eileen MacIsaac. Each student had to be referred by Employment Canada; each had to submit a business proposal and undergo an interview before being accepted into the program, which runs four times yearly.

"They have to show us that their skills match what they want to do," said Saunders. "We're looking for a feeling that this person can carry out what they say they're going to do."

Tina and Richard Adler teach a young student to swim. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

A business idea has to be viable, she stressed. A person without the money (or the wherewithal to get enough money) to turn an idea into reality won't be encouraged.

For every budding entrepreneur who enters the program, three others have been sent by Employment Canada as potential participants. Some decide the program isn't for them. Of those who stick with it and submit a proposal, about half are selected.

The success rate has been high, said Saunders. Twenty-five of the 33 students (almost 76 percent) who graduated from the first class are still in business three years later. (More typically, over 60 percent of businesses fail in the first five years, MacIsaac notes.)

"We expect that 100 percent of you are going to be successful," MacIsaac said last week. "We expect that you will work very hard at your businesses."

Although participants are required to put in only 30 hours a week to continue to qualify for unemployment benefits, MacIsaac made it clear she expects them to put in much more time.

To help get their fledgling businesses off the ground, the government provides UI for a full year and the program matches clients with mentors to provide advice and serve as sounding boards. Follow-up includes networking with other graduates of the program.

Suzanne Topp, 29, a graduate of the fall session, turned to her business counsellor for feedback before making her first presentation at a large company. "I was prepared," she said of the successful result. The one-on-one counselling is particularly helpful, she noted, because it enables each new business owner to focus on addressing his or her unique concerns.

An actuary by training, Topp has parlayed her hobby of organizing sporting events for her co-workers into a business called Time Out! Limited. She now organizes events for corporate clients as well as for the Jewish community. A new volleyball league begins at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre Feb. 4.

Although Topp's business is one of the newer ones, she is already providing employment to volleyball officials and an assistant on an occasional basis.

Moldovan-born Mark Chkolnik, 36, was in Topp's Start Smart group. A clothing manufacturer before immigrating five years ago, he applied himself to learning English and getting Canadian work experience, first at Danbury Sales, a large-scale liquidation company, and later as a Russia-based business representative for a Canadian exporting company.

When the latter enterprise, like so many others, implemented cutbacks, Chkolnik lost his job and went on unemployment insurance. With business contacts and related experience, he was anxious to start his own business buying and selling end-of-line merchandise.

"To be independent is the best," he says. He found the course particularly useful in imparting necessary background information on banking and Canadian business law.

Now the proprietor of MCH Enterprises, Chkolnik buys a variety of items (wallpaper rolls, for example) below cost, and either resells them to retail clearance centres or dollar stores, or exports them to Eastern Europe.

He began the business with his own savings. "It's not very expensive to start," he said. The profit on any one lot enables him to make a more substantial purchase the next time, thus generating a larger profit, he explained. "I see a future [in this business]."

If Chkolnik doesn't have enough capital to buy a particular lot himself, he'll buy in partnership, he said.

Richard Adler also knows the importance of being flexible. Although he initially planned to go into retailing, he decided during his time at Start Smart to concentrate his efforts on the swim school, a project his wife had begun and one with which he was already helping out.

"Don't be afraid to take risks," said Adler when he returned to Start Smart to address graduating students as an invited guest. "I would never work for anyone else again."

Suzanne Topp

Mark Chkolnik

Kay Saunders

Eileen MacIsaac

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Chicago winger relies on hard work, physical play

Steve Dubinsky adds enthusiasm to Blackhawks lineup

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Steve Dubinsky is an admitted late bloomer.

Back in his minor hockey days playing in Montreal's north shore, he didn't exactly tear up the league.

When he skated for Pierrefonds in Quebec's Tier II junior hockey loop, nobody seemed to notice his play and he wasn't signed by any major junior hockey team.

So at age 19, the native of Dollard-des-Ormeaux (a Montreal suburb) packed his hockey bag and headed to Clarkson University in the NCAA's East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC), where he asked for a tryout.

Dubinsky, a six-foot, 190-pound banger and crasher, impressed the Clarkson coaches and played his way onto the team. Eventually he impressed some NHL scouts as well, and Chicago made him their ninth choice, 226th overall in the 1990 entry draft.

Since then, Dubinsky, 25, has clawed and scratched his way into the Blackhawk lineup, relying on his gritty, in-your-face style of play to keep him playing in "The Show."

"Growing up, I was never really a high profile player. I worked hard and got my share of goals. I just peaked late, in college, and that has helped me a lot," he said.

Last week, with the Hawks visiting Toronto on "Kirk Muller night," Dubinsky saw only limited action but managed to register an assist as he took a hit to make a nifty drop pass to Joe Murphy at the Leafs' blueline. The Hawks winger set up Brent Sutter for their first goal.

The helper boosted Dubinsky's point total to a grand total of four (1 goal, 3 assists in 17 games), but he readily acknowledges that turning on the red light is not how he's made it to the NHL.

"They want me to be a physical player, work hard and show some enthusiasm," he said.

Dubinsky's numbers all through college point to the fact that he's no stranger to collecting points.

In his best year, 1991-92, he scored 20 goals and added 31 assists in 32 games (almost a full season). In the pros, it's been a slightly different story.

In 1993-94, his first season in Chicago, he got into only 27 games and scored two goals and six assists. He also spent 16 minutes in the sin bin.

Most of that season was spent with the Indianapolis Ice, the Hawks' International Hockey League (IHL or I) affiliate, where he notched 40 points in 54 games.

Last year, in the NHL's abbreviated season, he got into only 16 games and got no points. In the I, however, he scored 16 goals and 11 assists in 62 games.

"In the IHL, I do everything," he said following a recent Hawks practice at Maple Leaf Gardens. "I kill penalties and take a regular shift."

Like many other third and fourth line forwards, Dubinsky has been hurt by the "televisation" of hockey, in which game action is repeatedly stopped and players skate to the bench to wait until commercials finish running. The stoppages mean high profile, star players get frequent rest breaks and coaches re-insert them into games more readily than if there was a continual flow of action.

That in turn, means less ice time for the likes of Dubinsky and his regular linemates, Jeff Shantz and Jim Cummins.

In the Leaf game last week, Dubinsky got only a couple of shifts in each of the first two periods, and didn't see the ice at all in the third in what was for a lengthy stretch, a tight 2-1 Blackhawk lead. Toronto scored late in the game for a tie.

"I'm more likely to see ice time when the team has a two or three goal lead," Dubinsky said.

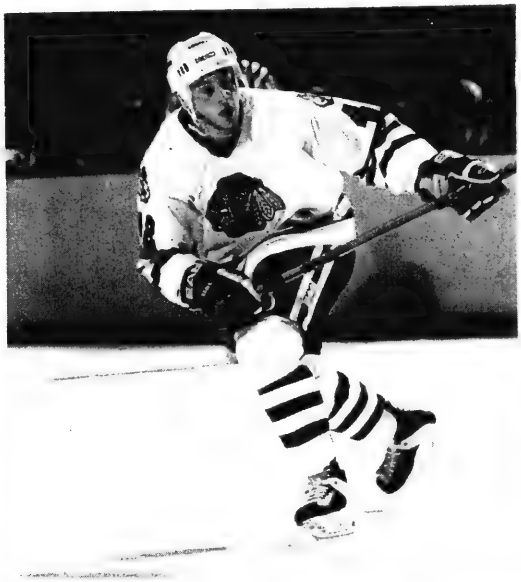
Still and all, he's not complaining. It's not many Tier II/U.S. college players who make it to the NHL. And in the three years he's been in the league, he feels he's improved his game and is playing with more confidence.

When all is said and done and his pro hockey career is over, Dubinsky would like to get involved in advertising and marketing, his favorite subjects at Clarkson while studying for a BSc in management.

Back then, "I didn't think I'd be in the NHL," and he made education a top priority, he said.

His parents, Gerry and Janice, who now live in Outremont, encouraged him to get a degree. Growing up in Dollard, he attended Congregation Beth Tikvah Hebrew school.

Dubinsky is married to a fellow Montrealer, Sheryl Lieber. The two now make Chicago their year-round home.



Forward Steve Dubinsky is one of Chicago's agitators, bringing his "in-your-face" style to the Blackhawks lineup. [Slapshot photo]

Nemirovsky tearing up OHL

Since we last reported on him in our Jan. 4 issue, Florida Panthers prospect David Nemirovsky has been tearing up the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), the province's major junior circuit.

He's collected nine goals and 10 assists in eight games playing with Sarnia Sting. He was recently named OHL player of the week after scoring six goals and four assists in one seven-day period.

Prior to playing for Sarnia, his junior rights were held by the Ottawa 67s, but, on being returned to junior by the Panthers, he refused to report to the nation's capital. Eventually his rights were traded to the Sting.

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Health news

Monitor provides a lifeline for cardiac clients

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Not too long ago, an Israeli newspaper reported on the near tragic story of a visitor to Paris.

The visitor had a history of cardiac problems and had obtained a special heart monitoring device from a hi-tech Israeli company. Feeling poorly while on vacation, she telephoned a number in Israel, placed the CardioBeeper device on her chest and it transmitted her electro-cardiogram (ECG) to an office in Israel.

Shortly after the transmissions began she collapsed due to a heart attack. However, the Israeli attendants, knowing where she was, telephoned the hotel operator, explained the situation to them and had them order an ambulance for the visitor. Her life was saved.

That's an extreme example of the sort of scenario that the CardioBeeper is meant to address, said Iris Kowen, manager of operations for Every Minute Counts Inc. (EMC), a Toronto-based company that has been marketing the device in Eastern Canada since July.

Developed in Israel by Shahal Medical Services, the CardioBeeper is slightly bigger than a walkman and has a strap attached to it containing 12 "leads," or electronic pads. When placed on a client's bare chest, the pads take a dozen readings of the heartbeat and the device transmits the information over regular telephone lines to monitors in the EMC offices, she said.

There, nurses who work in hospital cardiac intensive care units view the readings on computer screens and compare them to baseline readings taken earlier from the client.

Iris Kowen sits at the monitoring device that receives ECG transmissions from the CardioBeeper. [Paul Lungen photo]

Based on a comparison of those readings and by discussing the symptoms with the client, they determine whether that person should go to hospital, Kowen said.

Two cardiologists are on call and can be consulted at any hour, she added.

Should a client be in distress, the nurses summon an ambulance and fax the client's readings and medical history to the hospital emergency room, giving doctors a head start in determining the person's condition.

The idea behind the product — and hence the company name — is one of early detection, Kowen said. Often, people may feel discomfort if not outright pain but discount it as indigestion or some other malady. On average, people wait two to three hours before calling for help and in that time, the heart muscle can suffer serious damage.

With the CardioBeeper, problems can be detected early. "The earlier you can get to a hospital, the earlier you can get the proper drug treatment to dissolve a clot and prevent damage to the heart muscle," she said.

"We don't prevent a heart attack, but we reduce the damage it can do."

Alternatively, the nurses who speak to clients can reassure them that they are not suffering a heart attack and do not need to visit an emergency ward, taking a load off the overburdened medical system and sparing a client a five or six hour emergency room wait before being told they should go home.

Recently, one client called the service late one night during a weekend, said Ellis Kowen, Iris' husband and president of the company. With a heart rate of about 200, she was sent to hospital. By the time she got there it had returned to normal but the ECG and other medical history provided by the service enabled the doctors to adjust her medication, he said.

The product has proven a success in Israel where about 40,000 subscribers have obtained it, Iris said. That client base was built in only eight years and Kowen hopes the growth in Canada will be similar.

The CardioBeeper, which was developed in a joint venture between Shahal and an American inventor, can be purchased outright for about $800 or leased to purchase over 18 months. In addition, the client pays a monthly fee of between $29 and $39 for the monitoring service.

"The goal is to make it affordable, so there are payment plans," she said.

Kowen said the company expects to eventually market another portable device that allows patients to take their blood pressure at home.

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480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
500 TUTORING
505 TYPING/WORD PROCESSING
510 UPHOLSTERY/CARPETS
515 WATERPROOFING
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING

The Canadian Jewish News classifieds really work!!

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill

Real Estate Inc. Realtor

488-2875 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

RARE OPPORTUNITY, ROSEDALE RAVINE
Exceptional 5BR, total $M reno! M. Gherson* 488-2875

FOREST HILL TUDOR PERFECTION
Highest quality reno! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

51 PARKWOOD HILL — NEW HOME SOLD
Superb lower village 4+1 BR! Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

FOREST HILL RD! $1,225,000
4 Bdrm, 6 bths, totally reno'd! Janice Fox** 488-2875

ENCHANTING GEORGIAN/LOWER VILLAGE
$995,000 Fab loc, centre hall! D. Wagman* 488-2875

REDUCED CLOSE TO $300,000 SINCE
First listed, $795,000. Ravine 6 BR's! D. Wagman* 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE OPPORTUNITY 4 BDRMS
$739,000 Needs your attn, won't last! D. Wagman* 488-2875

LUXURY & DETAIL $750,000
4 Bdrm stunning new home! Janice Fox** 488-2875

BEST STREET! BEST BLOCK! AVE/LAWR
Fab custom blt 3,160 s.f. 4 BR's! F. Sversky** 488-2875

LAWRENCE/AVENUE RD — CUSTOM HOME
Prime street $689K, F. Sversky**/B. Singer** 488-2875

TUDOR/STONE HOME — BATHURST/EGLINT
Custom home, 3,250 sq. ft. F. Sversky**/B. Singer** 488-2875

UPPER FOREST HILL! BATHURST/EGLINT
$675K, spectac new home, 3,099 s.f.! F. Sversky** 488-2875

REDUCED OVER 20K, UPPER VILLAGE
Reno'd 4 bdrm, 4 baths, extras! Reesa Sud* 488-2875

FOREST HILL! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON $625K
2,232 S.F. Custom blt home! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

FAB STREET UPPER VILLAGE GEM!
Reno'd kit, 4 bdrms, 4 bths, Reesa Sud* 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS QUIET STREET
Enormous rooms, large deck! B. Singer** 488-2875

10 YR NEW HOME! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON
Fab 3 bdrm, fin bsmt, hrdwd firs! F. Sversky** 488-2875

CLASSIC STONE & TUDOR CHAPLIN 3 BDRM
$385,000. Large rms & gdn, priv drl L. Levine* 226-1987

ATTN BUILDERS! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON
Fab lot! Surrounded by fab homes! F. Sversky** 488-2875

JUST LISTED! UPPER FOREST HILL
Spectacular renovated home! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

THE BRIDLEPATH — 2 ACRES PRIME LOT
Ranch bung, 5 BR, 5 bths! Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

BAYVIEW/16TH — 5,500 SQ. FT. LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrm, fin bsmt! F. Sversky** 488-2875

WILLOWDALE/FINCH $315,000 FABULOUS
Det 4 bdrm+sun rm, dbl gar! Nancy Davar* 226-1987

JUST LISTED! ELGIN MILLS/BATHURST
Lovely 4 bdrm fam home! F. Sversky** 488-2875

BATH/WILSON MINT COND!! 3 BDRM
Bung, fin bsmt apt! Lrg eat-in kit! L. Stoneman* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

BATHURST/ELM RIDGE $2,500/MO
1-2 Yr lease, 3 BR+den, 2,200 s.f.! Lillian Cooper* 488-2875

71 SIMCOE ST 2 BDRM 1,500 S.F. $279K
Heart of theatre district! Susan Smith* 488-2875

WHO NEEDS FLORIDA? CHECK OUT THIS
Cozy & warm 2 bdrm, 2 bath condo! S. Gruenstein* 226-1987

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/SHEPPARD
For lease, immac 3 bdrm condo! F. Sversky** 488-2875

WEST PROPERTIES

PRICED TO SELL! BRAMALEA/COLLEGEWAY SOLD
Immac, 3 bdrm. Huge deck! 10++ F. Sversky** 488-2875

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

RUTH HALPERIN

RE/MAX Ultimate Realty Inc.

(416) 487-5131 (24 hour pager)

#1 AGENT FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW!

at Re/Max Ultimate Realty Inc.

As we move into 1996, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of my clients, family and friends a very happy and healthy new year, and extend my thanks for your continued support and trust in my abilities to assist in your real estate decisions. Your loyalty, referrals and confidence have helped me to maintain the honor of

#1 AGENT at RE/MAX Ultimate for 1995

and to rank among the Top 100 in Canada, as well as earning back-to-back Platinum Club status, Re/Max's highest award for annual sales achievement.

It is especially fulfilling doing work that I love and I look forward to seeing you all in the months to come.

Thank You,

Ruth Halperin

ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

BATHURST & CENTRE FROM $599,000
2 Breathtaking custom homes! 4+5 bdrms, about 4,000 sq. ft., magnificent cast iron staircase, jacuzzi, built-ins & much more! Call *Allen Sidofsky

DEMAND STREET IN THE HEART OF NORTH YORK
Gorgeous 3 bdrm bungalow on a tranquil ravine lot, finished basement. Call now! *The Rosenzweigs

NEW "WILSHIRE" IN-FILL SITE!
Buy an inexpensive home on a luxurious street! Small enclave of 40' lots, from $300,000 to $535,000 *Michael Millstone

"WILSHIRE" MINI MANSION
With mini price! Gigantic 3,845 sq. ft. 5 bdrms, well appointed and priced at $399,900. *Michael Millstone

ARNOLD & CLARK — PRIME BUILDING LOTS!
From $349,900 - $549,900 lot sizes 100 x 180 & 100 x 300 plans available. Call *Allen Sidofsky

FABULOUS THORNHILL VALUE!
York Hill & Hilda 2,500 sq. ft., great lower level, new bleached kitchen, ceramics, solid core doors, original owner, great house & priced at only $339,000. *Michael Millstone

BATHURST-CLARK — ON A QUIET COURT!
Large 4 bdrm, fin. bsmt, dble garage, air, appls ++ *T. Waxman

BATHURST VILLAGE ON PREMIUM LOT!
Large 3+1 bdrm sidesplit, fin. bsmt, dble garage, alarm, central air. Call *Ted Waxman

BATHURST MANOR
Large 3 bdrm, fin. bsmt w/separate entrance, ensuite, air, double garage +++ $249,900 *Ted Waxman

"SPRING FARM" $219,900 — $278,900
Fantastic 3 bdrm home on large lot, features appliances, ceramics, finished basement & more! *Allen Sidofsky

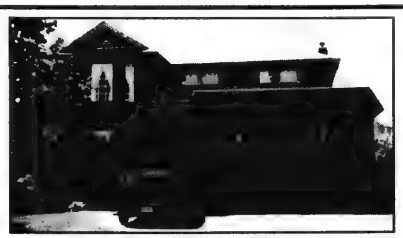
CONDOMINIUMS

TOWNHOME WITH "HOMES & GARDENS" DECOR!
Stunning 3 bdrm, fully upgraded, a must to see! Great for first time buyers. Call *The Rosenzweigs

BATHURST-STEELES "THE COURTLAND" $139,900
About 1,500', 2 bdrms, balcony, locker, air +++ *Ted Waxman

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200



GREEN LANE AND LESLIE

IMMEDIATE POSSESION – $359,000

Make an offer on this 3,000 square foot 4 bedroom executive home. Superbly maintained with hardwood, ceramics, skylight, huge ensuite, soaring foyer, extra wide interlock driveway, professionally landscaped.

***Call:* MARJORIE BUTLER *or* ELIZABETH MACKAY**
Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd. (905) 889-9330

HARVEY KALLES

(416) 441-2888 (416) 441-2888

-REAL ESTATE LIMITED-

NORTH

TUDOR CASTLE ON POST RD.
2 Acs. of lushly landscaped grounds, oak floors, leaded windows, exquisite finishes. $3,490K. **Elise Kalles****.

COTTINGHAM
1st ad! $725,000. Detached, fully reno. 3 storey, fin. bsmt. Fam. rm. Double car gar. CAC. **Samantha Graff***.

CENTRE/ATKINSON ROSE GREEN
$529K red. Top, top St., 3700', exec. home on golf course! Move-in cond., very large rooms. **A. Carmona***.

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS RENO. BUNG.
$388,000. Owen PS, totally reno., new everything! Gorgeous gdn. & new pool, walk to sbwy. **A. Carmona***.

CENTRAL

FOREST HILL MANSION! $6,000,000.
Spectacular contemporary w/indoor/outdoor pool, tennis crt. & breathtaking gardens. **Elise Kalles****.

FOREST HILL VILLAGE! $3,800,000.
Elegant details found in this 13,000 sq. ft. mansion. 7 bdrms., 13 baths, indr. pool, 100' x 220' lot! **E. Kalles****.

BATHURST/GLENGROVE — REDUCED
Now $569K. Cust. built, 5 yrs. new, 5 bdrms., 5 baths, mn. flr. den, fam. rm., marble ent., fin. l/level. **H. Hillman****.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE GEM! $339K!
Outstanding reno.! 3 + 1 bdrms. Main. fam. o/l's 70' x 119' + l/G pool! **G. Kerbel*/S. Schwartzben****.

BATHURST/GLENCAIRN! WOW! $309K!
Vendor says sell! Exec. 3 + 2 bdrms., 3 baths, prestige cul-de-sac! 50' x 133'! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

692 WOBURN AVE! NOW $269,900!
Reduced for immed. sale! Mint 2 + 1 bdrms., 2 baths, fin. bsmt. 40' x 120'! Best block. **Sandon Schwartzben****.

1ST AD! NEW FOREST HILL CONDO!
$268,800! Smashing 2 bdrms., 2 baths. Rare fam. rm. + den! l/D pool + 24 hr. concierge. **Sandon Schwartzben****.

LAWRENCE/OTTER CRESCENT!
$239K! Unbelievable! Ra SOLD rms., 3 baths! Priv. treed + fenced lot! Won't last! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

CRANBROOKE E./AVENUE! NOW $235K!
Won't last! Total reno.! 2 + 1 bdrms., gourmet kit. New bath, fin. bsmt. **Sandon Schwartzben****.

BATHURST/WILSON! NOW $187K!
Best buy! 3 + 1 bdrms., SOLD mint cond. Move right in! Fab. 40' x 128'! A 10++! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

NEW REDUCTION! $182,900.
Gorgeous condo., 3 yrs. new! Was model! 1,366 sq. ft., 2 bdrms., eat-in kit., Eglinton/Avenue Rd. **T. Farb***.

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker*

Cindy USKO

Sales Representative
Gold Star Award

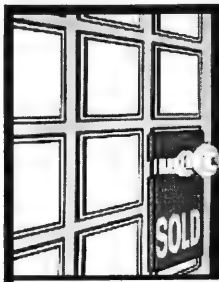
HomeLife/PARTNERS
Realty Inc.

416 - 229-4454

METRO CENTRAL - BATHURST/SHEPPARD
$299,000 Large updated bung w/main floor fam room, wh. kit, new brdlm, reno'd wshrm, 3+2 Bdrm, dbl grg!!

DON MILLS/FINCH
$289,900 - Fab 2 stry, 4+1 bdrm, mn flr fam rm, fin bsmt, dble grg +++

5 HOUSES FOR SALE



DAVID EICHORN
REALTY LIMITED

787-1712
"We open doors for you"

BAYVIEW / FIFESHIRE — FIRST AD!
Spacious bung., custom built, quality construction, approx. 2500 sq. ft. + fin. lower level, 70' frontage, fab. location. Call now! Only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BROOKDALE — NEW HOME
Spacious & gracious! Luxury 3,000 sq. ft. (approx.), loaded with upgrades, main floor fam. rm. + library, 4 + 1 bdrms., 5 baths, asking $609,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING!
Mint condition! Detached bungalow, sep. ent. to bsmt. apt., 100 AMP service, only $199,000. ACT FAST, WON'T LAST! Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

• • •

TIMBERLANE — REDUCED
Spacious side-split on 80' x 200' lot, prestigious location, surrounded by luxurious homes, country-like setting. Only $559,000. Call now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK – BUY YOUR VERY OWN PARK!
New listing! Sensational building lot surrounded by luxury new homes, 1/2 acre +, approved for 4400 sq. ft. (approx.) new home, over 300 feet deep. ACT NOW! Only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLEN PARK
Det. bungalow on 40' x 132' lot, hot location surrounded by many luxury new homes, ACT FAST, won't last! Only $219,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

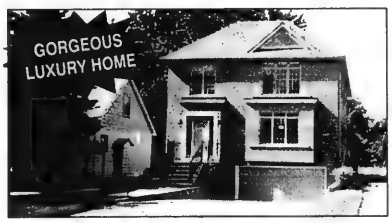
BROOKE AVENUE
60' x 130' lot, owner will consider offer conditional on severance, only $299,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON
Spacious ranch bungalow on 55' x 132' lot, mint condition, approx. 1600 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms., large eat-in kitchen, only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR – A MUST SEE
Mint condition! Spacious 4 bdrm. on 50' x 125' lot. Pride of ownership! Loaded with upgrades, asking $309,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.



CLANTON PARK — A MUST SEE!
Custom-built new home, many luxurious upgrades, spacious rooms, maple kit., granite frplc., approx. 3400 sq. ft. Priced to sell at $539,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
New home under construction! 3650 sq. ft. of luxury, 5 bdrms., fam. rm., library, choose your finishes now! Only $599,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / MELROSE
REDUCED TO SELL! Stunning brand new luxury home, 2400+ sq. ft., fin. bsmt., loaded with upgrades, granite + hardwood floors, only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON
New listing! 3 bdrm., 2 storey charming home on 40' x 132' lot, hardwood floors, large eat-in kitchen, only $209,000. Act now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / EGLINTON COMMERCIAL
Prime location on Eglinton, near Bathurst — store plus 2 large apartments. Ideal for user or investor. Only $399,000. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – REDUCED
3 bedroom, eat-in kitchen, 45' x 118' lot, shows well! Close to all amenities, only $209,000, act now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

BAYVIEW-16TH. $525,000. Magnificent, 3,950 sq. ft. plus 4 bdrm. + fin. bsmt, 4 bths. 59'x147' lot, upgraded kit. $$ extras.

1016 SPADINA ROAD – $789,000.00

This new home was completed and purchased last year, however vendor has decided to retire outside of country. Take advantage of this opportunity, selling below cost. (*NO GST/* Resale). This home was the model of three new custom homes. Top quality craftsmanship. Included all appliances, steam room, too many options to list in this ad. Treat as clear or assume $506,000 1st mortgage @ 7¾% Warranty in effect.
Open House Saturday and Sunday, 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Patrick Gillen, Associate Broker,
K. P. Gillen & Co. Realty Ltd.
Call (416) 410-0399

SEARLE-WILMINGTON
Ranch bungalow, 3 bedroom, family room, plus huge finished basement apartment.

• • •

BATHURST - STEELES
First time buyer, 3 bedroom detached home, 3 baths, finished basement, appliances, air, garage. Move-in Condition.

• • •

Sally Rosen, Century 21 Smith Ltd.
(905) 884-4425

"In Forest Hill"
Warmth and space in this gracious home. Beautiful principal rooms. Incredible flow of entertaining. Exclusive location. Quality craftsmanship with dramatic details. All realistic offers are welcomed. To view call **Mary Anne Guinane, Sales Representative - Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd., Broker, 487-4311.**

THORNHILL BARGAIN
3 bdrm., fam. det. home w/firepl, fin. bsmt. apt. with sep. entr., priced to sell. Must be seen. Call **ESTHER GREENBAUM. CENTURY 21 HERITAGE GROUP LTD., 905-764-7111**

NOW VACANT!! MUST SELL!!
2,800' of gorgeous home with 4 bdrm., mn. flr. fam. rm. & den, lg. beautiful kit. with w/o to fantastic deck. Terrific designed home. Call YOSSI ADOUT, 905-764-7111, CENTURY 21 HERITAGE GROUP LTD.

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
(416) 633-7373

YONGE CLARK CONDO
$299,800. Best buy in building, luxury 2 bdrm + Florida rm., corner unit, over 1,800 sq ft, many upgrades, don't miss.

• • •

BAYVIEW VILLAGE
Just listed, SOLD semi, 2 bths, lge kit, fam. rm., extras.

• • •

BATHURST ST, TRI-PLEX
2-3 Bdrm + 1-1 bdrm, balcs, bths ensuite, fully rented, garages + pkg.

• • •

BLUE FOREST FINCH
Cust. built, split lvl, 3 bdrms, 4 bths, fam. rm., w/out, fin. lower lvl, lge lot, A-1 location.

• • •

BATHURST SHEPPARD
3 Bdrm, 3 bths, liv & din. comb, updated kit, fam rm, fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

BATH.-STEELES. 3 bd. + 2 bd. bsmt. apt., mod. kit., fam. rm., $283,900. LUCY MELAMUD

• • •

BATH.-CLARK. Immac. 3 bd., huge fam. rm., dble. gar., $259,000. GABBY GOLDRING **UNGERMAN ASSOCIATES R.E. 905-731-7111**

25 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY

3-4 bdrm, Lawrence to Finch, updated , 486-8326 after 4.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

100 Antibes Dr. 3 bdrm/lrg den; sauna; swimming pool; 2 prkg spaces; 4th flr. 661-8456.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK **REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH**
DON'T WAIT UNTIL THESE BARGAINS ARE SOLD!
Skymark II: Upgraded, 2 b.r. + sol, 2 park. Reduced to $185K.
Skymark Classic: Choice of large open-concept 2 b.r. or 2 b.r. + fam. rm. w/balc. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST,** 441-2003/24 hrs. on call. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

GIDEON WAICHENBERG
Condominium Specialist

Promenade - 3 br/2 br + den, parquet flr, approx 1,280 sf, 8th floor. $159,900
Primrose - 2 br, very clean, 2 wr. Appl., locker, $167,200.
For Rent - 3 br house with a fin bsmnt, garage. $1,350/mo.
5879 Bathurst - 2 br condo. Balcony, Appl. $99,990.
MORE CONDOS NEEDED! RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

CLARK/HILDA
The Conservatory - Bright 2 bdrm. + solarium. End unit, approx. 1,450 sq. ft. 5 appls., flex. closing $199,900.
TRANSGLOBAL REALTY Abe Wang (905) 738-5995

Bathurst/Antibes, 3 bdrms, 2 full bths, ensuite laundry, parquet, corner, facing ravine, sec, sauna, Shabbos elev. 661-1665

Courtland, 90 Fisherville, lrge. corner apt., 1 bdrm, den, solarium, balc., $135,900. Private, no agents plse. 905-889-1234.

DAVID BURSTYN
CAPTAIN CONDO

7601 Bathurst - 2 BR. SOLD
Thornhill - 4 BR. SOLD
Needed - Condo 1150-1300 s.f. N.E.
RE/MAX REALTRON REALTY INC. (416) 222-8600

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/Sheppard 3 rm bsmt apt, priv. ent, fridge, stove, prkg, adults only, n/smoker, no pets. $500 incl, 633-1642.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3236 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bathurst/Wilson, bsmnt, bach, sep. ent., lndry, kit, 3-pc. bth, sec. system, n/smoker, no pets, 416-630-6288.

Bsmnt bach, part. furn, Avenue Rd/401, lndry, prkg, $500/mo incl, Avail Feb.1, 416-487-0771

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, West Palm Bch, 1 bdrm corner, 1 1/2 bth, CAC, $21,500 US, 787-6943.

LONGBOAT KEY, on the Gulf I SELL the **beach, bay or golf course** condos & homes. Call 1-800-354-8136 ask for **Janis Collier, Palmer Realty.**

Palm Beach condo 2 bdrm, 2 bths, newly prof. decorated, South Ocean Blvd. 24 hr security, 2 balconies, with views of intercoastal & ocean, heated pool, $137,000 U.S. firm. 407-588-6382.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

CLEARWATER-TAMPA
Quality vacation, Residential & investment properties.
Call: **Sid Schuster**
(813) 933-7418 Fax: (813) 399-3458
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185 OUT OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Palm Springs, resales, leases, 100s of vacation rentals to choose from. (800) GO2-PALM **"THE RENTAL CONNECTION"**

225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Century 21. Heinemann Realty

Real Estate is booming in the Super Bowl State of Arizona. It is the 2nd fastest growing area in the U.S. With the growth of major industries, the influx of high tech professionals from California and the purchase of the Winnipeg Jets, property value is beginning to climb. Interest rates are at an all-time low. If you would like to invest, I have properties you can be proud of, and make good money priced from $250,000 - $25 million.

A beautiful office bldg. built in 1990 with a CAP 11%; 2 of 3 tenants are from Fortune 500 - $2 million US

A new distribution/warehouse in an excellent Commercial Park, 9.2% CAP, 3 (multi-million $ tenants - $3,715,000 U.S. ($2.6 million assumable at 7.2%)

A new Shopping Centre, just opened in an excellent developing community, 100% leased with major food chain as anchor, 9 stores & offices with 4 future pads - $6,875,000 U.S. ($3.9 million assumable at 8.25%)

Next to the Casinos, Famous shopping center, 100% leased (waiting list) - $7.9 million approx.; 200 multi-unit beautiful apartment complex, $6.9 million approx.

The properties will be worth "twice" their value in a short time as rate of increase is 13-20% annually and still climbing. Phoenix area in particular is the 6th largest city in the U.S., and if you want to move here or buy a winter home, the temperature is now around 70°.
4 Bdrm house 1800 sq. ft. + pool - about $120,000 U.S.

Call 1-800-528-8962 Century 21 HEINEMANN REALTY, ask for RABBI MOISHE SILVERMAN, Realtor

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Conservative Synagogue in London is seeking youth advisors for 1996/97 school year. Youth groups range in age from age 3 - 18. Call 519-434-1110 for more information.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
With advanced computer skills (Microsoft Office), general office administration (basic bookkeeping) and excellent communication skills. Knowledge of Jewish Organizations preferable. 24-26K. Fax only to: Israel Cancer Research Fund, 416-487-8932.

International co. seeking ambitious people, FT, PT, will train, call Dan, 690-0407, ive msg.

P/T driver for 2 weeks, own vehicle, Feb.16- Mar.1, 635-8034.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Accountant, B.Com., several yrs CA exp., P/T or F/T, good refs. 416-667-9377.

Young woman avail. immed. strong computer skills, quick learner, 416-661-7923.

247 DAY CARE

Day care in safe warm home, exp. ECE teacher, all ages, transportation avail. Bathurst-Centre area. 905-771-0500

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady avail with refs. Mon-Fri. Call 516-2101.

Cleaning lady avail, exp., refs, or any other work, 761-7480.

Cleaning lady avail. Mon. & Wed., refs. avail, 249-2920

Cleaning lady, exp., speaks Polish, little Russian, refs, avail immed. Elizabeth, 431-6444

Exp. lady to clean houses & apts, Bathurst/Finch, 635-0494.

Exp. woman seeks position to work with elderly, call 650-1363.

Exper. cleaning lady, refs., apts, houses, 416-533-6915.

Experienced cleaning lady available. 921-4267.

Hard working lady available for housecleaning. 532-6693.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russion babysitting ladies avail. 932-3042.

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, exp., refs. 733-3915 or 905-770-6835.

Need a nanny? No finder's fee-Interim Domestics 651-2929.

Polish cleaning lady, Eng. speaking avail for apts, houses, offices. Call anytime, 516-0844.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Health Care Aide will care for elderly in home/hosp 425-7252

RPN for private duty nursing, 8/12 hr shifts. Shaaron, 789-7520

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

Hair stylist for seniors, men & women, in your home, reasonable. 222-9066.

Mature cheerful lady Yiddish speaking, with car, avail to drive to dr. appts, shopping & do housekeeping or be hospital companion. Harriet 665-8674.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry. Select your own dates by viewing biographies/photos. Over 910 members averaging an engagement every 7½ wks. 398-7068.

Love is easier to find than you think. Bringing-People-Together 905-731-5204. Call Ruth.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

English & Spanish speaking lady, 64, seeks a nice gentleman under 70. Interests are long walks, conversation, dining out, movies. Box 6695 CJN.

Michigan SJM would like to meet attractive, middle-age SJF for marriage. Non-smoker or drinker. Please send photo. Reply G1033 Balmoral Pkwy, Flint, Michigan, 48532.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

My New Year's Resolution to meet a tall, outgoing, compatible and attractive SJF. Yours, to meet a tall dark good-looking SJM, who likes laughter, fine dining conversation, sports and no head games. I am 29, employed and tired of the bar scene. Let's talk , we've nothing to lose just opportunity. Thomas, 482-9815.

Pleasant female, 45, newly reform convert to Judaism desires Jewish male, casual companion in keeping with Jewish ideals. Box 6699 CJN.

Professional, Jewish lady, active in successful business wishes to meet a professional Jewish man in his 70s for companionship. Box 6674 CJN.

"Twas brillig and the slivey toves
Did gyre and gymbol in the wabe.
All mimsey were the burograves
And the home roth outgrabe."
Genteel ladies may reply to the shade of G.L. Dodgson, Box 6691 CJN.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

330 OBITUARIES

DOJC (also Deutsch), Ludovit - Passed away Jan. 7, 1996 in Bratislava, Slovakia in his 96th year. Cherished father of Yuri Dojc of Toronto and Eva Hanus of Jerusalem, loving husband of Regina, brother to David Jisraeli and Rachel Blum. Respected scholar, author and teacher. Shiva observed in Bratislava. Dontations may be made to The Friends of the Hebrew University.

Zonachain, Faina on January 12, 1996, late of 155 Kendal Ave. #305
Miller, Jacob on January 12, 1996, late of 755 Steeles Ave. W. #502
Marigold, Ruth on January 13, 1996
Oselka, Rose on January 17, 1996
Slater, Bayla on January 17, 1996
Plener, Samuel on January 18, 1996
Koranyi, Margit on January 18, 1996, late of Bayview Extendicare
Schwartz, Elaine on January 19, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Brandman, Sheryl on January 18, 1996, late of 25 Lowbank Court
Litvack, Phyllis on January 18, 1996, late of 31 Princess St. #305
Gelb, Loretta on January 21, 1996, late of 333 Clark Ave. W. #715
Robbins, Alan on January 22, 1996, late of 10 Ruddington Dr. #309

Steeles Memorial Chapel

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
All persons having claims against the estate of **Jack Gula**, late of 645 Castlefield Avenue, Apt. 622, Toronto, Ontario, who died on September 8, 1995, are hereby notified to send full particulars of their claim to the undersigned solicitors of the Estate on or before the 15th day of March, 1995 after which date the assets of the estate may be distributed having regard only to the claims of which the Estate shall then have notice. **Botnick & Botnick, Barristers & Solicitors**, Unit #53, 2300 Finch Ave. W., Weston, Ontario, M9M 2Y3.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Raubvogel/Girsky - Marsha & Alex Raubvogel are happy to announce the engagement of their son, **Amir-Henry,** to **Tami** Girsky, daughter of Charles & Lois Girsky of Los Angeles.

331 IN MEMORIAM

SHUKEN, Bessie - In loving memory of a wonderful wife who passed away Jan. 31, 1995.
The tears in my eyes I can wipe away
The ache in my heart will always stay.
Sadly missed by husband Ben and family.

330 OBITUARIES

Faina Vainberg on January 11, 1996, late of 19 Springhead Gardens
Sophie Resnick on January 12, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Carl Schwarz on January 12, 1996, late of 257 Sherwood Court
Stanley Mandell on January 11, 1996, late of 295 Churchill Ave.
Esme Fremes on Janaury 13, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Michael Ferszalow on January 12, 1996, late of 64 Prince Charles Dr.
Reva Konopny on January 13, 1996, late of 3555 Bathurst St. #402
Solomon Donin on January 14, 1996, late of 155 John St. E.
Neil Winter on January 15, 1996, late of 276 Glengrove Ave. W.
Rae Abramowitz on January 15, 1996, late of 24 Old English Lane
Hyman Jacobson on January 15, 1996, late of 7905 Bayview Ave., Suite #1003
Louis Charad on January 15, 1996, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W. #205
Diana Ezrin on January 15, 1996, late of 300 Antibes Dr., #210
Morton Patrontasch on January 13, 1996, late of 39 South Kingslea Dr.
Sophie Aarons on January 17, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Mary Coles on January 18, 1996, late of 130 Midland Ave.
Regina Silver on January 18, 1996, late of 36 Renaissance Court

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

338 SHIVA CATERING

milk 'n honey THE DAIRY RESTAURANT
SAME DAY SERVICE
*Tasteful Presentation
*Hot/Cold Platters and Full Course Meals
• DELIVERY AVAILABLE
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DIAMONDS FINE FOODS
SHIVA MEALS & PLATTERS
• Flexible Menus • Free delivery
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(905) 771-8737
9865 BAYVIEW AVE.
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The Canadian Jewish News classifieds really work!!

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

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for information on rates

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Dear Lisa,

Common buzzwords today include the terms restructuring and downsizing. We all know what the words mean and we support the idea of budget reduction. But what about the high percentage of the population that have lost their jobs?

Dear Reader,

The jobs of today may not be quite what we have seen in the past. However, jobs do exist and in many cases are going begging for applicants. These tips may help you find those hidden opportunities.

Consider your job title. Almost every job can be redefined and given a new title. This brings a job of the '80s into the money-saving '90s. Tasks are no longer grouped in the same way; so job hunters need to know what types of tasks they enjoy doing. A secretary, for instance, may really enjoy her problem-solving and receptionist duties. By calling herself a labor fulfilment worker specializing in the area of reception and customer service, she can market herself in a new way that is more in tune with today's job market.

Write a terrific resume. Pretend you are an employer. How much time would you give a resume upon first glance? The average is about seven seconds. Wouldn't you like to see the most relevant experience listed first?

Most employers like short resumes which detail an applicant's recent experience and education. Do you really care about style? Most employers want a resume written in a format which is easy to read and not particularly fancy. Designer paper is also unnecessary.

Should the resume guide the employer to what type of work the applicant wants to do? Absolutely. A resume without direction usually won't be taken seriously and likely won't be considered for any opportunities.

Use a strong cover letter. Whenever you send your resume anywhere, send a cover letter along. The cover letter is an introduction to your resume, lets the reader know why your resume is being sent and is an opportunity to relate your experience to the vacancy you are applying for. Keeping all these things in mind, a short cover letter is far better than a long one and a business formatted letter is most appropriate.

Look like a winner. A winner walks straight and tall. A winner smiles and shakes hands. A winner exudes confidence even if the prime motivation or feeling is one of fear or confusion. A winner listens intently and thinks before responding. A winner treats others as he or she wishes to be treated and surrounds him or herself with other winners.

Keep on hunting. These tips won't secure you a job if you can't find one to apply for. So look! Research the company you would like to work for. Find out which department would employ someone with your skills and experience. Arrange for a meeting with that department manager. Call the competitors of these firms and do the same thing. Read the newspaper for firms that are growing or restructuring. Join a support group for job hunters. Volunteer in an environment where you can practise the tasks you would like to be paid for doing.

The market always has a way of providing opportunities for qualified applicants. Seek and you shall find.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
SELLS JENN-AIR FOR LESS

PHYLLO VEGETABLE PIE

10 phyllo pastry leaves
1 bunch fresh *OR*
3 pkgs. frozen chopped broccoli
2 tblsp. butter, melted
1/2 cup onions, finely chopped
3 eggs
1/2 lb. feta cheese, crumbled
1/4 cup parsley, chopped
2 tblsp. fresh dill, chopped
1/2 tsp. salt
dash pepper
1/4 cup butter melted

Preheat oven to 350°. Thaw phyllo. Wash broccoli, chop coarsely, steam until tender. In 2 tblsp. hot butter sauté onion until golden. Add broccoli. Sauté1 min. Remove from heat. In large bowl, beat eggs slightly. Add remaining ingredients except butter. Mix well. Line inside of 9" springform pan with rim in place with 6 pastry leaves, overlapping edges. Lightly brush each pastry leaf with melted butter. Pour in filling. Fold overlapping edges on top of filling. Cut 4 9" circles from remaining leaves. Layer one over the other on top of pie and lightly brush each with melted butter. Bake 40-45 mins. or until crust is puffy and golden. Cool on rack for 10 mins. Yield: 8-10 servings.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

U of T program focuses on the Jewish experience

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Having just celebrated its 25th anniversary, the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Toronto is on its way to becoming one of the most important such programs in North America predicts its director, Jacques Kornberg.

He said the program was created in 1969 in a response to the increasing recognition that Jewish culture, history, civilization and religion in the post-biblical era merit serious academic attention along with the biblical tradition.

"It has taken off since then because of our reputation as a first-rate school and for having first-rate educators," he adds.

The Jewish Studies program is an interdisciplinary one, combining courses from the departments of English, German, history, Middle East and Islamic studies, Near Eastern studies, philosophy, sociology and the study of religion. It offers over 60 courses in languages, literature, religion, history, archeology, philosophy, sociology and civilization from antiquity to the present.

"The program is concerned with the Jewish experience as it shifted in time and place from the ancient land of Israel to the many countries of the Jews' dispersion, to the creation of the State of Israel and through contemporary Judaism," says Kornberg.

Some of its many courses include The Holocaust: Nazis, Occupied Europe and the Jews; History of the Jews in Spain and Portugal; Codes and the Legal Tradition; Israelis and Palestinians in the 20th Century; Life Cycles and Personal Status in Judaism; as well as Yiddish and Hebrew language courses and an introduction to Yiddish literature.

Scholarships and awards are given annually to, among others, an outstanding or deserving student, a student planning a career in Jewish education or Jewish communal service, or a student enrolled in a specialist or major program in Jewish studies.

Kornberg says search committees are currently working to fill two positions. "Benefactors have endowed one chair in Jewish Studies and other benefactors have endowed the Samuel Zacks professor in Jewish history.

Currently the Shoshanna Shier Distinguished Visitor in Jewish studies is Professor Lawrence Shiffman from New York's University, an expert on the Dead Sea Scrolls. In one course, he will introduce students to both the ancient and modern controversies surrounding the Dead Sea Scrolls and in another, he will study the rise of Jewish biblical interpretation in the Second Temple period, concentrating on material found in the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Baycrest Campaign gears up

TORONTO — Organizers of the Baycrest Campaign have raised $40 million thus far and they are gearing up again.

"We still have to find $20 million dollars if we're going to make everyone's dreams come true," says campaign co-chair Allan Offman.

Since last spring, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care has been working to raise a total of $60 million, despite tough economic times.

Most of the money will go toward building a state-of-the-art facility to replace the existing 372-bed Jewish Home for the Aged, which no longer meets the needs of the community. The new facility will also include a 100-bed Centre for Cognitive Disorders. The remainder of the funds will be used to expand programs and services in areas such as rehabilitation, respite care, education and research.

"At the time it was designed in the 1960s, the home was meant to accommodate a much younger, healthier population" than that needing help today, says Stephen W. Herbert, Baycrest president and chief executive officer. The average age of residents is now 86 and most are suffering from some degree of cognitive impairment.

The main problems with the existing building include limited space for recreational activities, lack of privacy and storage space, a shortage of basic bathing facilities, limited dining room facilities and a layout which makes it hard to manoeuver wheelchairs and other assistive devices.

The proposed new home — to be called the Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged — will change our current concept of a long-term care facility, says Herbert:

- Living areas in the new seven-storey home will be arranged in several clusters or "home units."
- Each home unit will feature private bedrooms with common areas, including a comfortably furnished living room and communal dining area.
- A kitchenette and grooming centre equipped for bathing and personal care will be shared among groupings of home units.
- Common areas of the new building, including a spectacular indoor garden, will encourage activity and involvement of residents and their families.

The Centre for Cognitive Disorders will serve the special needs of people suffering from vascular dementia.

Over the past year, Baycrest planners (including residents, family members, volunteers, community representatives, staff and Baycrest board members) have developed a functional framework for the project, which outlines space and staff requirements.

Using this as a blueprint, two Toronto architects, Jack Diamond and Irving Boigon, are heading up a world-class team of architects who will design the new building.

Approximately half of the funding for the combined Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged and Centre for Cognitive Disorders will come from the Baycrest campaign. Proposals for capital contributions to cover the remaining cost have been submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Health and other funding sources.

If all goes as planned, the new facility could open its doors by the end of 1998.

For more information call 416-789-7071.

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The Weekly FOOD GUIDE

Bread: The Staff of Life

Highland Farms offers more than 200 different kinds of bread to satisfy any taste. Bread styles from the Middle East, The British Isles, Europe and North America. The most interesting new bread comes from Manoucher Specialty Foods, which promises: "We never make bread with machines." And what bread!!

Start with a sesame loaf (Barbaree) and the label says: "Ancient Persian Emperors feasted on such bread." I'm far from a Persian emperor, but I feast on that loaf. Then there's a garlic loaf, a basil loaf, a herb and cheese loaf, a rosemary and onion loaf and a Mediterranean loaf titled Fokachio Romana. And here's a tip: slice the loaf and add dates, or sundried tomatoes. A supreme taste treat.

Speaking of taste, one of the great taste sensations for breakfast is a hot buttered croissant, with a dab of honey or jam. I've done my own informal survey, and Highland Farms' Angelo the baker, produces the finest croissants in town. And at 50 cents, the one of the least expensive! Was it Candice Bergen who said "the best for the least?"

By Jeremy Brown

Jeremy Brown is a broadcaster and food writer.

HIGHLAND FARMS

ROASTING CHICKENS

Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A
Fresh

1.99 LB
4.39 kg

PERL'S
SLICED VEAL PASTRAMI ROLL
125 g Pkg 2.49 EA

PRIMO PASTA

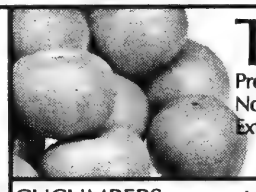
Assorted Varieties
900 g Pkg 99 EA

DEL MONTE, RICH 'N CREAMY
PUDDING CUPS
Assorted Flavours
4 x 113.5 g Sleeve Pack 1.49 EA

RIB STEAKS

Product of Ontario
Cut from Canada A/AA
Grades Beef, Fresh

4.49 LB
9.90 kg

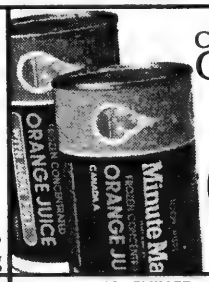


TOMATOES

Product of USA, Florida
No. 1 Grade, Fresh
Extra Large size

69 LB
1.52 kg

CUCUMBERS
Product of Mexico
No. 1 Grade, Fresh
Large Size
2/1.00



MINUTE MAID CONCENTRATED
ORANGE JUICE
100% Pure, Frozen
355 ml Tin
99 EA

SHOPSY'S
• CORNED BEEF
• PASTRAMI
• ROAST BEEF
Freshly Sliced at the Deli 11.00 kg 4.99 LB

CAULIFLOWER

Product of USA, California
No. 1 Grade, Fresh
Large Size

99 EA

MINUTE MAID, CHILLED
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100 % Pure from Concentrate
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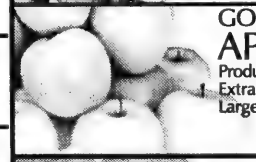
MAPLE LEAF
ALL BEEF SALAMI
Freshly Sliced at the Deli 11.00 kg 4.99 LB

PRIMO
BEANS
Assorted Varieties
540 ml Tin 69 EA

STREIT'S
EGG NOODLES
Assorted Varieties
375 g Bag 1.29 EA

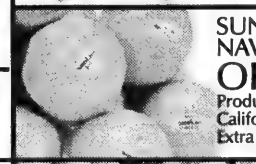


GOLDEN DELICIOUS
APPLES

Product of USA, Washington
Extra Fancy Grade, Fresh
Large Size
2.18 kg 99 LB

PRIMO
HEARTY SOUP
Assorted Varieties
525 ml - 540 ml Tin 1.49 EA

SUNSWEET
BREAKFAST PRUNES
680 g Bag 1.99 EA



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ORANGES

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Extra Large Size (72's)

3.99 Dozen

MICHELINA'S
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227 g - 284 g 1.49 EA

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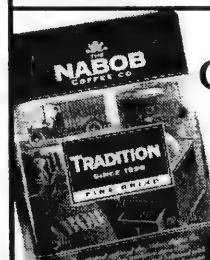
DRY SOUP MIX
Assorted Varieties
170 g Cello Bag 1.19 EA

CLOVER LEAF, RED PACIFIC
SOCKEYE SALMON
213 g Tin 2.99 EA



NABOB TRADITION
COFFEE

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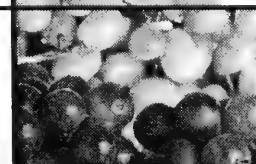
• Extra Fine
300 g Vac Pack
2.99 EA



SEEDLESS
GRAPES

• Green Thompson • Red Flame
Product of Chile
No. 1 Grade, Fresh

1.99 LB
4.39 kg

HONEYDEW MELONS
Product of Honduras
Fresh, (Size 9's)
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SEALTEST
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MILK

4 L Bag

2.99 EA

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ישיבת קול תורה • ירושלים ת"ו

Kol Torah Rabbinical College • Jerusalem

To all of our friends, Blessings of Peace and Long Life!

Our yeshiva has, Baruch Hashem, firmly established its excellent reputation. But more than any words could possibly express, let the thousands of alumni come and testify to the excellent education which they received, the wisdom they acquired and especially the love of Torah and Mitzvot with which their devoted mechanchim — teachers — imbued them. Let them bear witness to the personal concern for their spiritual and physical welfare which was demonstrated during their stay in the yeshiva.

In retrospect, all this seems impossible considering the economic conditions under which the yeshiva was forced to function. With expenses constantly increasing and the bills mounting, we depend on the generous support of our devoted friends who continue to extend a helping hand.

I therefore turn to each and every one of you and ask that you join this dedicated group of supporters and assist to the best of your ability in this holy cause. Your reward from Hakadosh Baruch Hu is unimaginably great.

With best wishes and blessings for success in all your spiritual and material endeavors.

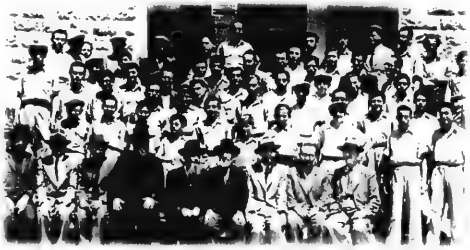
Sincerely yours,
Shlomo Zalman Auerbach

Rav Shlomo Zalman's Legacy

Our *Rosh Yeshiva* has left us. Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach זצ"ל returned his *neshama* to his *Creator* on 20 Adar Aleph 5755, after serving with devotion as the *Rosh Yeshiva* in Rabbinical College Kol Torah for 46 years.

Rav Shlomo Zalman passed up offers to serve on the Supreme Rabbinical Court and as Jerusalem's Chief Rabbi, instead favoring his beloved *talmidim* until his last breath. The *Chazon Ish* זצ"ל encouraged Rav Shlomo Zalman to stay at Kol Torah, assuring him that he would be able to serve *Klal Yisrael* not only as a *Posek Halacha*, but also as a *Rosh Yeshiva*.

For nearly five decades, Rav Shlomo Zalman energized Kol Torah students with his inspiring, yet humble demeanor. Through his very presence, they sensed the true meaning of "*Torah* with Ethics" — in a manner that no textbook could possibly convey.

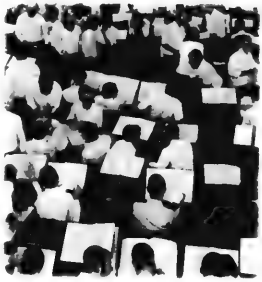


Rabbanim and students during the first years of Kol Torah

Rav Shlomo Zalman spent his every moment engaging in *Torah*, *Tefillah* and *Gmilut Chasadim*. His passing leaves a void in the hearts of all who knew him — from the *talmidim* who zealously drank from his well of wisdom, to the elderly lady in his Sha'arei Chesed neighborhood who looked forward to the cheerful "good morning" with which Rav Shlomo Zalman would greet her every day.

Lo BaShamayim Hi

The Legacy Lives On



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Some 5,000 Torah scholars have attended Kol Torah since its founding. Kol Torah alumni are widely acknowledged in Torah circles for their special blend of Torah proficiency, mannerly behavior and firm commitment to the eternal values of our people.

Kol Torah's curriculum emphasizes ethics and *derech eretz*. Our students originate from every community and from all strata of society. Many graduates have in turn established new Torah centers throughout the world, with countless alumni working as principals and educators in Torah institutions of every kind.

When Rav Shlomo Zalman started teaching at the Kol Torah Rabbinical College after the passing of Rav Yechiel Michel Schlesinger in 1949, the yeshiva accommodated 80 talmidim. When the Torah giant returned his pure *neshama* to the Almighty a few months ago, he left behind over 700 *talmidim*.

The late illustrious Rosh HaYeshiva Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach זצ"ל with the Rosh HaYeshiva Rav Moshe Yehuda Schlesinger שליט"א (son of the late Rav Yechiel Michel Schlesinger זצ"ל)

The Mashgiach Emeritus Rav Gedalia Eiseman שליט"א with the late Rav Elhanan Moshe Kunstadt זצ"ל (son of the late Rav Baruch Kunstadt זצ"ל) who passed away during the last year.

The Rabbinical College campus is located in the serene Jerusalem neighborhood of Bayit Vegan, in structures that were constructed over 40 years ago to accommodate 250 students. Even with all the restoration and expansion which has been done, the buildings are not in any way capable of housing our present student body. Needless to mention, the overwhelming challenge of providing daily upkeep for our student body puts a constant burden on the Yeshiva.

More than 850 well-qualified *talmidim* asked to join Kol Torah this year, but space limitations allowed us to accept only 120 of them. As a befitting memorial and tribute to Rav Shlomo Zalman זצ"ל, Kol Torah is embarking on a building campaign whose purpose is to erect a new Beit Medrash building. This will allow us to accommodate our present student body and be able to respond to a greater number of those who hope to be imbued with Rav Shlomo Zalman's זצ"ל special Torah Legacy, and prepare them to address the unfolding challenges facing their home communities.

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Toronto Sephardi community pushes north of Steeles Avenue. *Page 3*

Chumash Party: Or Haemet Sephardic School's grade one class celebrates its chumash party. *Page 16*

Coast to Coast

Sheila Finestone made powerful enemies around the cabinet table. *Page 24*

Sports

Jewish schools set to face off in first-ever round-robin hockey tournament. *Page 26*

Israel, USA & the world

Israel & PLO jockey for control of Jerusalem. *Analysis.* *Page 30*

Hebrew U. expert says right's getting moderate. *Page 31*

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Likud, Tsomet unite for election

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Likud and Tsomet have reached agreement on establishing a united electoral bloc for the next elections that may be held as early as May 14. The agreement is to be initialed this week.

Though neither party would officially confirm the reports, sources said the deal has been struck and Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan will not run for prime minister.

The parties will not merge, but will be fielding a single Knesset ticket and will both back Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu for premier.

After the elections, the parties will have the option of remaining together in a united parliamentary bloc or going their separate ways and setting up their own Knesset factions.

The agreement between the parties resulted chiefly from Likud efforts to end Eitan's candidacy, which Netanyahu viewed as particularly detrimental to his chances against Shimon Peres.

The agreement was hammered out in a series of near-clandestine meetings by Likud director-general Avigdor Lieberman and Tsomet director-general Doron Shmueli. After it is initialed, the agreement must be ratified by the central committees of both parties.

Under the deal, Eitan will get the second spot on the joint ticket and Tsomet will get eight slots in the first 40.

The key to the allocation of slots is the number of seats won in 1992 by Likud and Tsomet. Likud won 32 Knesset seats, and Tsomet started the present term with eight. It was agreed to overlook the defection from Tsomet of Gonen Segev, Alex Goldfarb and Esther Salmovitz, and David Levy's and David Magen's leaving the Likud.

Besides removing Eitan from the prime ministerial race, the agreement is geared to giving the national camp a morale boost. Its actual electoral value is hard to gauge.

Continued on page 32

KEFIADA '96
A Canadian participant in Kefiada helps Israeli schoolchildren learn English words. For information on the Kefiada student volunteer program contact your local United Israel Appeal office.

Bar-Ilan error has Amir in brochure

By CYNTHIA MANN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — American Friends of Bar-Ilan University, still reeling from the shock of finding out the confessed killer of Yitzhak Rabin was a Bar-Ilan student, sustained another public relations nightmare late last week.

Israeli media reported that the university deliberately used promotional material here in New York featuring pictures of the confessed killer, Yigal Amir.

Such a claim was "inconceivable," said Hedy Shulman, director of public relations for American Friends of Bar-Ilan.

Doing that deliberately "would be the equivalent of suicide" for the organization, she said.

Nonetheless, Shulman said she was "horrified" to learn last Friday that pictures of Amir were inadvertently published in a promotional journal distributed at the organization's dinner on Jan. 21 in New York.

"It was a total, inadvertent catastrophe," she said. "We are extremely pained and horrified."

Bar-Ilan University president Moshe Kaveh said the inclusion of Amir's photo was "an egregious error of oversight, not an act of intent or malice."

Kaveh, who took office Feb. 1, said the brochure had been prepared wholly by American Friends, and that no administration members had seen it before it was distributed at the dinner.

He said that in the wake of the incident, the university would demand to review all promotional literature.

Yehuda HaLevy, the chair of the American fundraising arm, left Sunday for Israel to meet with administration officials.

Shulman took pains to explain that the dinner was initially scheduled for Nov. 12, but was postponed out of respect for the memory of the slain prime minister.

The Jan. 21 dinner itself "turned out to be a tribute to Yitzhak Rabin," she said.

The dinner journal contained photos taken the year before and chosen in October, she said. Sometime before the dinner, she said, the organization was alerted to the fact that some people thought Amir was pictured in the journal, "but we concluded it wasn't him," she said.

"To have this depicted as a deliberate, conscious [effort] to glorify" the killing "goes totally against anything we stand for," said Shulman.

Shlomo Eckstein, who ended his appointment as university president Jan. 31, said that by an oversight no one checked the pictures after the Rabin assassination.

Eckstein said the chances of Amir being chosen for the brochure was one in 20,000, and of appearing in the journal, after the assassination, was one in a million.

"The absurdity that in a journal dedicated wholly to the memory of Yitzhak Rabin, that the picture of the murderer as one of several students appears in it, is impossible to explain," he told Israel Radio.

Several Israeli legislators demanded explanations for the oversight. Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said steps should be taken against those responsible for the brochure.

(JTA correspondent Naomi Segal in Jerusalem contributed.)

INSIDE

Financial Fitness. Six pages of advice on your investments in our special advertising supplement.

Don't miss The Cai

Referendum on Golan withdrawal possible — please see page 29

The News In Brief

CANADA

Fighting Terrorism

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress international affairs committee chair Les Scheininger has written to Solicitor General Herb Gray congratulating him on the successful completion of the recent P-8 Ministerial Conference on Counter-Terrorism.

Scheininger said that is an important issue on the agenda of Congress in light of the threat posed to Jewish, Israeli and Western targets by Middle Eastern-based terrorist organizations.

Order of Canada

TORONTO — *The CJN* ommitted the names of two Jewish Canadians awarded the Order of Canada.

Named Members of the Order were Calvin Carl Gotlieb of Toronto for his work in education and David Smith of Ottawa for volunteerism.

ISRAEL

Immigration Stats

JERUSALEM — Some 75,400 new immigrants arrived here in 1995, a drop of six percent over the previous year, the Central Bureau of Statistics said.

In its yearly review of immigration, the bureau said 64,000 immigrants arrived from the former Soviet Union — 76 percent of them from European areas and 24 percent from Asian areas.

A total of 709,800 immigrants have arrived since the current wave of immigration began in late 1989, the bureau said, of which 610,000 were from the former Soviet Union.

Talmud On The Internet

JERUSALEM — A data base incorporating the basic works of Jewish scholarship; the Bible Mishnah, the Tosefta, the Babylonian and Jewish Talmuds, all in their original Hebrew and Aramaic texts, is now available for the first time on the Internet through the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Access to the data base is http://wwwl.snunit.k12.il/snunit/kodesh.

Feld Carr Scholarship

JERUSALEM — Leon Laniado, a fourth year student in the department of mechanical engineering, at Ben-Gurion University, has been chosen as the first recipient of a scholarship award from the Judy Feld Carr Scholarship Endowment Fund for needy and worthy students from Arab countries with special priority for students of Syrian origin.

Likud Policy

JERUSALEM — Nearly all the members of the Likud's political forum met last week and expressed their support for a "practical" approach toward the Palestinian Authority (PA), and the need to negotiate with it if the Likud wins the next elections.

MK Ze'ev Begin maintained his opposition to adopting a softer policy on the PA.

Singapore's Ambassador

JERUSALEM — Singapore has appointed its first ambassador to Israel.

Singapore's government announced last week that Foo Meng Tong, 54, would present his credentials to Israeli President Ezer Weizman.

Israel and Singapore established diplomatic relations in 1969, but Singapore never opened an office in Israel.

Female Recruits Train

JERUSALEM — About 40 female recruits for Israel's Border Police will start combat training next month, another step in breaking the exclusive male hold over the Jewish state's fighting forces.

All positions will be open to women, including the *Yamam* anti-terror commando squad, a police spokesperson said.

Trade With India

JERUSALEM — Israel and India have signed a trade agreement aimed at significantly boosting bilateral commerce between the two countries.

At a recent ceremony in New Delhi, Israeli Finance Minister Avraham Shochat initialed an agreement granting India most-favored nation trading status.

The same time in Jerusalem, Israeli Trade and Industry Minister Michael Harish signed cooperation agreements with his Indian counterpart.

WORLD

Award For Rabin

BEVERLY HILLS — Leah Rabin, the wife of the late prime minister was awarded the first Rabin Award at the recent fifth annual Friends of Sheba Medical Centre Humanitarian Awards.

Rabin was presented with a sculpture called the *Eternal Journey*.

Wannsee Exhibit

BERLIN — Four years since the opening of an exhibit at the Wannsee Conference House, about 184,000 visitors have seen a presentation on the Nazis' plans for the extermination of the Jews.

At the January 1942 Nazi conference, the logistics for killing Europe's Jews was discussed. The conference was held at what was then the central office of Interpol.

Last year, 310 groups participated in study groups and seminars held at the house.

Farrakhan Meeting

JOHANNESBURG — Two South African Jewish groups have criticized President Nelson Mandela for meeting here with Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan as part of his African tour.

U.S. Foreign Aid

WASHINGTON — Israel will finally receive its $3 billion 1996 foreign aid package from the United States, albeit four months late and at a cost of more than $25 million to the Jewish state.

A compromise during debate on a stopgap spending measure designed to avert a third federal government shutdown freed the $12.1 billion foreign aid bill from legislative limbo.

Israel received about 12 percent of its aid in two previous continuing resolutions passed to keep the U.S. government functioning during the federal budget impasse.

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Sephardi community pushes northward

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — It seems Metro Toronto's Sephardim are mimicking their Ashkenazi cousins with a population push northward.

York Region, especially Thornhill, Markham and Richmond Hill, is now home to an estimated 1,000 Sephardi families — roughly the same as in Metro — and services are expanding at an ambitious rate.

Two recent events show how Bathurst Street continues to throb with Jewish life, even if it's north of Metro's Steeles Avenue boundary.

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Late last month, ground was broken for the long-awaited Or Haemet Sephardic School on three acres of land on Bathurst, just north of Steeles. The three-storey building will also house a synagogue, mikvah, study hall, library, swimming pool and gym, banquet hall and meeting rooms.

There was a ground-breaking for the school in 1990 but the project

was put on hold because of lack of funds.

As the nerve centre of Ontario's growing Sephardi community, the building will also house the newly-formed Sephardic Rabbinate of Ontario, an umbrella organization representing several synagogues and communal groups, with Rabbi Amram Assayag as its chief rabbi.

Since its founding in 1975, Or Haemet has gone from the basement of Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla synagogue to its current location in Adath Israel Congregation. The new facility will serve children from nursery through Grade 8.

Plans call for the structure to be built of Jerusalem stone. "It will not only house our school but will be a centre for our entire community," said Or Haemet president Jacques Benquesus. Also in the works is a fund-raising campaign across Metro.

Less than a kilometre north along Bathurst, a Sephardi synagogue is one step closer to reality.

Last week, Vaughan's council unanimously approved the official plan for Bet Midrash Bar Yochai

From left: Vaughan councillor Bernie Green, Rabbi Amram Assayag, Or Haemet Sephardic School president Jacques Benquesus and vice-president Maurice Benzacar at the recent groundbreaking. Insets: Rabbi Shalom Revah and the rezoning sign for his proposed synagogue. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Congregation, whose 100 family members have met in a house on nearby Arnold Avenue for the past six years.

If there are no appeals within 30 days, the city is expected to approve the site plan and zoning change, Vaughan ward 5 councillor Bernie Green told *The CJN*.

The Orthodox synagogue will be on two lots, one currently vacant. There were initial concerns from area residents about parking, but plans call for the synagogue to have underground space for 12 cars, while the Promenade shopping mall across the street has guaranteed some parking spaces.

The 4,600-square foot synagogue will be accessible by car only via Bathurst Street, alleviating some concerns about congestion from residents on Arnold and Rodeo Drive, Green said.

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From the editor's desk

While in Jerusalem...

In Jerusalem, the sixth International Conference of the Jewish Media is over. I am leafing through my notes, seeking a way to condense them into a meaningful distillate of insight and reflection, but there are far too many.

After a festive opening event which focused our hearts and our minds on Yitzhak Rabin, the program comprised three days of lectures, seminars and discussions, and two days of field trips and fact finding. Over the course of five days, more than 60 politicians, educators, journalists, diplomats, bureaucrats and theologians spoke to us on some of the subjects occupying the news in Israel.

Alongside tourism, diamonds and high technology, generating news is Israel's greatest industry.

Every day, every hour, people tune into the news. Every cluster of people, whether "queuing" for a bus or idling over coffee, is instantly transformed into a highly energized, finger-waving debating society at the mere drop of a seemingly inocuous comment directed to no one in particular.

This is a highly individualistic society where opinions flow as freely as chocolate spread between two pieces of bread. Because everyone's children are soldiers, no news is irrelevant. People live constantly on the edge of "the most recent developments." But, as one former Canadian now working here in public relations told me, "It can wear you down."

The first day of the conference was devoted to two themes: Israeli Society After the Assassination, and Tomorrow's Jerusalem. Speaking on the former were Israel Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, Hebrew University professor Ehud Sprinzak and Jewish Agency chair, Avraham Burg.

Rabbi Lau is an orator. In a deep sonorous voice, he turns light Hebrew phrases into sharp images of fine light. Pleading his case before the bar of his conscience, he summoned the people of Israel to return to the core values: unity, Zionism and love for each other.

Sprinzak set about debunking three "post-assassination" myths concerning Israeli society: Israeli democracy is now seriously endangered; a powerful radical right wing is ascending in Israeli life; and society is on the brink of breaking apart.

He minced no words. Rather than being in a situation of danger, he said, Israeli democracy is working well. The assassination was an act of weakness, of desperation. It was not an act committed out of power of strength.

Nor is a violent, radical right beginning to flourish in Israeli society. Sprinzak was adamant that only a few dozen people from the five percent of the population comprising the radical right are inclined to violence. They are a "collectivity in distress." Their use of inflammatory language is an attempt "to get the government to respond to their emotional fears."

The radical right has been traumatized by the murder no less than the majority of Israelis, he said. Their rhetoric has since become "neutralized." Moreover, Sprinzak said, the two main ideologies are seeking more common ground. Yossi Beilin is now speaking to the settlers in the settlers' homes. And the Yesha council, by proclaiming public support for Benjamin Netanyahu, has decided to join the mainstream of the political process.

But Sprinzak did not minimize the potential harm that even a very small number of people could cause. Thus, he concluded his remarks by urging the radical right wing in Israel to ostracize and marginalize the potentially violent few from within their midst.

Burg brought an additional perspective to that small handful of people whom Sprinzak had identified as potentially violent. Without any hesitation or ambiguity, he stated that there was, unfortunately, "a spiritual infrastructure for a Jewish fundamentalism, which amounts to a kind of Jewish jihadism."

His main point though, was that the competing ideologies "must look for a set of rules to determine how to conduct their disagreements. It is vital to construct a national consensus over troubled national waters."

Ironically, while Sprinzak and Burg were speaking to us, one of the most violent demonstrations in recent Jerusalem history was taking place outside the prime minister's residence.

As most readers probably know by now, thousands of Israelis from Ethiopia had gathered to protest the disclosure that Magen David Adom had simply thrown away most of the blood which members of their community had donated over the years. More than 70 people had been hurt in the demonstration.

The "blood" disclosure was only the ostensible reason for the demonstration. The real reason, according to the demonstration's organizers, was to protest the impact of years of discrimination felt by the community. The "blood" incident was simply the final insult, and as a headline in the *Jerusalem Post* noted, it was "too much to bear."

Later that same evening, in a press conference with the visiting international media, Prime Minister Shimon Peres reiterated his profound apologies to the Ethiopian community.

"I am very sorry for the injury that we committed to them," he said. "I ask them to accept my apology. What happened [regarding the discarded blood] was not so much a result of policy as a result of bad judgment and mistake."

Earlier in the day, Peres had met with the leaders of the community and appointed a commission of inquiry to look into the "blood donations" matter. Former president Yitzhak Navon subsequently agreed to chair the commission, and its mandate was expanded to include an examination into all aspects of government policies directed at Ethiopian immigrants.

This was the dominant news story of the week. It was front page every day, on talk shows, on radio, in newspapers, at the bus stops and in the coffee shops.

Next week, I'll gather my notes on the subject of Jerusalem. And this was only our first day at the conference.

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Greater Toronto Area

Ex-cantor gets five years for sex-related charges

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A former Metro lay cantor and synagogue official was sentenced last week to five years in prison on sex-related charges involving a minor.

Alain Oziel, 59, committed "terrible, horrible crimes done to an innocent child, by a man who abused his religion," said Justice Victor Paisley in passing sentence. 'It is harm that continues to this day."

Oziel, a one-time lay cantor and *parnass* at Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation in Downsview, had been found guilty at trial in November of one count each of indecent assault, gross indecency and attempted buggery. He had pleaded not guilty to all charges.

"This is as serious as it gets," said Paisley, adding Oziel should serve "as an example to others: Don't do this crime."

Oziel's lawyer, Leo Adler, had asked for a suspended sentence because of his client's heart condition.

In his reasons for conviction, Paisley said the Moroccan-born Oziel "occupied a position of respect and responsibility in a religious community and a crime of a sexual nature is a most serious matter for a person in that position."

The charges stem from incidents in the early 1980s involving the teenaged son of a synagogue member. The victim's identity was sealed at trial.

Court heard that since his arrest, Oziel has been ostracized from the community and his large family.

In 1992, Oziel pleaded guilty to sexual assault concerning an incident between 1989 and 1992. He received a suspended sentence and three years probation.

It took the victim, now 28, over a decade to lay charges because he was in denial, he said at trial.

Crown counsel Margot McKinnon said Oziel was "a respected member of the synagogue, giving religious instruction. He was a trusted, older person who had religious influence over a young boy. He played the role of teacher and confidant. And he abused the community's trust."

Oziel had testified at trial that he gave religious instruction, but not to children.

Court heard that Oziel got to know the boy, who was from an observant family, at age 12 when the boy came to synagogue to prepare for his bar mitzvah. The two would have breakfast together several times a week and Oziel, a typesetter by trade, even taught him how to drive and typeset. Oziel spoke to the boy a great deal about sex to prepare him for manhood, according to testimony.

The abuse took place mainly in Oziel's workplace and involved masturbation, oral sex and other sex acts. They continued until the boy was 14. At one point, following a dance at the synagogue, Oziel took the boy to a prostitute, court was told.

Later, Oziel made the boy read a Hebrew passage of forgiveness, court heard.

According to testimony, he told the boy, "as long as there's no intercourse, you're not gay."

When the abuse ended, the boy avoided Oziel, even though the two saw each other often at synagogue, testimony stated.

The victim wept at sentencing. McKinnon noted that at the trial, he let out a "cry of anguish" the likes of which she had never heard.

Paisley said the victim's cries were like "when loved ones try to throw themselves into graves. It's that deep."

The judge noted that Oziel was "a leader" in the synagogue, who would "select people to pray and lead the congregation in singing." But his interests "went well beyond those of a religious leader."

As for the victim, "it took a brave person to come forward."

An employee of Petah Tikva told *The CJN* that Oziel had been a cantor there and "always" led services about a decade ago, but that he has not been a member "for two or three years."

Oziel has applied for bail pending an appeal.

Nemsila decision expected soon

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Federal Court judge has promised a quick decision in the case involving alleged Nazi war criminal Joseph Nemsila.

The Nemsila case wound up last week after interveners for four Jewish organizations presented arguments why Nemsila, convicted in the former Czechoslovakia for war crimes, could not be protected from deportation by having acquired Canadian domicile.

Nemsila's lawyer, Barbara Jackman, had argued that under Canada's old Immigration Act, Nemsila acquired domicile after living here for five years and was immune from deportation — even if he misrepresented pertinent facts about his wartime activities when he entered Canada.

Canadian Jewish Congress lawyer Ed Morgan said it is illogical for Nemsila, who does not have citizenship, to have greater rights than someone who had obtained Canadian citizenship. That person can be stripped of his citizenship and deported.

Such an outcome is inconsistent with the equality provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The way to correct the situation is by removing the exemption from deportation for people with domicile, he argued.

Other interveners who addressed the court were David Matas representing B'nai Brith Canada, John B. Laskin on behalf of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and Ken Narvey for the Montreal-based Coalition of Concerned Congregations.

They argued that domicile cannot be acquired fraudulently or by misrepresenting key information.

Justice Department lawyer Christopher Amerasinghe argued that because Nemsila misrepresented his activities, he was never lawfully admitted to Canada and subsequently could not legally obtain domicile.

Nemsila is one of five alleged Nazi war criminals who federal authorities are attempting to remove from Canada. Three of the others are Canadian citizens while a fifth, Antanas Kenstavicius, like Nemsila is not a citizen. That case is on hold pending a decision by the judge in the Nemsila case.

Droege back in court

TORONTO — Wearing chains and leg irons, Wolfgang Droege, the leader of the white supremacist Heritage Front (HF) was led into court last week to answer charges he violated a consent order against offering hateful messages on the telephone.

Droege was brought to court from the Toronto (Don) Jail, where he is serving a sentence for aggravated assault in a case that arose out of a wild downtown melee involving members of the Heritage Front and anti-racists.

This time, Droege, the Heritage Front and June French, the voice on the HF's answering machine, are alleged to have recorded a message accusing the Jewish community of vengeance by pulling old men out of retirement homes and off respirators to have them charged with war crimes.

The message, which ran in February 1995, prompted a complaint to the Canadian Human Rights Commission by Canadian Jewish Congress, said Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber.

Congress, along with the Native Canadian Centre, laid the initial complaint against Droege and the Heritage Front when it ran a message insulting Native anti-racist leader Rodney Bobiwash, Farber said.

That complaint led to a consent order of the court in which the Heritage Front promised not to offer telephone messages that expose people to hatred or contempt.

Congress believes the new message is anti-Semitic and violates the earlier consent order, he added.

A decision has been reserved in the case.

— P.L.

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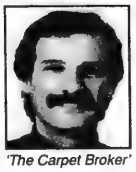

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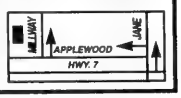

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Greater Toronto Area

Consultant conceived of Yad BeYad volunteer program

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Five years ago, the international volunteer program Yad BeYad (Hand in Hand), which offers English classes to olim in Israel, was still a pipe dream; and the Canada-Israel Forum, which sponsors its first one-day conference this Sunday, had yet to be dreamed up.

The woman who launched them both began with "a tremendous urge" to respond to Israel's difficulties in absorbing new olim, particularly musicians, scientists and doctors from the former Soviet Union.

A career management consultant by profession, South African-born Loretta Helman, now 52, knew she had the expertise to help.

On her return from a 1991 United Jewish Appeal mission to Israel, she drafted a proposal for the program which was to become Yad BeYad.

Nobody to whom she wrote replied, but an acquaintance, hearing of her idea, suggested she contact the Israeli Forum.

Indeed the Tel Aviv-based nonpolitical organization, which fosters absorption of olim and ties between Israeli and Diaspora Jews, turned out to be just what she was seeking.

Today the Israeli Forum does some of the Yad BeYad administrative work in Israel and provides funding along with the Jewish Agency and the eight municipalities where the program is run.

Now entering its fifth year, Yad BeYad serves more than 1,000 adult students over two two-week sessions every summer. In 1992, there were 130 students and 20 teachers.

Loretta Helman

Last year, 104 volunteers took part in the program — individuals from Canadian cities such as Vancouver, Montreal and Ottawa, and groups from Toronto, Boston, Chicago and Memphis.

The volunteers comprise a broad spectrum of Jewish backgrounds, from observant to secular, as well as non-Jews.

"People are all working for a common purpose. It's so exhilarating," says Helman.

A phone call from a potential volunteer in New Jersey interrupts the interview. Helman has even had inquiries from Alaska, and a number of volunteers have joined the program from England.

To organize a group, "you have to find this crazy person like me," laughs Helman.

Crazy? Maybe. Dedicated? Definitely.

"Yad BeYad takes up such a huge amount of my time, but it's not enough. We want to have a presence *here*," she says.

Shortly after Yad BeYad got off the ground, Helman did establish a local presence in the form of the Canada-Israel Forum, one of a small number of Diaspora affiliates of the Israeli Forum and the nonprofit umbrella group (a term Helman prefers to the more bureaucratic "organization") for activities such as Yad BeYad and the upcoming "mini-Moriah" conference being held this weekend at Baycrest Terrace.

Helman was inspired to create the conference, entitled Windows 5756: You Show Me Your Israel ... I'll Show You Mine!, after attending the Israeli Forum's three-day Moriah conference held in Israel every 18 months.

"It was a uniting kind of force," she recalls of the intensive program which brings together Jews from around the world.

The mini-Moriah (for which registration closes Feb. 8), is aimed — like its international counterpart — at promoting understanding through dialogue.

The opening panel will feature Middle East analyst Shira Herzog and Haifa University sociologist Eugene Weiner. Participants will be able to attend two of three workshops on various aspects of a changing Israel and our diverse perceptions of the country. Workshop facilitators are Allan Reitzes, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto; Baruch Gur, Jewish Agency *shaliach*; economists Jack Mintz and Eli Katz; Zac Kaye, director, Central Campus Services of Greater Toronto; and sociologist Rina Cohen.

REUNION IN JERUSALEM

York University has sent the largest contingent of exchange students from any North American university to the Hebrew University this year. Nineteen students from York are studying in Jerusalem, another five at Tel Aviv University, and others at a number of other universities, yeshivot and special seminars. A number of the students were awarded scholarships from York to pursue their studies abroad. The York group at the Hebrew University gathered in Jerusalem for a reunion with Prof. Michael Brown, the director of York's Centre for Jewish Studies who was visiting in Israel. Seen here is the group Vidal Bekerman, Joshua Blinick, Debra Cohen, Michelle Cohen, Jessica Feldman, Ronny Felsen, Zev Gitalis, Aaron Goldman, Yuri Hronsky, Jody Kasner, Gillian Kirsh, Judi Levy-Bencheton, Dana Moskowitz and Michael Noble.

Federation goes online

TORONTO — The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto is joining the WorldWide Web on Purim, March 5, when the Federation's Jewish Toronto home page will be available for viewing worldwide by millions of web users.

The Jewish Toronto site will include a community calendar, a community directory, Jewish holiday information, the Federation's *Community Matters* supplement published in *The Canadian Jewish News*, recent news releases and Federation publications — all frequently updated.

Although a Web address has not yet been selected, Jewish organizations interested in promoting their activities or events on the site can contact Brodbar at 416-631-5727 or by e-mail at feduja@passport.ca.

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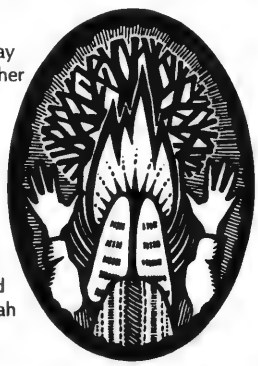

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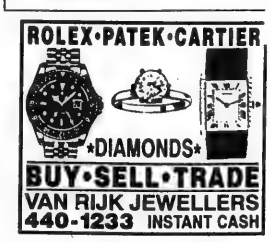

Orthodox woman works in prisons

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The supply manifest for the hostage teams in the Central Ohio prison system has one unusual component.

Along with the expected guns, walkie-talkies and writing material, there is the notation "one *teichel.*"

That is because a member of that team is Barbara Abrams, a psychologist who is also an Orthodox Jew.

The *teichel* is necessary, she explained to the opening lecture at Flaming the Fire From Within, Aish HaTorah's third annual women's day, because the communication device which monitors all conversations would tear her *sheitl.*

While Orthodoxy and prison work appear to be incompatible, Abrams, who has worked for over five years in Ohio prisons, said that she has not in fact found that to be the case.

This is partly because she has treated the requirements of Orthodoxy, such as not working on Shabbat, matter-of-factly and with confidence.

"I had my schedule, which had me working from 7 to 4:30 Monday to Thursday, and 7 to 11 on Friday, written into my contract from the first. I just walked in and gave them the times, and said either you accommodate me or don't hire me. They said OK."

In an often hilarious talk, she described other problems one might not think of, such as the metal combs in her *sheitl* setting off the metal detectors and asking her rabbi how to dress for unarmed combat classes, not to mention dealing with the injunction against touching someone of the opposite sex. (He told her to do whatever she had to do — her life might depend on knowing how to defend herself.)

She admitted that in an atmosphere of potential violence, drugs, manipulation and coarseness, it would have been easy to lose her spirituality, just as it would have been easy for her marriage and other personal relationships to disintegrate under the strain.

After a fairly short time working in the prison system, "I realized that I was at the beginning of the vortex — things were starting to suck me in."

What she decided to do, she said, was to say her morning prayers in her office before she starts to work, and her evening prayers as soon as she gets home.

"Davening puts me in order," she said. "Because I'm religious, I constantly have to check to make sure I'm on the centre line. I have to think about what my priorities are. During davening, I especially concentrate on those parts about dealing with other people."

She also had trouble with other Jews, who feared her being a bad influence on their families.

"I spoke to the Bostoner rebbe. He said that I was serving humanity, and if any of your friends give you trouble, have them call me. That solved the problem."

The day-long program, also included workshops on improving relationships, dealing with difficulties, and prayer, and a speech by New York lecturer and author Rabbi Moshe Weinberger.

MOSAIC MURAL

Artist Ian Leventhal and participants are seen painting a mosaic mural of some 200 wooden tiles in celebration of the 3,000th anniversary of the conquest of Jerusalem by King David. The event took place at the CBC Building in Toronto and will ultimately be a gift to the city of Jerusalem. The event was sponsored by the New Leadership Group of The Jerusalem Foundation of Canada.

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One of the few remaining ways Canadians can reduce the income tax they pay is by making contributions to an RSP. However, few of us have the cash required to make our maximum contribution.

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John, age 30, has a maximum RSP contribution limit of $8,100. So far, he's only been able to save $2,100. Let's consider the benefits of John borrowing the additional $6,000 he needs to reach his limit.

Scenario #1

John decides not to borrow, leaving his total 1995 RSP contribution amount at $2,100. Assuming his combined federal and provincial tax rate is about 42%, his tax savings would be $882 (42% x $2,100). If his $2,100 RSP investment earns 10% per year over 25 years, it will grow to $23,000.

Scenario #2

John borrows the additional $6,000 to reach his goal of making his maximum contribution of $8,100. At his combined tax rate of 42%, his tax savings will be $3,402. If he receives this as a tax refund, he can reduce his loan immediately to $2,598.

$6,000	original amount borrowed
$3,402	less his tax refund amount applied to the loan
$2,598	new loan balance

John has also made a big difference in the value of his savings for his retirement years. By borrowing the $6,000 required to make his maximum contribution, John's $8,100 contribution, earning 10%, will have grown to $88,000 at age 55. That's $65,000 more than if he only contributed $2,100! That's the power of borrowing your maximum contribution.

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Peace in the Mideast

The peace process in the Middle East is working, despite a jumble of unresolved problems and disheartening, disgusting spasms of terrorism. Skeptics have issued dire warnings that the Oslo accords endanger Israel's vital interests and even imperil its very existence. But this claim is basically myopic and does not withstand scrutiny.

Judging by recent developments, Israel's faith in peacemaking is not misplaced. On Jan. 22, after interminable delays, Israel and Tunisia finally took the first step toward establishing full diplomatic relations. Tunisia is the third North African Arab country to have entered into peaceful relations with Israel, having been preceded by Egypt and Morocco. (Israel and Mauritania — a member of the Arab League on the western edge of the Maghreb — announced a mutual recognition agreement last year.)

On Jan. 28, Oman signed an accord with Israel under which commercial interest offices will be opened in Tel Aviv and Muscat. With the stroke of a pen, Oman thus became the first Arab state in the Persian Gulf to establish formal ties with Israel.

To Israel's satisfaction, there has been movement on the Palestinian front as well. Israel and its partner, the PLO, have promulgated two major agreements since the 1993 Declaration of Principles; the Palestinians in the territories have elected a transitional self-governing council.

Talks between Israel and Syria — the key to unlocking wider Arab recognition of Israel and deflating tensions in southern Lebanon — are proceeding in the United States. These protracted deliberations are not expected to bear fruit any time soon. Nevertheless, Israel and the United States have concluded that Syria has taken a strategic decision to pursue a peaceful resolution of its conflict with Israel.

Israel's peace treaty with Jordan, a spinoff of the Oslo accords, is thriving, notwithstanding dissident voices in Amman. King Hussein, who completed a triumphant tour of Tel Aviv in January, has made good on his promise to establish a framework of warm relations with Israel.

The accords with the PLO, Jordan, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia and Oman have served Israel well. They have defused the Arab-Israeli dispute, have been a harbinger of further peace treaties with Arab states, have largely eliminated the chances of another war, have ended the *intifadah*, have laid the foundation for a true Israeli/Palestinian rapprochement, have marginalized Arab radicals and have significantly weakened the Arab economic boycott.

Moreover, the promising new climate in the Middle East has had a beneficial effect on Israel's international profile. Sixty three nations have restored or forged diplomatic relations with Israel since the 1991 Madrid peace conference, and Israel's relationship with the United Nations has vastly improved. Furthermore, the peace process has helped fuel high levels of growth in the Israeli economy and pried open lucrative markets in Asia.

Although the Oslo accords have worked far better than some would have imagined, the road to a stable Middle East, with peace and security for all, is paved with thorns.

Palestinian terrorists have exacted a heavy toll in life and limb on Israel, and will surely try to do so again. However, the Palestine National Authority has belatedly come to the realization that terrorism is inimical to wider Palestinian interests. And now, without further ado, it is incumbent on the PLO to live up to its solemn pledge and annul clauses in its national covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

In May, when Israel and the PLO sit down for final status talks to discuss such crucial matters as Jewish settlements, Jerusalem, water rights and borders, the hardest part of the negotiations will begin. But if both sides bring goodwill, sensitivity and foresight to the historic meetings, which are scheduled to wind down in 1999, they can usher in the new millennium on a most auspicious note. — S.K.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

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MR. SHULDIG AND HIS DOG, DOOBIE.

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Feb. 5, 1860, the oldest Jewish cemetery in western Canada was consecrated at Cedar Hill Road in Victoria.
(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)

Adulation of Yahya Ayyash frightening

Other than a handful of lunatic ultra-religious fanatics, no Jew nor Israeli applauded Baruch Goldstein's massacre of 29 Muslim worshippers in Hebron. It is therefore frightening to see thousands and thousands of Muslims mourning the death of the despicable and cowardly Yahya Ayyash. It is mind boggling that a political science professor at Gaza's Islamic University should remark that the people appreciate what this man, this hero, has done for them. And further, that a so-called man of God would preach and pray from a mosque for the creation of 1001 like Yahya.

Even PLO Chairman, Yasser Arafat, failed to condemn the atrocious deeds of the bomb maker. The unabashed pride of Ayyash's accomplishments by his family is sickening. If all of this represents the mind set of the people of Gaza and its leadership, academic, religious and political, then the road to peace will be strewn with bloodshed and hatred for a long time to come.

Bert Raphael
Toronto

Questions super teaching hospital idea

Your column "In and around Montreal" (*CJN*, Jan. 18, Montreal edition) intrigued me because while the existence of a Medical and Health Services Division of CJA makes good sense, it should not lend itself to ideas which may be offensive.

The concept of "one super teaching hospital — that will prompt health care professionals to become more focused on their patients," admired by Dr. Abraham Fuks, Dean of Medicine at McGill University, is not widely accepted by physicians or the public because smaller hospitals are a preferred atmosphere for both resident training and patient care. Indeed, most people were horrified to learn that this unpopular proposal was associated with the announced closing of several excellent community hospitals in Montreal, including one with teaching status at McGill.

I question the wisdom of the University in putting forward a proposal for its own mega-hospital in the face of Government cutbacks in health care, and suggest that it has more to do with the defence of its large teaching hospitals than with concerns for the improved quality of care.

Samuel W. Levy
Head of Biochemistry
Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Montreal

One way to honor Jewish veterans

The item regarding the concerns of the Jewish and Islamic communities about the symbols for Remembrance Day used in Winnipeg schools took me back a few years to when I was on staff with the Scarborough Board of Education in Metro Toronto.

I taught my choir of grades 5 and 6 students (no Jews), the English version of *Eli, Eli* (words by Hannah Senesh), and it became *the* hymn for Nov. 11 program for many years. (We also sang, *In Flanders Field*.)

Judith Ross
Toronto

What peace will do for Israel

The Arab-Israeli Peace Accord has numerous benefits, one of which is security and expansion of the Israeli economy. With the first autonomous Palestinian elections last week, it appears that the peace between the Palestinians and Israelis is already producing tangible results. Israel was politically unstable for so many years that few countries would agree to enter into long-term relations with them. Yet with the peace in Israel and proof that peace will be maintained and guarded, the land of milk and honey appears open for business.

Now, Canada and Israel have signed a free trade agreement, which will be mutually beneficial for both parties. The tariffs will be removed July 1 and Israel will focus its attention on investors in the agricultural, construction and hi-tech sectors of its economy. The increased stability that Israel will enjoy as a result of the peace that Rabin labored for and that Peres is continuing to refine, will bring more than the end to a long struggle. Peace is paying off for Israel by providing the political stability it needs in order for other countries to trust its economy and invest there.

Bess Joffe
Montreal

The Sam Bronfman photos

The photos for the article on Sam Bronfman (*CJN*, Jan. 4) were supplied by the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada.

Bonnie Tregobov
Winnipeg

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Ontario government's remedy worse than the disease

By RABBI DOW MARMUR

Excerpted from his address at the Interfaith Social Action Reform Coalition Conference, Toronto, Nov. 2, 1995.

Meir Tamari, the recognized authority on Jewish business ethics and related matters, from whom I have learnt much, writes: "[Judaism] possesses characteristics that in part are similar to those associated with socialism, and yet others often similar to those in free market operations." And he adds: "This is neither surprising nor problematical. After all, Judaism is not an economic system, but a spiritual and moral value structure, within which economic activity takes place and is formed into a pattern of holiness."

It is this background that prompts me to suggest that now, when we have sampled the bitter taste of The Common Sense Revolution in Ontario, many of us — defenders and detractors alike — will come to realize what we may have only surmised before, namely that the document, and the way it is being implemented, will have far-reaching repercussions for the very fabric of our society. In many ways, the triumph of this document illustrates what happens to society when religion is relegated to the private realm, where God sense is banished from common sense.

And that is, of course, most emphatically, a religious concern, relevant to all faiths. In the best tradition of the Hebrew prophets, which Jews share with their Christian neighbors, as religious leaders, we are called upon to react the way Amos or Jeremiah might have reacted in similar circumstances. We must testify to the word of God, whether it is expedient or not. Two particular characteristics of such a response come to mind.

First, the prophets always made a point of telling people what *ought* to be, not what *will* be. They were — in Dean Inge's felicitous phrase — forthtellers, not foretellers Or as the late John Robinson described them, the prophets were radicals in the literal sense — they went to the root of things — and even when they proclaimed the doom of Jerusalem, they wept for it. We, too, must speak what we believe to be true, but never without love and care for those whom we criticize.

Second, the Hebrew prophets were partisan. They took the side of the poor and the disadvantaged. They did not claim to be objective; they only claimed to be right, because they spoke the word of God. As a result, they judged society not by the way it provided for the powerful, but by the way it dealt with the downtrodden.

But it is to the heirs of the prophets, the Pharisees — whom exponents of Christianity have for so long and so unjustly despised — that I turn for the first substantive part of these reflections.

We read in Pirkei Avot the following: "There are four character types among people. One who says, 'What is mine is mine and what is yours is yours,' is of average character, and others say this is the characteristic of Sodom; one who says, 'What is mine is yours and what is yours is mine,' is an ignoramous; one who says, 'What is mine is yours and what is yours is yours,' is a pious person; one who says, 'What is yours is mine and what is mine is mine,' is a wicked person."

We need not concern ourselves here with the wicked, the pious or the foolish. But the first of the four is relevant in our context: "One who says 'What is mine is mine and what is yours is yours.' " This character is, understandably, described as "average," possessing what we might call common sense.

"If you extend your soul to the hungry ... your light will rise in the darkness ..." (Isaiah 58:10)

And then comes the second opinion: "This is the characteristic of Sodom." When applied to our situation now, the issue seems to be this: Is the doctrine of "mine is mine," which seems to be behind the thinking of *The Common Sense Revolution*, the accepted view of ordinary — "average" — folk, which the government of Ontario has been entrusted to implement, or is it, in fact, the way of Sodom?

The reference in our text is not to the Sodom of sexual misconduct but to a sentence in The Book of Ezekiel: "Only this was the sin of your sister Sodom: arrogance! She and her daughters had plenty of bread and untroubled tranquillity; yet she did not support the poor and the needy." (16;49) This sounds much closer to home, does it not? Many commentators to the passage in the Mishnah take up the theme. Let me quote but four.

First, R. Travers Herford (1860-1950), a Unitarian theologian who devoted his life to the study of Judaism and who was the first among non-Jewish scholars to offer an informed, positive view of the Pharisees. He writes: "There is of course no implication that ordinary men are as wicked as those of Sodom. The author of the remark ... probably meant to express his strong dissent from the view that the rule of 'each for himself' was the one followed by the average man. That rule was the most intensely selfish of the four mentioned, because it denied all relation whatever between a man and his fellow men, and left each shut up in himself."

Next, Irving Bunim, a contemporary American-Jewish teacher, who makes an important distinction between poor people — "average" folk holding on to their own — and the rich using the "mine is mine" formula: "But should a rich man make this *his* motto and say, 'I will hold on to what is mine, and let others be satisfied with the little they have' — if it makes people neglect the needs of others — this course is precisely the way of Sodom that forbade its people on pain of death to feed any person or passing stranger."

Which brings me to the third reflection on the same statement in Avot, this one by Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka of Ottawa, a well-known and respected teacher of Judaism: "The exactitude with which such a statement is made and the insistence that there can never be sharing — that what is mine must always be mine, what is yours must always be yours, I will not give to you and you do not give to me — can create a syndrome of insensitivity, of non-communication, of non-concern, which eventually leads to hardness, callousness and total disregard of the other individual, even producing the inability to help — and eventually the desire to harm. The attitude of 'What is mine is mine and what is yours is yours' creates a progression of depersonalization from which all types of human cruelty can emanate."

That is our nightmare. We fear that, though they are in themselves at times laudable, the common sense efforts to reduce fiscal deficit will create a moral deficit with much more devastating implications, both in the short and in the long term. We are afraid that the remedy is worse than the disease. Therefore, emulating the prophets of old, we feel compelled to warn against the dangers behind the words. Though The Common Sense Revolution promises not to cut education, health care and safety from criminals, the impact of the overall cuts is already affecting these three areas and, therefore, is likely to do untold damage to our society.

Even if the evidence of current opinion polls brings comfort to those in power, we, like the biblical prophets, must alert public opinion that "they offer healing offhand for the wounds of My people, saying *'Shalom, shalom* All is well, all is well;' *v'eyn shalom* when nothing is well." (Jeremiah 6;14) This kind of populism constitutes a threat to every society; the fact that previous governments may not have done better should give us no comfort.

But it does bring me to the fourth and final comment, this one from Meir Tamari: "However, what made it necessary to destroy Sodom was not the individual selfishness of its citizens, but the fact that this had become an integral part of its communal culture. While a society can exist with cruel and selfish individuals, the moral decay that sets in when cruelty and callousness become hallmarks of that society marks it for Divine retribution.

Though it would be premature to lapse into a rhetoric that suggests that a few months of the effects of The Common Sense Revolution have brought us to this situation, it is not too early to warn against the possible consequences in the long term and, even more important, to look at the value system, rather than just the words, behind the document.

The value system that informs my spiritual life is based on the Psalmist's assertion that "the earth is the Lord's and all that it holds, the world and its inhabitants." (Psalms 24;1) This is not only a standard text in most expositions of the religious perspective on ecology, but also a compelling refutation of the notion of "mine is mine" — because *everything* is the Lord's. To share of what is mine with you, because you have less than I, is an act of *imitatio dei*. A passage in the Talmud tells how, despite the unbridgeable distance between God and humanity, it is possible for humans to imitate God: Just as God is merciful, so must humans be merciful; just as God is kind and righteous, so humans should be kind and righteous; just as God looks after all the creatures in the world, so must we.

Common sense — "What is mine is mine and what is yours is yours" — encounters God sense. The imperative to imitate God in order to be fully human — to be whole, to be holy — stands in sharp contrast to the notion of "mine is mine." And God sense as *imitatio dei* can only become operative in society through the instrument of justice.

But rather than regarding wealth as evidence of our own achievements due to our own merits, we are called to look upon it as a sign of divine grace, bestowed on us in order to call us to responsibility. Tamari writes: "The wealth provided therefore by Him [God], although meant primarily for the satisfaction of the needs and wants of the private owner, is also meant to be used to satisfy the needs of the poor and the inefficient — the old, the weak, and even the lazy. Just as business morality needs to be legislated, so too does this mutual assistance. If left to the philanthropy of the individual and to his acts of kindness, human nature and the lust for wealth would limit this act of sharing. So society acquires a property right in the wealth of the individual, to provide, through compulsory acts of taxation, the social and charitable needs of its members. These funds are either tzedakah (charity) or *tzedek* (justice). Voluntary sharing of wealth in response to claims of the poor and weak is charity, but compulsory participation in the communal funds to provide these needs is an act of justice. Non-participation in such funding becomes tantamount to theft, either from the recipients of the funding or from the other participants who now have to provide a greater share."

Without wishing to make common cause in any way whatsoever with those who dream of a theocracy in our midst, we must nevertheless reflect on the prospect of doom that comes from Godlessness, of the threat of disintegration when common sense is elevated to the level of God sense, and when religious institutions are only recognized as benevolent do-gooders and told to pick up the pieces from the damage done by Government.

Opinions

Why Israel needs Western aliyah now

The world and its media keep hectoring Israel to take risks for peace. Present Israeli risks include troop withdrawal from five Palestinian cities, henceforth a potential refuge for terrorists; elections which virtually assure a Palestinian state with borders which may be unsafe; suffering in silence Yasser Arafat's claims to Jerusalem as his future state's capital and — this at Christmas in Bethlehem! — to Jesus as a Palestinian; even the possibility, unthinkable not long ago, of withdrawal from that fortress of Israeli security, the Golan Heights. What other country ever took such risks for what is after all, not yet peace but only a peace process? Left and right may disagree on the gravity of the risk, but no honest person can wish it away.

By Emil Fackenheim

But for *Time* magazine more hectoring is necessary. A lead story on Palestinians in Lebanon (Jan. 15) retells why these refugees are in camps still: they are not allowed either to become Lebanese or to return to Israel, but only to visit there. In *Time*'s retelling, a Palestinian woman does just that, visiting her former home in a village near Haifa, now occupied by a Jewish family from Yemen. Invited in for coffee, she breaks into tears, but is comforted by her hostess: "God willing, you will return to this house and I will return to my house in Yemen."

Return to Yemen? (A friend of mine asks: "Where on earth did *Time* dig this one up?") From Yemen Jews quite literally *fled on their feet*, arriving at freedom, if at all, as "walking skeletons." (Thus Howard Sachar, a respected historian, frequently critical of Israel.) If Jews *can — ought to? — return to Yemen, they can — ought to — return anywhere. Time* has chosen the precise moment when Israel is taking risks some consider too high for using its inimitable way — who can resist a human interest story, let alone this one? — to delegitimate the entire Zionist enterprise. A just peace must include these refugees (a subject for a future letter); but Jews returning to their "houses" in Yemen is hardly justice.

President Ezer Weizman chose the same moment as *Time*'s to make possibly the most eloquent Zionist speech ever made. At the right place, too: the German Bundestag. Identifying himself with the Jewish "wandering" through the "200 generations [that] have passed since Abraham left his birthplace and went to the land that is today my land," he stressed, "the 150 generations [that] went by between the pillars of fire of the Exodus from Egypt and the columns of smoke of the Holocaust." His climax: "We respect the states neighboring us and their cultures, but in our own way and in adherence to our own values and our culture."

The Bundestag needed that speech. So did the German people. So did Jews in Germany, as the president said he could not understand how they could live there, not in Israel. And what of European politicians, most patronizing as they are among those hectoring Israel? Last but not least, that speech should be distributed throughout Israel.

After half a century of siege and war with enemies, and hectoring and pressuring from half-hearted friends, Israelis are tired. So is their Zionism, as expressed in "post-Zionism," "economic Zionism" and similar euphemisms. Having held the Zionist fort for so long, Israelis need Western immigrants whose Zionism is not tired — such as Ruth Matar and her daughter-in-law Nadia, the one a grandmother, the other the young mother of three.

Ruth and Nadia head Women in Green, mostly from the West, former Democrats and Republicans, presently Labor and Likud, of many opinions in religion and politics, but at one (to cite their name) "for Israel's tomorrow." One reporter found them "the most authentic and popular resistance movement ... here over the past few years." He would love to argue with them, he added.

I did not argue with Ruth and Nadia. To be with them was enough. These two Jewish women of valor left me, often discouraged these days, rejuvenated, wanting to dance the Horah or do something similarly Zionist, innocent and juvenile. I had been, as it were, in the presence of the Zionist conscience of Israel.

Have brush, will travel

I am sure you have often seen the picture: some earnest looking woman or man, face shielded by a big sun-screen hat, kneeling before some inanimate object and attacking it with something that looks like a little brush for painting water color pictures. Then you read the caption, which informs you that the photograph depicts an archeologist gently exhuming a priceless artifact. Whereupon you turn to other, more lively news.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Well, look again. What the image portrays is, in fact, a sleuthing effort to unravel mysteries of the past. And if you have any interest at all in history, then you should take a second look at archeology.

In Israel, it's one of the most popular pastimes, which is easy to understand. For there, history has an impact on the present; every town and village speaks of its origins. You only have to look to the ground to find your roots, literally. I still remember attending a lecture by Yigal Yadin, the nation's best known archeologist/politician/general, whose father, Eliezer Sukenik, was one who brought the Dead Sea Scrolls to the world's attention. I came early, but the hall was already filled.

I even had my own experience in the field, limited as it was. It happened 40 years ago. I was then a rabbi in Minnesota and was on semi-sabbatical leave. My wife and I, along with our two young children, were taking a stroll along the Caesarea beach. At that time, there had not as yet been any excavations in the area; the country had other problems. The Suez crisis was about to erupt, and our family foursome were among the rare visitors that summer.

The beach was empty and we soon were intrigued by the broken shards that were lying all around. It did not take an expert to recognize that this was old stuff, and a little poking around unearthed parts of jars, fossilized bird bones and the like. We had no spade or any tool, except some sticks with which we poked around. Unprepared though we were, we all felt suddenly connected to the mysteries of ages gone by.

The memory of that morning in Caesarea has never left me, and every time I open the pages of *Biblical Archeology Review* the fascination returns. There is rarely an issue that does not tell me of new finds and insights.

Which brings me to telling you of an opportunity. Maybe there are a few readers of this column who have wondered whether they could join in a dig. Well, you can, and do so as an amateur. There are dozens of opportunities to participate in a program sponsored by the Israel Archeological Society for this coming summer. For instance, you might want to dig at Tel Beth-She'an. This was the city where the Philistines displayed the heads of King Saul and his son Jonathan. King David finally conquered the town, which already then had a long history. The search is now on for evidence of Bronze or Iron Age traces.

In case you are interested in any dig, write to Israel Archeological Society, 467 Levering Ave., Los Angeles, Ca. 90024; phone 800-177-2358 or 310-472-9449; fax 310-476-6259; e-mail ias@interramp.com

P.S. You may have to bring a brush.

Jerusalem and the peace process

By DAVID HARTMAN

Throughout history, Jerusalem has been a symbol of God's stake in human history. For the three major monotheistic faiths, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, Jerusalem was a powerful symbol of God's concern with history and of the redemptive scheme which would vindicate the beliefs of the one, true faith. There could be only one carrier of the truth. Gaining control of Jerusalem meant gaining control of the secret to God's redemptive design for history.

By David Hartman

The history of monotheism in general, and the history of Jerusalem in particular, have been histories of *holy* wars and conflicts, because of this belief in the exclusivity of God's plan for realizing the grand scheme of human history. Christianity thus claimed to be the heir of Judaism, and Islam the heir of both Judaism and Christianity. Each faith viewed the other as its enemy — the enemy of religious truth as such.

The question that must be faced today is whether this was the inevitable consequence of the religious framework rooted in the biblical tradition? Is fundamentalism with its single-truth, absolutist claim the necessary legacy of Jerusalem for the modern world?

In total contrast to this orientation, I have devoted my life to trying to show that the Jewish return to Jerusalem can be viewed, not as yet another attempt at capturing the universal, but as a return to the particular. Ours is the return of the eldest son, the rejected son, the son who was excluded from sharing in the blessing.

Jewish homelessness and exile had been interpreted as signs of Divine rejection and as the vindication of the Christian doctrine of the New Covenant. Israel's homelessness was theologically necessary in order to confirm the truth of the gospel proclaiming the "good news" of the arrival of the New Israel.

I deeply believe that the world has passed beyond that type of triumphalism and is ready for a new appreciation of religious pluralism.

Jerusalem is the ingathering of a people to its home after years of separation and wandering. This idea is the cornerstone for building genuine peace in the Middle East. Viewing Israel as a post-Holocaust phenomenon makes the State of Israel into a passing historical episode. It is crucial, therefore, that Christians and Muslims understand what Jews mean when they say: *We are home.*

The non-Jewish world must know that we are no longer wandering Jews suffering because of the curse of a rejecting God. We are no longer the persecuted victims of history. We are strong and healthy and weak and vulnerable like all ordinary human beings. Unless you begin to see us in a new way, the demon of triumphalism will continue to be monotheism's legacy to the world.

When Islam and Christianity recognize our coming home, we will have no difficulty making room for them. When you are a stranger, you cannot welcome guests. When you know you are at home, you can.

Lasting peace is thus connected to the world's acknowledging the Jewish people's claim to be returning to their home, to the home that was so deeply embedded in their souls for over 2,000 years. This is what makes the issue of Jerusalem an integral part of the peace process.

Jerusalem always played an important role in the great story of Western culture, the Bible. Jerusalem is one of its central motifs. It is where the Temple stood, where the immanence of God was incarnated in its most concrete form. In contrast to the Greek philosophic notion of a historical idea of divinity wholly removed from the imperfections of matter and history, Jerusalem signified God's interest and involvement in human history. Jerusalem gave concrete expression to the biblical message that God had a stake in human history.

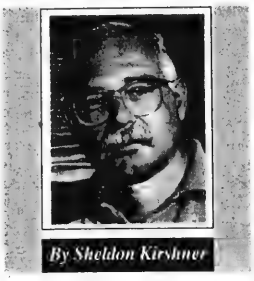
The biblical story is throughout informed by the principle that only one child inherits. The theme of the chosen versus the rejected recurs repeatedly throughout the Bible. One son gets the blessing while the other gets none. This motif still reverberates in the minds of those claiming to have inherited the biblical tradition. The logic of religious faith is either/or, either you are blessed or you are rejected. The story that created the promise of Jerusalem also created the curse of the eternal battle over Jerusalem.

I believe that our role as Jews today is to change this aspect of the story. We began the story and now we have come back to stay, our story has another part to it which states that God listens to many different songs and melodies. This is my dream and my hope for Jerusalem.

The Kirshner File

Canadian Soviet Jewry movement made a difference

Founded to expedite the orderly departure of Jews from the Soviet Union, the Soviet Jewry movement animated



By Sheldon Kirshner

and inspired Jewish communities from Australia to Zaire from the early 1960s to the late 1980s.

It was a human rights cause which transcended class, ethnicity and religion, bringing together under one roof housewives and professors and Christians and Jews.

In Canada, the movement blossomed into a mighty network of interlocking organizations which, in the final analysis, truly made a difference.

"We helped change the Soviet Union's immigration policy," said Wendy Eisen, a Toronto woman who has written a comprehensive account of that movement, *Count Us In* (Burgher Books, $29.95). "We kept the issue on the West's political agenda."

Through protests, meetings and lobbying, the men and women of that movement were instrumental in persuading Moscow to moderate its policy. The gates were not opened at once. Indeed, there were moments when all seemed lost, when immigration levels were reduced to a trickle.

Yet, at the end of the day, the Soviet Jewry activists in the Diaspora triumphed. Moscow liberalized its heretofore rigid and capricious policy and, with it, literally hundreds of thousands of Jews were permitted to leave the country that had so oppressed them and their culture and religion.

In Canada, advocacy on behalf of Soviet Jews began in 1961, shortly after the first international conference on Soviet Jewry convened in Paris.

The movement here crystallized with a visit to Montreal by Meir Rosenne, an Israeli diplomat based in New York City. Until then, Canadians supportive of Soviet Jewry could be counted on one hand.

Among the few in Montreal were David Hartman, a rabbi, and Irwin Cotler, a McGill law student. Toronto had Rabbi Stuart Rosenberg and Nat Silver of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

From an uncoordinated effort spearheaded by individuals, the concern for Soviet Jews coalesced into a genuine grassroots movement. Eisen, in her thoroughly-documented book, describes its incremental development.

In the early 1960s, following the arrest of a Soviet rabbi, a nationwide conference of rabbis was formed to deal with the issue of Soviet Jewry in general. Later, in 1970, the movement was galvanized by a show trial in Leningrad.

In 1971, at the behest of some Toronto students, Russian-born Genya Intrator made the first of numerous telephone calls to Jews in the Soviet Union. Intrator, who became a key player in the movement, was a founder of the Women for Soviet Jewry committee.

The Canadian Committee for Soviet Jewry was established in 1972, shortly after Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin visited Canada. The Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry, known as the 35s, emerged in Britain but chapters popped up in Canada and elsewhere.

Eisen, a McGill graduate, worked as a volunteer for the 35s in Montreal and in Toronto. She was attracted to the movement in 1974 after hearing a spellbinding speech by Yitzhak Rager, then the director of the Soviet Jewry desk at the Israeli Consulate in New York and now the mayor of Beersheva.

"I didn't know much about the movement before," she admitted. "I was too busy having babies."

Eisen, the former chair of Toronto's United Jewish Appeal, saw the movement as "a second chance." Her parents' generation had not done enough to try to stop the extermination of Jews in Europe, and in light of that tragedy, her generation had an obligation to rescue Soviet Jewry from what she calls a spiritual and cultural holocaust.

"We had a duty to speak out, not to remain silent," explained Eisen, whose grandparents were Russian Jews.

A modest person, she minimizes her contributions to the movement, content in the knowledge that she was merely "one of the players." Apart from her involvement with the 35s, Eisen taught a course on Soviet Jewry to sixth grade students at a Hebrew day school, published a booklet on Prisoners of Zion and travelled to the Soviet Union on several occasions to meet Refuseniks.

Looking back at a movement that was eclipsed by the Gorbachev era, Eisen said it bolstered her Jewish identity. Above all, however, it fostered a spirit of cooperation in the Jewish community.

As Eisen, a Reform Jew, put it: "Soviet Jewry was a unifying force for secular and Orthodox Jews. We had a common enemy." With the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin still fresh in her mind, she added: "It's tragic that we need a common enemy to be united."

Eisen is immensely proud of the movement's achievements, particularly in Canada. "We did more than our numbers would have warranted," she said.

There were times, especially in the mid-1980s, when a sense of despair engulfed its members. But neither Eisen nor her co-workers ever threw in the towel. "We were committed to these people," she said in reference to Soviet Jews. "We couldn't give up on them. It sounds trite, but we learned how to hold hands."

Eisen is generous in her praise of her fellow activists, citing the work of, among others, Intrator, Cotler, Barbara Stern, Jeanette Goldman, Dr. Gerald Batist and Sharon Wolfe.

Wolfe, her travelling companion to the Soviet Union, was "extremely important" to the movement.

As a special assistant in the Prime Minister's Office, she was in constant touch with parliamentarians — some of whom went to the Soviet Union on fact-finding missions sponsored by the Canadian Committee for Soviet Jewry — and with advocacy groups when they visited Ottawa.

Eisen started to write *Count Us In* in 1989, as the mass movement of Jews from the Soviet Union lurched forward.

"Operation Exodus put me out of a job," she said. "There was a void in my life."

Armed with a federal grant which enabled her to hire an assistant for four years, Eisen plunged into the task of writing what has turned out to be the first book about the movement in Canada. "I thought, 'Hey, I have a lot of good stories to tell.' "

There were voluminous files to draw upon, but Eisen fleshed out her research by interviewing scores of Soviet Jewry activists, each of whom gave her a new perspective on the subject.

"The story," she said, "was like a gigantic jigsaw puzzle, with everyone filling in a piece."

Finally, after six years of toil, she finished the manuscript. But to her great disappointment, 16 publishers rejected it before Joshua Samuel of Burgher Books accepted it.

Count Us In, which Eisen has personally promoted in a series of cross-Canada launchings, has exceeded Samuel's expectations. "The book has sold well so far," said Eisen, who no longer maintains contact with Jews in the countries which once comprised the Soviet Union.

In retrospect, she feels privileged to have been a member of a movement and of a generation which facilitated the immigration of more than 600,000 Soviet Jews to Israel and the West. "It strengthened my commitment to speaking out against injustices, no matter where they might occur," she observed.

With *Count Us In* a reality, Eisen is uncertain as to what the future may hold. "What am I going to do with the rest of my life?" she chuckled. "I haven't figured it out yet."

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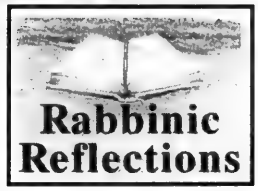


An eternal guidebook for a good life

By RABBI SHIMON DAVID BOUSKILA

The world and the Torah were developed in conjunction with one another, with the Torah intended as the eternal guidebook for a good life.

In order to give all of mankind the option of living according to the Torah's precepts, HaShem offered the Torah to each nation in the world. HaShem first approached the nation of Esav and asked, "Will you accept the Torah as the basis of your lifestyle?"

"What does the Torah contain?" they asked.

"One commandment is 'You shall not kill.' "

"No killing?" was the response. "But our entire existence is based on the permissibility of killing. We kill to live, and live to kill. If the Torah forbids killing, we cannot accept it."

HaShem then asked the nation of Yishmael if it would be willing to receive the Torah.

"What does the Torah contain?" asked Yishmael.

The Torah states, 'You shall not steal.'

"If that is so," replied Yishmael, "then we cannot possibly accept the Torah. If we cannot steal, then we will starve. Take the Torah and give it to some other nation."

And so it went, down the line. Nation after nation refused to accept the Torah, for they could not agree to live according to its laws. Finally, HaShem approached the nation of Israel: "Will you accept My Torah?"

The reply of the Israelites was brief and to the point: *"Na'aseh Venishmah."* (We will observe and then we will hear what the Torah contains.) In other words, not only was Israel willing to receive the Torah, but they were willing to do so before even knowing what it contained. This then was the nation that truly deserved the gift of the Torah.

The above suggests that the Jews accepted the Torah of their own free accord. However, this seems to be contradicted by a statement in the Gemara that HaShem threatened Yisrael by suspending a mountain over their heads until they agreed to accept the Torah. "Either you accept the Torah from me, or else you will all be buried there!" Did b'nei Yisrael then accept the Torah willingly or not?

Rabbenu Behaye explains that Israel accepted gladly the *Torah shebiktav*, the written Law; however, they were reluctant to receive the *Torah sheb'al peh*, the oral Law, as it contains many difficult concepts and commandments.

Other commentators explain that their acceptance was immediate and enthusiastic. No threats were needed to make the Jews become the people of G-d. When the Midrash refers to force, it pertains to the later generations of Jews.

We, who live now, no longer have the right to reject the Torah that was given to our ancestors. The transmission of the Torah to the Jews was meant for eternity and we must continue the Jewish adherence to its laws. Our ancestors were wise enough to perceive the great prize that HaShem offered and we cannot undo their good work by forsaking that gift.

In fact, the Torah was presented by HaShem Himself, and not through any intermediaries, even one as great as Moshe, to impress upon the Jews that the Torah is a timeless, Divine present. It cannot be changed by future generations, for it applies to all ages. If one were to alter any of the basic Torah laws, he would be challenging the wisdom of HaShem Himself. (Rabbi M. Katz)

The Maggid of Dubnow asks a question pertaining to *matan Torah*, the giving of the Torah: Why did HaShem not force the Torah upon the other nations as well? Surely, if HaShem had forced the nations, they would have accepted! The Maggid answers his own question with a parable.

A doctor was visited by a sick child and his mother. He diagnosed the child and gave the mother some medicine. A few weeks later, he was visited by the crying mother, who poured out her story.

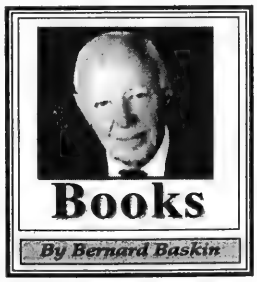
"My son didn't want to take the medicine and I didn't force him. But yesterday, he died overnight. I heard that your son had the same disease, but you forced him to take the medicine and he was cured. Why didn't you force my son to take it?"

The doctor answered thus: "To you, I am but a doctor. I diagnose the patient and I prescribe and offer you the medicine. You should have properly administered the medicine to your son. However, to my own son, I am a doctor and a father. I give him the medicine, and I see to it that he takes it."

In the same way, HaShem is our G-d and our Father. He gives us the Torah, and if we do not accept it willingly, He forces it upon us. But for non-Jews, He just offers it, and does not force it upon them.

Rabbi Bouskila is the spiritual leader of Petah Tikva Sephardic Congregation in Ville St-Laurent.

Can Diaspora Jews survive?



Why Should Jews Survive? by Michael Goldberg, Oxford $34.95

Jews in the Diaspora will not survive, insists Rabbi Michael Goldberg of Congregation B'nai Tikvah in Los Angeles, if they continue to rely on two uncertain and brittle pillars: the Holocaust and a secular State of Israel. As sources of Jewish identity they have already begun to crumble and will not be able to support or sustain the next generation.

"Jews will never have even the possibility of seeing God's power at work in the world unless they recant the dogma that the Holocaust proves there is no God, unless they forswear the idolatrous belief that only the State of Israel can ensure Jewish survival, and unless they give up looking for God in the narrow, private realm of ethnicity and 'psycho-Judaism' on the one hand, and a sham spirituality on the other, be it ersatz Chassidism or 'Jewish meditation workshops.' "

Launching a bold and exaggerated attack on what he calls the "Holocaust Cult," he bemoans the resources expended on Holocaust museums, the emphasis on UJA death camp pilgrimages and the influence of Eli Weisel.

"Like his predecessor in the Temple of old, Weisel has found that being High Priest is not without its benefits. Lionized by Jews and non-Jews alike, he can command five-figure fees for his speaking engagements, to which he has been known to fly by private plane. He is a man whose honors have ranged from receiving the Nobel Peace Prize to throwing out the first ball at a World Series game."

By focusing on the Holocaust, Jews relegate themselves to the status of victims, managing somehow to survive despite God's complicity in the persecution. Moreover, competition inevitably develops among the victimized. Even now, blacks are trying to build a museum in Washington D.C. memorializing slavery and racism.

"As the marketplace of victims

[Cont'd. on page 13]

Time to jettison 'Ultra'

By RABBI AVI SHAFRAN

Guest Voices

These days, when all Jews have been poignantly, tragically reminded of the Talmudic assertion that words have great power for evil as well as for good, it would be a wonderful time for Jewish journalists and periodicals to jettison the most common pejorative in common Jewish use — the term "Ultra-Orthodox."

"Ultra," according to my favorite word source (the *American Heritage Dictionary*), has among its meanings "immoderately adherent" or "exceeding what is common, moderate or *proper*" (emphasis mine). Other sources use synonyms like "extreme" or "too much."

Thus the term "Ultra-Orthodox" pointedly, if subtly, presents a reader with an immediate subjective bias, something that responsible journalism — and responsible human beings, for that matter — should avoid whenever possible. The Jews to whom that unflattering phrase is usually fastened may indeed be uncompromisingly faithful to the Jewish heritage, but they are hardly improper or immoderate (other than with respect to society at large — itself, many would contend, a less-than-shining example of moderation).

We who are labeled "Ultras" may well exceed what is Jewishly "common," sadly, in these amoral and assimilationist times, but we are hardly "extreme," a word more often — and aptly — applied to neo-Nazis and terrorists.

And "improper?" Does not the word "proper," at least from a Jewish perspective, encompass those who endeavor to practise the full spectrum of Jewish law and Jewish values? If that endeavor is indeed "too much," then we Jews as a people are in deeper trouble than we suspect.

Whether most Jews today choose to live religiously observant lives or not, those who plan their days on earth in consonance with Jewish law as codified for many centuries and practised by our common Jewish ancestors for millennia — are quintesentially Jewish, not "ultra"-anything. We haredim (from the Hebrew word for "tremble" — a reference to a verse that applies the term to meticulously observant Jews) may not be the Jewish mainstream in a sociological sense, but we are very much the Jewish mainstream in a historical one.

Using a term that marginalizes us, moreover, is not only an inexcusable, if subtle, vilification, it also sends a terrible subliminal message: that way — the way of dedication to the full Jewish heritage — lies madness. The message becomes all the more lamentable when one reflects on how the Jewish "identity" and "continuity" so desperately sought by so many Jewish leaders and organizations thrive, by all accounts, among us you-know-whos.

Contrary to popular imagination, we haredi Jews are not backward, do not sanction stone-throwing (and certainly not worse violence) and consider all our fellow Jews — observant or not — to be our brothers and sisters. The haredi community, furthermore, includes doctors, lawyers, computer programmers and professors, in addition to full-time mothers and full-time students of the traditions and texts of our religious heritage. Most haredim, moreover, while rejective of elements of what passes for culture in modern society, are nevertheless quite aware of and even conversant with the larger society around them, not to mention technologically adept.

Where haredim stand out is in their refusal to compromise the tenets or laws of their — our — religion. A haredi lawyer or businessman might interrupt a meeting for Minchah and haredi families are often rather large, compared to the Jewish norm. Haredim place a great emphasis on the study of the holy literature of the Jewish heritage — the deep and poignant wisdom of the ancient Jewish rabbis as well as the formidable corpus of Jewish law — and on communal and personal *chesed* or "benevolence." The latter is well-evidenced, not only in countless individual haredi lives, but in a host of haredi community services and organizations — including, among other things, free-loan societies, organized care for the sick and the destitute and community food-banks (all of which extend help not only to haredim but to all Jews in need). Those are some haredi "immoderations."

Wouldn't the members of the haredi community be more constructively — and accurately — portrayed, not as radicals but as examples, not as a threat to their fellow Jews but as a precious resource?

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency has largely laid aside its supply of "Ultra-Orthodox" labels, opting instead for either the awkward but circumspect "fervently Orthodox" or the simple and straightforward "haredi."

Isn't it really time that all Jewish periodicals and journalists followed suit?

Rabbi Shafran is director of public affairs for Agudath Israel of America.

Profound questions raised

[Cont'd. from page 12]

becomes increasingly crowded with more and more competitors, Jews and blacks will have to hawk their wares more stridently to make themselves heard above the din."

He takes to task Rabbi Emil Fackenheim who advocated a 614th commandment: "Jews are forbidden to hand Hitler a posthumous victory." This, says Goldberg, is an imperative "as devoid of any real content or rationale as the 'just do it' of a sports shoe ad."

The author maintains that the primary reason for remaining Jewish is found in the story of the Exodus, in which God redeems the Israelites from slavery and makes with them an eternal covenant at Sinai. To transform North Americans from a collection of random individuals into cohesive communities, a number of commitments are necessary. These include study, prayer and acts of ethical concern.

"Torah directs Jews 'inward' so that they can internalize who and what they are to be. *T'fillah* directs Jews 'upward' to seek Heaven's help so that they can become such people. *Chesed* directs Jews 'outward' into the world to show how such a people and community can make a vital difference." The Jewish people will survive, despite all persecution, because "they are the linchpin of God's redemption of the world."

Jewish people will survive

As His part of the covenant, it is the Jewish people that God promises to preserve and not individuals. The most distinctive evidence of His presence is that the Nazis — although they tried desperately — ultimately failed to murder the entire Jewish people.

This outspoken and challenging volume raises profound and necessary questions. Goldberg, however, weakens his arguments by excess and overstatement. The impact of the Holocaust and the importance of Israel cannot be set aside in so cavalier a fashion. Moreover, his basic thesis would have wider appeal if the concepts of Redemption and Covenant were not tied to a biblical literalism, but were broadened and reinterpreted in the light of Jewish history.

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Greater Toronto Area

Community leaders remembered

David Satok served in numerous posts in CJC

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — David Satok, a prominent figure on the national Jewish communal scene, died Jan. 29 at his home in Toronto, following a 14-month battle with cancer. He was 64.

A former chair of the Ontario region of the Canadian Jewish Congress, he held a number of leading posts within Congress including chair of the national executive and the national community relations committee.

When he was presented with the Samuel Bronfman medal for distinguished service to Congress last May at a plenary session, Satok responded: "We Jews are a stiffed necked people, and perhaps this has been one of my less endearing traits. Whenever I felt in my conscience and in my gut that something was the right thing to do, the Jewish thing to do, I went ahead and did it, even when I knew that it might well generate controversy. But what I do want all of you to know is that whatever I have said or done, I have done without malice, and out of a deep commitment to the community's good."

Born in Toronto, he was a graduate of Oakwood Collegiate and

David Satok

made his mark in the investment and real estate business.

As national chair of the committee for Soviet Jewry, he spearheaded the fight in the early days to convince the government of the former Soviet Union to let Jews emigrate to Israel.

He was an inveterate letter writer to *The CJN* often criticizing actions of communal organizations.

His eulogy at the funeral serice at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue was delivered by Rabbi Emmanuel Forman, former rabbi of the synagogue, who made aliyah and now lives in Israel. Rabbi Forman was visiting in California when he heard of his close friend's death.

'He was my mentor, my confidante and my conscience," said Les Scheininger, president of Congress from 1989 to 1992.

Satok was particularly effective in motivating younger leaders to take over responsibility in communal affairs, the former Congress president said.

Satok's most recent initiative was in organizing medical supplies for victims of war in the former Yugoslavia, according to Manuel Prutschi, Ontario region executive director.

A founding member of Christian-Jewish Dialogue in Toronto, Satok was committed to racial and religious harmony, said Prutschi. He recalled that Satok took part in the famous Martin Luther King march to Washington.

He was appointed chair of the National Budgeting Conference (now the Council of Jewish Federations) in 1986 and represented Congress on the governing council of the World Jewish Congress in Jerusalem, Geneva and Washington.

"He always had the best interests of Canadian and World Jewry at heart,"said Congress president Goldie Hershon.

Surviving him are his wife, Lila, four children, Paula, Mark, Maxine and Jonathan, three sisters, Edith Weiss, Estelle Steinhauer and Joy Lipkin, and five grandchildren.

Egit was involved in social action

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Well-known community activist and yiddishist Jacob Egit died suddenly in Florida on Jan. 25. He was 87.

Egit was born in Boryslaw, Galicia. From a very early age, he was involved in social action, working for the underground.

"His goal was to help Jews against fascist Polish and German regimes," his son Mark told *The CJN*.

When the Germans invaded, Egit fled to the Soviet Union, where he organized food transports for the army.

From 1945 to 1950, Egit was director of cultural affairs for an area of Jewish colonization for Holocaust survivors in Lower Silesia. During the Stalinist purges, however, he was arrested and imprisoned for "nationalist" tendencies.

After the death of Stalin, Egit was released and went with his family to Vienna. They eventually made their way to Israel and then in 1957, to Canada.

He began to work with Histadrut, and for many years was assistant director. He created an umbrella organization of *landsmanschaften* called the United Organizations for Histadrut, for which he was executive director.

Egit was very concerned about Nazi demonstrations in Allan Gardens in the early 1960s and organized and participated in counter-demonstrations. He felt very strongly that Canadian Jewish Congress was not taking a strong enough role in this matter,

Jacob Egit

and lobbied intensely for them to do so.

He joined Congress himself and worked with their public relations, community relations and Holocaust remembrance committees.

He was also active in the Yiddish Kulturgeselschaft, a Yiddish cultural organization that arranges public lectures by prominent writers.

He was described by Ben Kayfetz and Sam Lipshitz, both of whom worked with him over the years, as a striking figure with a dynamic personality and an excellent speaker.

Mark Egit speaks of him in another way, as affectionate to his family, romantic to his wife and a proud grandfather.

One of his proudest achievements in later years was the establishment of the Jacob and Clara Egit Foundation for Holocaust Literature, which provided funds to publish material in any language on the Holocaust.

Egit is survived by Clara, his wife of 53 years, sons Richard and Mark, daughter Mary Betel, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Cass performed ritual circumcisions

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Dr. Isadore Cass, a noted physician and the first medical doctor in Toronto to perform ritual circumcisions, died Jan. 24 of cancer. He was 80.

Cass was educated in Toronto and graduated from the University of Toronto's medical school. After serving with the army during World War II, he returned to Toronto to private practice.

In 1953, he began studying pathology and stayed in that field for the rest of his professional career, first performing research at the Ontario Cancer Institute, Connaught Labs and the Ontario Department of Health.

For 23 years, until his retirement in 1986, he was chief of pathology at Ajax and Pickering hospitals.

Dr. Isadore Cass

Trained many physicians

In 1945, he began doing ritual circumcisions, and, according to his family, performed over 40,000 throughout Canada and the eastern United States. He also trained many physicians in that skill.

Cass was well versed in Torah, having studied with the late Rabbi Jacob Gordon. For many years he was *baal koreh* at Goel Tzedec Synagogue, and continued in this role at the Orthodox minyan at Beth Tzedec.

He continued to study and teach Torah throughout his life. He was chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' Tanach study group for many years, and led weekly Gemara classes at Beth Tzedec.

In 1971, he became interested in Machanaiim, a highly regarded educational institution of rabbinical studies in Israel. He and his family established a fund at the school in memory of his brother, Rabbi Samuel Cass, and his family, who were killed in a traffic accident.

In her eulogy, his daughter Sharon described how "he knew the entire Torah by heart. He would say, 'Begin a sentence and I'll tell you where it is from and finish the passage,' and he inevitably did."

He was a member of many organizations, including the Israel Medical Association, the Ontario Medical Association, General Wingate Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Jewish War Veterans of Canada, and the Institute of Orthodox Jewish Scientists. He belonged to Shaarei Shomayim and Beth Lida synagogues, as well as Lubavitch.

It was the Lubavitcher rebbe who urged him to go into pathology, giving him a blessing "that in the practice of pathology you will never have to desecrate Shabbat or Yom Tov," a blessing that came true.

Cass is survived by his wife of 55 years, Miriam; daughters Sharon, Hyla, Judy and Elaine; brothers Harry, Al and Eli; sisters Miriam Cass and Zelda Fink; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

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You may mail or deliver your pictures to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3A1 If you want us to return the pictures to you, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

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Greater Toronto Area

Matar steps outside 'ordinary' to make a difference

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ruth Matar is soft-spoken, charming, artistic, with a frequent twinkle in her eyes. Not at all what one would expect from a flaming radical.

But then Matar, founder and a leader of the Women in Green, an organization at the forefront of the demonstrations against the peace process, does not consider herself a radical.

She is merely, she told *The CJN* in a recent interview, carrying out her right to protest — an inherent right in a democratic society, she believes.

Matar, 67, escaped from Nazi-occupied Austria in a Children's Transport to Sweden. Later she was reunited with her parents in the United States.

She, her husband, and their four children made aliyah in 1977.

"We were living ordinary lives, and happy ones. But we felt that we had to step outside our ordinary lives and do the things that needed doing."

Before the signing of the first Oslo accord in 1993, Matar, her daughter-in-law Nadia and a handful of friends saw what they perceived as a dangerous situation.

"We saw very clearly that whatever the Rabin government had promised to get elected, they were going back on — keeping the Golan, not negotiating with the PLO and never permitting a Palestinian state."

Their first demonstration, outside Yitzhak Rabin's house, was described in the press, to their shock, as a demonstration of radical settler women and Bnai Akiva kids.

"They were deliberately trying to pigeon hole the opposition to make it appear unrepresentative."

From that small group, the Women in Green (the name comes from the Green Line dividing the pre-1967 borders with the territories, not from the hats, as is often thought) has grown to an organization of over 5,000, all over Israel, in Toronto and in the United States.

The Israeli government, the "government controlled" press and the foreign ministry has consistently blackened their name, Matar charged.

It has been most blatant recently, Matar said. "The government has used Rabin's assassination in the most cynical, unforgivable manner. They have blamed an entire segment of the population for

Ruth Matar

his murder — it's as if the Democrats had said that the Republicans killed Kennedy."

A week after the assassination, journalist Nachum Barnea charged in *Yediot Achronot* that it was incitement by protest groups like the Women in Green and their leader Nadia Matar that caused the assassination.

Barnea eventually went too far. He accused the Matars of equating the Rabin government to Hitler's in one of their speeches in the United States. When a videotape of the event proved that that had not happened — indeed, the Matars were not even at the program — the newspaper, which they sued for 1½ million shekels, was forced to print an apology, claiming that the Foreign Office had misled them.

Israeli consulates in North America, Matar said, can and do accuse them of just about anything without being taken to task for it. Matar now makes sure that as a precaution, all her speeches are taped.

The Women in Green, Matar said somewhat wistfully, "want our children and grandchildren to live in a Jewish state — that's their right.

"Rabin and now [Shimon] Peres said they were doing it (working for the peace process) for their own children as well, so that they wouldn't have to go to war.

"But we fear that we will have the biggest war ever."

Like David Ben-Gurion, Matar said, "We feel that we don't have the right to give away the land. If that makes us radical, so be it."

Contrary to another myth, members of the Women in Green by and large are not from the territories. While Nadia Matar lives in Efrat, most of their strength is in the big cities, such as Jerusalem, Beersheva and Tel Aviv.

The ongoing peace negotiatons are a matter of serious concern to Matar. Charging that Arafat and his supporters do not truly want peace, she fears that "unless we can prevent the present government from being re-elected, it will be the end of Jerusalem as a united city, and it may be the end of Israel as a Jewish state, although it may survive as a secular one."

The recent riots by Ethiopian Jews about the dumping of their blood because of a fear of AIDS, Matar said, had a significance beyond the matter of blood.

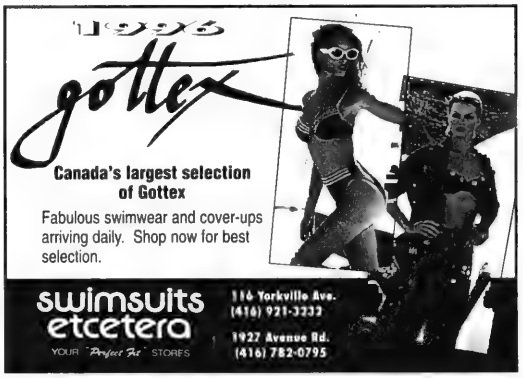
"They felt they didn't have a voice, that there was no way to express their unhappiness. That's not just them — that's the feeling all over Israel."

The Women in Green have been beaten, arrested and jailed on nine different occasions. They are now fighting five criminal indictments all of which, Matar insists, are unfounded.

"It costs us money, time and effort, which the government feels will lower our effectiveness. But it won't stop us."

The Women in Green, Matar said, have never called either Rabin or Peres traitors. "We feel that they are misguided, that they have a dream that is just not working out.

"The rift in the country can be healed if there is the will on both sides to stop blaming each other and work together."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Or Haemet Sephardic School's grade 1 glass celebrates their Chumash party, marking the beginning of their Chumash studies. Parents enjoyed the performance of Brigat Haolam, the creation of the world. A special guest, Rabbi Moshe Wajshaum, addressed the students and guests. Seen here (from left to right) Ariel Benarroch, Benny Leshch, Ofir Sondak, Shai Cabessa, Lee Baruchim, Cory Yefet and Lidar Amouyal.

Greater Toronto Area

Baycrest Women's Auxiliary celebrates 40th anniversary

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Women's Auxiliary (WA) of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care is celebrating 40 years of ongoing dedication to the centre's residents and patients.

Shortly after the opening of the centre on Bathurst Street in 1954, the auxiliary became a legal entity. But women volunteers are credited with the founding of the centre more than 80 years ago, when it was known as the Toronto Jewish Old Folks Home.

To mark their 40th anniversary, Alma Waldman, a past president and archivist for the auxiliary, has prepared a history, decade by decade, outlining WA contributions to the development of the centre.

Waldman, who was brought in to the auxiliary more than 30 years ago by its founder, Dora Till, reflects on the "big changes" which have taken place since then.

"Over these 30 years, just as lifestyles have changed, the auxiliary has changed. We have a vibrant youthful core of hard-working women who have turned volunteerism into a profession. It is wonderful to see the children and grandchildren of our charter members working together side by side — it is truly an intergeneration auxiliary and each generation has much to contribute."

From the early days, when the women performed hands-on tasks to care for the elderly on Cecil Street and worked to raise pennies, the auxiliary has grown to a membership of more than 4,000. It now raises millions of dollars and heads many major projects of the centre.

"For me," says Waldman, "the service programs are the closest to my heart — the Shalom Oneg Shabbat programs for all hospital patients, sherry luncheons for the female residents of the Jewish Home for the Aged (JHA), receptions for new residents, afternoon teas for the women patients in the hospital, the library, the WA cafe, celebrating 70+ birthdays for Terrace residents and the welcome reception for new residents to the JHA."

These programs, which are funded by endowments, are chaired by Debbie Mason, a vice-president of the auxiliary, Waldman notes.

'We also present health forums, tours'

"We also present health forums, leadership development, tours and we have a speakers' bureau."

Judy Csillag, recently appointed director of the WA, is enthusiastic about the accomplishments of the auxiliary.

"Every single day I walk out and see the fruits of our labor and realize the impact that the Women's Auxiliary has had on the development of Baycrest. The women played an integral part in the establishment of the day-care program, the Alzheimer's program, the Esther Exton Child Care Centre and much more."

Gilda Goodman, auxiliary president, says that under the leadership of Tobie Bekhor, the immediate past president, they have undertaken to raise $5 million over the next five years. The money will go to the Capital Campaign for the new JHA building and to an Alzheimer's research fellowship at the Rotman Research Institute.

Correction to the Camp Supplement January 18/96

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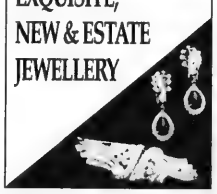
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Greater Toronto Area

Parents told to teach children about sex

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It's up to parents to teach their kids what they need to know about sex, says Sue Johanson, a sex educator, counsellor, author and TV personality.

"Too many questions about sex are not being answered in school so that leaves us, as parents, to be the primary educators," Johanson said at a recent program sponsored by the AIDS committees of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation and Beth Tzedec Synagogue. The program, Kids, Sex and AIDS, was aimed at pre-teens, teens and parents.

Johanson said she had hoped AIDS would be seen as a reason to teach sexuality in the schools "but unfortunately, we have flipped back to the dark ages and have been teaching our kids through scare tactics. Young kids who think they are invincible are not afraid of dying and AIDS education still focuses on dying and death. That information has no meaning to kids.

Important to inform kids about AIDS

"What kids really wonder about is if they can catch AIDS from a toilet seat, the signs and symptoms and how they can tell if someone has AIDS. These are the things that are not being taught in school and so it is being brought back to the parents to deal with their questions.

"When we were young we were given the 'nice girls don't' message and were told very little about sex. Those days, however, are gone and it is essential to talk with our kids. As parents, we must take back the responsibility."

Johanson said many parents would like to discuss sex and AIDS with their children but they are embarrassed and feel that they have no credibility. "It is difficult to talk and the kids certainly do not encourage it. They think we do not have the information and the truth is, we don't. How many parents know a lot about AIDS?

"What is important to know about the AIDS virus is that it dies on exposure to things such as heat, light, air, soap, disinfectant or rubbing alcohol. A great [amount] of the virus is needed to cause an infection and it is not easy to get, unless people are involved in high risk behavior.

"Kids are taught that the AIDS virus is spread through bodily fluids and when they think of fluids, they think of tears, nasal secretions and saliva. There is almost no way AIDS can be spread that way. Almost two litres of these fluids would have to be injected into the bloodstream to cause an infection. As well, AIDS will not be spread through kissing, hugging, or sharing dishes, towels or bedding. The big problem is sex, and that is what we must talk to our kids about. They must understand intercourse."

Children should be taught about sex in the context of loving, sharing and relating, said Johanson. "The message should be that sex is best within a loving relationship and the only guarantee ... is having no sex at all or being in a monogamous relationship. Other than that, the best we can do is [have] safer sex.

"Kids must know that if they are going to have sex, they must wear condoms. There is no choice and no negotiations. I would like to see condoms handed out in school so kids can open them and get a sense of what they are about. I am not giving permission for them to use condoms, but I am telling them something they need to know. It is the survival kit of the '90s and they must be aware."

In an anonymous, written question period after the lecture, Johanson was asked how to comfort someone who has been diagnosed with AIDS.

"Be there and comfort them. Let them talk, accompany them to the doctor and above all, do not talk about it with anyone else. Just be a friend," she said.

Synagogues offer AIDS programs

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A smattering of Toronto synagogues run AIDS educational and outreach programs aimed at the Jewish community.

Holy Blossom Temple AIDS committee sponsors a community outreach program designed to be responsive and sensitive to the Jewish community and culture. Its goals include building awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS and of the people living with the virus while welcoming those who have AIDS into a safe Jewish environment.

Among its outreach programs are the AIDS seder, a Passover celebration for those affected by HIV/AIDS, which will be held this year on April 9; educational programs including public discussions and forums; talks in religious schools; a memorial service for those who have died of AIDS and a fundraising walkathon for AIDS, called From All Walks of Life.

For more information call the AIDS committee, 789-3291.

The Beth David AIDS committee, headed by Brian Stein, began two years ago as an offshoot of the synagogue's adult education department. Its mandate is information. The committee's first event, a forum, featured physicians, a mother who lost her child to AIDS and an AIDS patient.

The Beth David and Beth Tzedec AIDS committees recently cosponsored a program featuring radio and television personality Sue Johanson. Hundreds of people ranging in age from 11 to 70 attended the event in which Johanson focused on the roles of parents, pre-teens and teens.

A March 26 lecture by Dr. Mitchell Cohen will address sex and ethics — sexual decision making and Jewish values. Call 633-5500 for more information.

Beth Tzedec's AIDS committee, chaired by Roslyn Verny, also focuses on information. Its first event in 1994 was a forum featuring physicians, AIDS patients and a mother who lost a child to AIDS.

The general community is welcome to sit on the committee. To attend an AIDS committee meeting call 781-3511.

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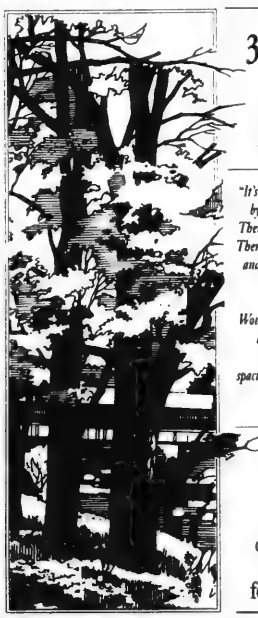
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נו, פֿאַרן עלטער פון דער ידעלט זאָרג איך זיך נישט. זי דערגרייכט שוין באַלד דעם צוויישן מלנימ״ה — צוויי מאָזנס יאָר (לויט דער מיינונג פון ווינשאָפּטלייט צעמדליקער מיליאָן). איז וואָס שפּילט אַ ראָלע בײַ איר נאָך איין יאָר? אויב עס וועט זיך נישט יאָוונען עפּעס אַ משוגענער סאָסדאַפּ אַדער אַ פּאַטאָמישער דיקטאַטאָר, וואָס זאָל זי אויפרײַסן מיט די מאָדערנסטע אַטאָמישע כלי-משחית, און אויב דער רבונו של עולם וועט נישט אַראָפּשיקן אַ צוויישן מבול (וחי ער האָט צוגעזאָגט), וועט די ידעלט נאָך אַנהאַלטן מזונסטער יאָרן.

אַ פּשוטער כשר-דם קען אויסלכע פאַנטאַזיעס נישט האָבן. איך וויים, אַז ס׳זײַנען פאַראַן גיציקע רייכע מענטשן, וואָס מיינען, אַז זיי קענען זיך איינקויפֿן אייביק לעבן מיט זייער בעלט. אָבער דערווײַל איז עס נאָך נישט גענוג. אַזאַ מענטש ווי איך, און אונדזאי איז אונדז, וועט זיך צופֿרידן שטעלן מיט נאָך אַ צוויי צענדליק יאָרן. פֿאַרשטענדלעך — געזונטע יאָרן!

וועט איך אפֿשר פֿרעגן, פֿאַרוואָס האָב איך דאָס נישט געשריבן צו מיין 70-סטן געבורטן-טאָג. נאָך אַלעמען, איז עס דאָך עפּעס אַ מער חשובֿ׳ע דאַטע. אַ האַלבער תּירוץ וועט זײַן, וואָס בין מען דערגרייכט נישט דעם קילעכדיקן ציפער פון 70 קוקט מען אַ ביסל אַנדערש אויפן גאַנג פון די יאָרן. דער ציפער 70 איז אַ צײַל-בערעס, וואָס מען באַמיט זיך צו דערגרייכן מיט אַלע מיטלען און מיט אַלע כוחות, אָפּילו מיט דער הילף פון דאָקטוירים. עס איז כמעט ווי אַ פֿישופֿיקע דערגרייכונג, און מען פֿרייט זיך טאָקע בײַם אָנקומען צום צײַל.

דער צוויישטער האַלבער תּירוץ איז די סיבה פאַר דעם איצטיקן קאַלום. ווען מען ווערט אַ בן-שבעים ווערט קלאָר נאָך איין פּאַלקס-ווערטל: „בין זיבעציק יאָר געלעבט שכל און פֿאַרבליבן אַ נאַר". מען זאָגט אויך: „אַ נאַר איז אַ האַלבער פֿילאָזאָף". דאָס האָט מיך בעגעבן די „רעכט" צו פֿילאָזאָפֿירן בײַ מיין 71-סטן געבורטן-טאָג.

ווען מען גייט אַריבער די שוועל פון 70, טוישט מען באַלד דעם קוק אויפן לעבן. אַ בעפּול באַהערשט דיך, אַז דו הויבסט אָן דעם וועג „אַראָפּ" (אַדער „אַרויף" — עס וועגדט זיך אין דיינע מעשׂים טובֿים). אויף דער צוויישטער זײַט פון 70 ווערט דער טראָפּ אַ ביסל פֿאַמעלעכער, נישט בלויז וויל די בלוט ציקקולאַציע אין די פּיס פליסט שוין נישט ווי „אַ וואַסער". עס ווערט קלאָר, אַז מען האָט אַ ביסל מער צייט און דאָס יאָגענדיק איז מער נישט נויטיק. ספּעציעל פֿאַר אַ שוין צוריקגעצויגענעם פון דער אַר-בעט („רוסיישער"). ער בעפּינט פלוצלינג אַ סך צייט צו זיך דיסקוסירן. פון אָנפֿאַנג איז עס אפשר שווער זיך צוגעווואוינען צו שלאָפן נאָך אַ האַלבע שעה אינדערפרי, אַדער נאָכן מיטאָג צו כאַפּן אַ דרימל אויפן „טשעסטער-פילד". אָבער מיט דער צייט געווייניט מען זיך צו צו אַ „בעסער לעבן".

מיינער אַ פּעסטער אין אַלטן שטעטל, דער גאָלער שלמה (קאַפּעל) ע״ה, (דערמאָנדעט געוואָרן דורך די נאַציס), פלעגט שבת נאָכן טשאָלנט „פּירן טיש" אין זײַן וואוינונג. עס פלעגן קומען געסט און אויך מיר יונגע-לעכע. איינס פון זײַנע קלוגע ווערטער איז געווען: „כּל זמן שהנשמה בקרבי — זאָגט רש״י: אַמפּערי-פֿי-פֿורי". איך האָב עס דעמאָלט נישט פֿאַרשטאַנען, ס׳האָט אויסגעזען וויי אַ ווײַ. בײַ מיין לעצטן געבורטן-טאָג זײַנען די דאָזיקע ווערטער צוריק אַרויפגעשוואומען אין מיין נעדאַנק — נאָך אַן אַפּ-שניט פון 55 יאָר — און אויך זייער באַדײַטונג. וואָס עס האָט געמײַנט צו זאָגן מיט דעם „אַמפּערי-פֿי-פֿורי" איז: מאָך אַ לעבן, לאָז זיך וואוילגיין, נעם אַ לחיים, כאַפּ אַ טענצל און אַזוי וויטער, ווי לאַנג דו קענסט נאָך די אַלע זאָכן טוען — „כּל זמן שהנשמה בקרבי". נאָכדעם איז שוין צו שפּעט.

טאָקע נאָכן אַריבערגיין דעם 70-ער, ווען דער מענטש האָט אַ ביסל מער צייט, און אויב דאָס בעזונט דערלויבט נאָך, דאַרף מען דאָס אויסנוצן אויף צו כאַפּן אַ בליק אויף אונדזער סביבה, און געניסן פון דעם, וואָס די וועלט האָט פאַר זיך צוגעגרייט. לאָמיר זאָגן דעם אמת: אונדזער וועלט האָט אַ סך חסרונות, אָבער זי האָט אויך אַ סך מעלות. איבער אַלעם איז עס אונדזער וועלט, דאַרף מען זי ליב האָבן און גענישן פון איר.

איך האָב אָנגעהויבן מיין שרייבן מיט אַ פּאַלקס-ווערטל און ווייל עס פֿאַרנדיקן מיט אַן עפּיגראַם, וואָס איך האָב ערגעץ „בע׳גבֿ׳ע׳ט":

„אַ גענבעט צום בורא עלין, אייזדער כ׳גיי דעם לעצטן גאַנג:
גאט. איך וויל נישט עלטער ווערן, איך וויל נאָר לעבן לאַנג".

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From coast to coast

Breaking silence on family abuse

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — We tend to think of our Jewish communities as warm, loving, close-knit families sheltered from the abuse and family violence that takes place "out there," in the wider world. That is not the true picture, says Lynne Orech-Wener.

"Fourteen of 31 cases one Winnipeg Jewish Child and Family Services counsellor is currently dealing with involves family abuse in some form," Orech-Wener recently told a small gathering at the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue. "The Jewish community has to break the silence."

The Winnipeg social worker was the keynote speaker for Not In My House ... Not In My Community, a series of five workshops on consecutive days organized by the Commitment To A Caring Community Committee.

The committee was created two years ago as the educational arm of a community crisis reaction team. The crisis team, in turn, was formed as a result of a number of suicides within the Jewish community. Previous seminars and workshops the committee has organized include a dialogue with Winnipeg Jewish gays and lesbians and their parents; safety and gangs; a program on dating; alcohol, drugs and lifestyles; and a presentation on Jewish community norms.

Although Orech-Wener had no data relating specifically to abuse within the Winnipeg Jewish community, she cited numerous statistics that demonstrated a growing level of abuse and violence in society against spouses, children, women and seniors.

Vancouver's Jewish community has developed a crisis line for abused Jewish women while a Winnipeg shelter has set aside a kosher kitchen, she added.

"Statistics show that [from] one-in-five to one-in-10 Jewish women are victims of emotional, physical or sexual abuse. Because we don't want to accept that it happens within our families or communities, Jewish women stay in abusive relationships twice as long as non-Jewish women. If no one in the Jewish community is willing to concede that this sort of thing happens, where is the woman to turn?" she said.

Jewish victims of abuse are reluctant to go to Jewish professionals for fear that their plight will become known in the community. In the case of children of Holocaust survivors, they may feel their pain cannot compare to that of their parents, leading them to remain silent. There are also economic factors that keep an abused Jewish woman within a marriage, Orech-Wener said.

Use of religious symbols causes mixed feelings

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The controversy over the use of religious symbols in Remembrance Day services in Winnipeg School Division No. 1 continues to reverberate, leaving mixed feelings within this city's Jewish community.

The issue was first raised by a Jewish teacher in the public school system who was disturbed by the proliferation of crosses at Remembrance Day services in her school. As a result of her letter, representatives of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) and the Manitoba Islamic Association approached the school board about including other religious symbols for Remembrance Day services in schools.

While the Jewish and Islamic representatives framed the issue in positive terms by urging the inclusion of other religious symbols, media headlines and open line radio shows interpreted the matter as a rejection of crosses in the schools. As a result, Winnipeg's Jewish community would seem to be divided on the issue.

Several Jewish Winnipeggers who were questioned declined to comment. Others said that they hadn't been paying much attention to the matter.

Philip Weiss strongly disagrees with any attempt to remove crosses from the schools' Remembrance Day services. "This has left a bitter taste in the mouths of many Jews," says the Holocaust survivor and educator. "All religious symbols should be included."

Jack Goodman, president of the largely Jewish General Monash branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, says his members have no problem with the crosses. "Our relations with the other Legion branches have always been cordial and friendly," he notes. "We attend all the parades displaying our Magen Davids. We don't want to rock any boats or create anti-Semitism."

"My sense is that the disagreements within our community are the result of the way the media has played up the issue rather than dealing directly with the facts as presented to the school board," says Evelyn Hecht, the WJCC's director of community relations.

The Jewish war veterans, she notes, have voiced their objections to any tinkering with Remembrance Day. "We are not suggesting they change their observances or associations with other veterans in any way.

"We have been accused of wanting to change Remembrance Day. That's ridiculous. We are staying focused on the issue to do strictly with the Winnipeg No. 1 School Board," she said.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 8, is deadline for Feb. 22 issue and Thursday, Feb. 15, is deadline for Feb. 29 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Friday, Feb. 9

HAVANA NAGILA

Havana Nagila, a film on Jewish life in Cuba, presented by Toronto Outlook Committee and Emil Gartner Lodge of United Jewish People's Order, 8 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

Sunday, Feb. 11

BEIT HALOCHEM LECTURE

New Leadership of Beit Halochem (Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel) lecture on Rabin's Israel: Three Months Later, by an expert on Middle East affairs, followed by dessert reception, 7:30 p.m, Adath Israel Synagogue; $15. 488-7649.

LENNY GRAF IN CONCERT

Alpha Omega Auxiliary presents Lenny Graf in Concert, featuring The Noise and Gadget Machine, 1-3 p.m. Moonlight Ballroom, 3125 Bayview Ave. $5 per person, children under one year free. 905-731-7916.

KASHRUT SEMINAR

The Kosher Shopping Trip, a practical discussion on what to buy and where, led by a COR representative, 8 p.m., Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave.

YIDDISH THEATRE SONGS

At Temple Emanu-El's morning study, singer/educator **Faye Kellerstein** discusses and performs songs of the Yiddish theatre from the 1870s to the 1940s, 10 a.m.

CRIMES OF HATE

Holy Blossom Temple brotherhood breakfast program features a video, *Crimes of Hate*, presented by Temple archivist **David Hart**, followed by discussion. Services 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, program at 10.

A.J. HESCHEL SCHOOL

In September, the Abraham Joshua Heschel School, a child-oriented, progressive, traditional but inter-denominational Jewish day school, opens in Toronto. An information meeting regarding school structure and program is at 7:30 p.m., Beth Radom Synagogue, 18 Reiner Rd. The school, to be located at Beth Radom, will begin with junior and senior kindergarten, grades 1, 2 and 3, adding another grade each year up to Grade 8.

PARENT/CHILD RELATIONS

Enhancing the Parent/Child Relationship is the topic discussed by psychologist **David Factor** at Temple Sinai adult education program. Services 9:30 a.m., breakfast following; program at 10; $3.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT

Toronto ORT and State of Israel Bonds Women's Division's Women of Achievement lecture series continues with best-selling author **Joy Fielding**, 7:30 p.m. at the home of **Janice Shedletsky**. Reserve. 787-0297.

PRIVACY

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am sisterhood presents **Ann Cavoukian** speaking on Privacy: What You Should Know If You Don't Want Everyone Knowing Your Business, 8 p.m. Guests $3.

ORAH CHAPTER, JWI

Orah chapter, Jewish Women International, 35-45, information meeting on Menopause, 7:30 p.m. **Barbara** 784-0400.

Wednesday, Feb. 14

HEIRLOOM SEWING

Embroidery artist **Christina Reber** demonstrates the art of heirloom sewing at Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Needlework, 8 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. **Haya** 633-2664 or **Malcah** 866-8142.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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Sun. 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., MON. - WED. 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., THURS. 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., FRI. 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., SAT., 8:00 A.M. - 10 P.M. KOSHER Area Closed FRI. 2:30 P.M. & SATURDAY. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

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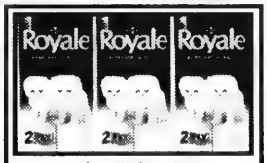
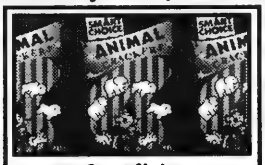


Facelle Royale Bathroom Tissue
White
8 roll pkg.
2.99

Kraft Miracle Whip
Regular or Light
1 L jar
2.69



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Snack Crackers
Snackers
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Mothers Pasta
Assorted Varieties
15 oz. tin
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Romaine Lettuce
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Levitt's Kosher
375 g chub
4.39

Roast Beef
Levitt's
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13.99 lb.

Manischewitz Pasta Sauce Mix
Herb & Spice or Marinara, 4.4 oz. box
2.69

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Challah Bread
Fresh Baked
680 g loaf
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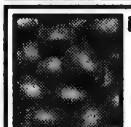

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.79 lb.

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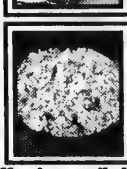

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Assorted Varieties
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1.99 lb. 4.39 kg

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

Thursday, Feb. 15

CELEBRATION OF HEARTS

Toronto New Leadership Division of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation's Celebration of Hearts party with music, sound and light show, prizes, dancing, fun, 7:30 p.m., in Atlantis at Ontario Place. Couples and singles welcome. Proceeds go to the Neonatology Intensive Care Unit, Shaare Zedek Medical Centre, Jerusalem. $25 prepaid, $30 at door. Tax receipts for a portion. 781-3584.

And What Else Is New...

WOMEN FOR WOMEN

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO hosts its second Women for Women program, Violence is Everywhere — How Safe Are Women? with **Priscilla de Villiers**, president, CAVEAT (Canadians Against Violence Everywhere Advocating Its Termination), Sunday, Feb. 18, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Holiday Inn, 7095 Woodbine Ave., Markham; $20. RSVP by Feb. 12, 630-8373.

STUDY LUNCHEON

Beth Tzedec Synagogue Shabbat Study Luncheon, Saturday, Feb. 17, at noon following services, features **Cantor Ronald Graner** speaking on The Music of a Forgotten Master: The Lost Music of Cantor David Nowakowsky. Reserve by Tuesday, Feb. 13, synagogue, 781-3511, ext. 13.

SINGLES BRUNCH

Adath Israel Synagogue Singles Group, 35-55, Sunday brunch, Feb. 18, 11:30 a.m. with dentist/humorist **Dr. Fred Stulberg** presenting Some of My Best Jokes Are Jewish — A Lighthearted Look at Jewish Practices and Life Events; $8 prepaid reservations at synagogue office until Friday, Feb. 16, 2:30 p.m., $10 at door.

KOLEL SPRING SEMESTER

Registration is now on for spring courses offered by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. Subjects include Basic Judaism, Zohar, Prophets, Prayer, Jewish History and more. For brochure 905-709-1900.

YORK U JEWISH STUDIES

The Leonard Wolinsky Lectures on Jewish Life and Education at York University present Test and Tradition in Tension, Sunday, Feb. 18, Vanier College Study Hall, 2:15 p.m. **Prof. James Kugel**, Harvard and Bar-Ilan Universities, speaks on The Bible's First Interpreters; and at 4 p.m. **Prof. Nehama Aschkenasy**, University of Connecticut, speaks on Prayer, Diplomacy and Silence: Women's Language in the Bible. 736-5823.

PURIM COSTUME BALL

The community is invited to Club Aliza, Na'amat Canada's, 11th annual Purim Costume Ball Saturday, March 2, 8:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. Information/reservations **Shoshanah Frank**, Purim chair, 905-889-9419.

SJA EVENTS

Secular Jewish Association:

Friday, Feb. 9, Oneg Shabbat, Jewish Humanism in the Arts presents The Best of Jewish Folk Tales with **Eli Rubenstein**, 7:30 p.m., 82 Willowbank Rd. Bring snack to share. RSVP **Naomi** 364-7002.

Sunday, Feb. 11, 10 a.m. to noon, adult education series, Comparative Religions, Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. Bring refreshments to share. Non-members $8.

Sunday, Feb. 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Exotic Low Fat Cooking and Dinner, Back to Basics Cooking School, 75 Doncaster Ave., Thornhill. Register, **Brendy** 905-881-4814.

FOR INCEST SURVIVORS

Jewish Family & Child Service group for women who are incest survivors begins Feb. 27. **Karen Wynnchuk** 638-7800, ext. 806, or **Gail Solish** 905-882-2331, ext. 25.

AISH HATORAH

How to Get Your Prayers Answered, Monday, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Is Being a Good Person Enough?, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamensky**, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m. Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Daytime and evening Yiddish classes begin the week of Feb. 12. Classes at all levels taught by skilled teachers include language, conversation, music, culture, fun of learning. 635-2883, ext. 155.

PURIM CELEBRATION

Jewish Feminist Anti-Fascist League and United Jewish People's Order community all-ages Purim Celebration featuring singer **Judith Cohen**, **Elaine Carol** performing *Zaida*, klezmer music, Purim Shpiel in drag, face painting, prizes for costumes, Sunday, Feb. 25, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. $3 children, the unemployed, seniors, students and those in costume. Others $5. Tickets 789-5502.

SINGLES 40 PLUS

A lecture on Love, Dating and Marriage, for singles 40 plus, followed by coffee and conversation, Saturday, Feb. 10, 8:30 p.m., $10. Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. RSVP **Marika** 905-731-2914.

THE LITTLE MINYAN

A new Shabbat service that is casual, participatory, conservative and welcomes daveners of all ages — the Little Minyan at Beth Tzedec. The next service is Saturday, Feb. 17, 9:45 a.m., Youth Chapel. 781-3511, ext. 27.

OUR WAY

A correction — please note that the program for Jewish deaf and hard of hearing sponsored by National Conference of Synagogue Youth is called Our Way (misnamed in Jan. 11 column). Sorry for the mistake.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Successful Step-Parenting: Learning to Step Together begins Feb. 13; Looking Ahead (for people recently divorced/separated) begins Feb. 15; Single Parent Challenge begins Feb. 27; For Women Only (self-esteem, relationships, stress management) begins Feb. 28. **Pat Lieberman** 630-7800, ext. 215.

MUSICAL TALENT

Musical talent opening for a volunteer Jewish seniors group, the Bubbies and Zaydies. **Fred Field** 633-2877.

For Seniors

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group 55 Plus movie, *The Impossible Spy*, story of **Eli Cohen** with **Eli Wallach**. **Avner Meiri** moderator, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m., synagogue. Non-members $3.

Applications being accepted for the Raleigh Hotel Resort in the Catskills Aug. 6-12. Trip co-sponsored by **Senior Adult Services, Bathurst Jewish Centre** and **Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living**. **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364 or **Barbara Zigler** 225-2112.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Feb. 15 is bingo. 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Tulip Time Festival, Ottawa, May 14-16, (seven kosher meals), second orientation Getting to Know Your Fellow Travellers, Thursday, Feb. 15, 1 p.m.; Homowack Hotel in the Catskills Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 224-5923.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Square One, Mississauga, coffee, cookies, free gifts, March 12, $5; Buffalo March 14; Atlantic City April 15-19; Catskills Raleigh Hotel (glatt kosher) July 22-28, book now; other ongoing programs. 395-7881.

At **Lifestyle Retirement Communities Forest Hill Place**, 645 Castlefield Ave, **Haim Waxman**, consul of Israel, speaks on Current Events in Israel, Thursday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m. Reserve. **Marlene White** 785-1511.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Reflexology, A Path to Health, with reflexologist therapist **Naomi Carpenter**, Thursday, Feb. 15, 1:30 p.m.

Movie *Oscar*, Sunday, Feb. 11, 2:30 p.m.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m., Wednesdays. **Anna**.

Sunday dances scheduled for Feb. 11 and 18 have been cancelled. Sunday dances resume in May.

at the JCC/BJC

Senior Adult Services, BJC, courses co-sponsored with North York Board of Education, starting the week of Feb. 12: Ballroom; Needle Crafts; Bridge — Beginners, Intermediate; Tai Chi-Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced; Yoga; Line Dancing. Register at first class. **Yvonne** 636-1880, ext. 259.

Downtown Learning Council at Bloor JCC courses: Reading Siddur Hebrew, Feb. 6 for five weeks; Hebrew Conversation, Feb. 15 for six weeks; The Passover Seder as a Family (Learning) Experience, Feb. 27 for four weeks. 924-6211.

Good Age Club at Bloor JCC presents Safety and Crime Prevention for Seniors with **Police Constable Zad Sackrule**, Thursday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m., members $1, non-members $2. **Judy** 924-6211.

MEMORIAL PRESENTATION MADE

A special presentation was made to Gertrude Gotlib (centre), Project Enrichment donor, by Ilse Seetner (left) and Vivien Sharon (right), president, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, in memory of Mrs. Gotlib's husband Karl. The contribution was directed to Hadassah-WIZO's Hadassim Children and Youth Village in Israel.

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From coast to coast

Finestone in the wrong department at wrong time

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA — Five days short of her 69th birthday last month, Sheila Finestone was dumped from the cabinet, losing her job as secretary of state for multiculturalism and the status of women.

She is one of only three Jews in the Commons, and the only one from Quebec. During the Mulroney years Finestone achieved political fame as a tireless, informed cultural affairs critic, time and again putting the Tory government's feet to the fire on major issues.

When the Liberals came to power in 1993, she fully expected to be given the cultural affairs portfolio she coveted. Instead she got multiculturalism and status of women. She made it clear that she wasn't happy. It wasn't the job she felt she deserved.

The culture portfolio went to Michel Dupuy, who made a mess of everything he touched until he was turfed out of cabinet last month.

Finestone, helpless to do anything about Dupuy's bumbling, went from cheerful and tireless to snappish and listless in her junior ministry. She never developed the closeness to the professional ethnics in the multicultural communities; or the contacts to feminists required in her job.

Important women's groups such as NAC, the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, complained privately that she was moody and temperamental.

She made powerful enemies and few friends around the cabinet table. She found herself on the outs with people around Alfonso Gagliano, a Chrétien loyalist, and powerful backroom cabinet minister. They blamed her, unfairly, for a leak to *La Presse* about Gagliano having been the accountant for a prominent Montreal organized crime personality. They were wrong. The leak came from inside the Montreal police force, not from Finestone's people.

Finestone was in the wrong department at the wrong time. For a Liberal government obsessed with the deficit and foreign trade, multicultural and women's issues were not a priority.

She failed to make her mark, or publicize the impact on women and visible minorities of legislation and political initiatives by other ministers dealing with race relations, crimes against women, poverty and joblessness.

She was caught by the Reform Party using a government chauffeur and limousine to get home to Montreal and back on weekends. She replied that she needed a limo since she couldn't ride trains, because she had thrown her back out washing a floor.

Not particularly known for generosity, the Reformers replied that the help must have been away that day in Westmount.

During this time, Finestone, who is the daughter of the late, great Jewish community leader Monroe Abbey and his wife Minnie, and is also related to the Harold Cummings family in Montreal, had to deal with the continuing illness of her husband Alan, which only made her job in Ottawa more trying. Politics have never been easy on family life.

Sheila Finestone

Finestone has continued to have the respect and support of her constituents in her riding, Mount Royal, the safest Liberal seat in the country. In the last general election, she won the greatest majority of any Liberal MP.

Backroom Liberals want Maldoff

Now, the backroom Liberals want Finestone out so they can run their latest catch in her riding, and bring him into the cabinet. He's the talented and articulate Montreal lawyer Eric Maldoff, a friend of Chrétien's special advisor Eddie Goldenberg, and a member of the Montreal Jewish gang around Chrétien that includes policy and research director Chaviva Hosek, and outside special consultant David Zussman.

The Senate is not a possibility for Finestone because the only Quebec Senate opening went last week to MP Shirley Maheu, and the Liberals can now run their new cabinet star, Stephane Dion, in Maheu's safe St. Laurent Cartierville riding.

Maldoff, fluently bilingual and an expert on minority language issues, is desperately needed right now. He would become the second Jew in cabinet.

The Liberal backroom tradition calls for two Jews in cabinet, one from Ontario (they've already got Herb Gray from Windsor) and one from Quebec (which was Finestone.)

So far they haven't offered Finestone anything interesting in return for leaving. Until they do, the feisty Finestone will be on the government benches.

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SINGLES EVENTS

Singles events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

BEEN THERE? DONE IT?
Made In Heaven, an introduction service for Jewish singles, 30 and up. For free consultation in your home or office call Duane or Ronda, 416-512-2994.

CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS
Toronto's premiere social group for young Jewish Adults presents another fine event. Join us for an evening with the North York Symphony at the world renowned George Weston Recital Hall at the Ford Centre as they present a unique program of Jewish Music. Reception following. Thursday, Feb. 29, 1996 at 8:00 pm. Call 633-5454 for details and ticket bookings. Spend an elegant evening out with Cultural Attractions!

Have a Heart Valentine's Party for Cystic Fibrosis takes place at Tasker's Bar & Grill on Saturday, Feb. 10, 7:30 pm. The evening includes dance music by Mix 99.9, free desserts, silent auction and a raffle. Tickets $25 in advance, $30 at the door ($15 tax receipt). To order call 416-960-6268.

Jewish Contemporary Singles is now offering personal service. Let us introduce you to someone special. Call today! (416) 484-9733

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Looking to meet some new friends? Fun & unique singles events for the open-minded Jewish professional from 25-35. Beth, 905-764-9360.

Mark and Ari invite you to the **Valentine Bash**. Saturday, February 10, 1996, 9:00 p.m. at **Power Bar,** the new split level night club at 230 Adelaide Street West. Door Prizes. Pool tables and great D.J. Dance Music. Admission $12 Advance/at door. Advance ticket holders do not wait in line. Call TicketMaster 416-870-8000. **Mark Brodkin, Ari Huber hotline 416-733-1419.**

Metro Toronto Singles Presents **Saturday, Feb. 10,** 8 p.m. "Matchmaker, matchmaker, find me a match" at our **pre-Valentines Day Party** at the **Richmond Hill Country Club,** 8905 Bathurst St. N,, 1/4 mi. N. of Hwy 7, 1 entrance N of golf club entrance. Special guest: Yenta the Matchmaker to find your match at the party. (No charge for this service.) Cover $15. For info: 416-222-7111.

New Leadership of Beit Halochem (Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel) invites you to hear a leading expert on Middle East Affairs discuss *'Rabin's Israel; Three Months Later'.* **Sunday, Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m. Adath Israel Synagogue,** 37 Southbourne Ave., Toronto. Lecture to be followed by a Dessert Reception. Tickets $15. Call 488-7649.

The Love, Dating & Marriage Seminar
An inspiring, fun and fast-paced journey that weaves modern psychology and traditional wisdom into a tapestry of practical insights. The unique format, combining an informative, interactive seminar and discussion creates an intimate atmosphere for meeting old friends and making new ones. Presented by Rabbi Mitch Mandel, the seminar has been received by enthusiastic audiences in New York, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, Nashville and Toronto. For students and young professionals, ages 20-30, Wednesday, February 14, 7:30 pm. The Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W. $7 if pre-registered, $10 at the door. Call 905-764-1818 for information and to register, limited space available.

Workshop for Singles: Learn what relationships are really about & how to make them successful. Ilana Rosenfeld, M.A., Certified Imago Relationship Therapist. Feb. 25, 10 a.m. til 6 p.m., $90. or 4 Tuesday eves, Mar. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 7-9 pm, $110. 416-663-8491.

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Sports news

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Jewish schools prepare for hockey tourney

Bialik and USDS Bathurst recently faced off in the first ever hockey game between two Jewish day schools. Seen here are Daniel Lindzon, a Grade 6 student at Bialik (left) and Jordan Samery, a Grade 5 student at USDS (right), at the ceremonial opening faceoff. Dropping the puck is Ian Sandler as players from both teams look on. Bialik won the exhibition game, 5-3.

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Four Jewish day schools that have added boy's hockey to their list of extra-curricular activities will play their first-ever round robin tournament on Feb. 19 at Forest Hill Arena.

Bialik, United Synagogue Day School (USDS) Bayview, USDS Bathurst and Associated North are the four schools participating in the venture's inaugural season, said Ron Lindzon, whose son, Daniel, is a Grade 6 student at Bialik.

The round robin will be the highlight of the season with games played for Jewish day school supremacy under the watchful eyes of sanctioned refs. The boys will be treated to a kosher pizza lunch and will have the opportunity to socialize with their counterparts from other Jewish schools, Lindzon said.

The tournament might also serve as the forerunner for an annual event that organizers hope will attract the participation of other Jewish schools, he added.

In fact, Lindzon said he, Don Mintz and Jeff Krupski, the other Bialik hockey "builders," along with their counterparts from the other schools, are seeking the support of the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) and Jewish schools for a day school league.

In a letter to the BJE's Rabbi Irwin Witty, parents from the four schools ask "for your endorsement as our governing body. Having such an endorsement will ... aid in the establishment of a day school hockey league with ... a coordinated schedule for our teams, a common system of organization within each school and finally an established route for new school participants to ... establish new teams."

The league would enhance community cohesiveness and spirit, while allowing young people to enjoy sports and friendly competition, the letter states.

This season, the four teams have been arranging their own exhibition games against other schools, as well as gearing up for the round robin event, which will be held on a professional development (PD) day.

Bialik has played exhibition games against Upper Canada College (UCC), the Avenue Road Selects (a community team), North Prep and Allenby School. They defeated Avenue Road 17-5, shut out North Prep 9-0 and outlasted Allenby 8-3 but lost to UCC by a 7-3 margin.

In other action, USDS Bayview, which has many Metro Toronto Hockey League (MTHL) Minor Atom players on its roster, defeated Hillcrest Atom Selects 8-3.

Lindzon said he came up with the idea for a Bialik team last year when Daniel, who plays for Hillcrest Atom AA, "came to me and asked, 'Why couldn't my school have a team when his friends did?' "

Last January, Bialik principal Uri Korn gave Lindzon, Mintz, whose son Evan is in Grade 6, and Krupski, the school's gym teacher, the green light to form a team. Tryouts were held and the team selected from among the school's grades 4, 5 and 6 students.

Parents at other schools heard about it and similar efforts were undertaken there.

When the boys of Bialik heard they were going to have a team, they could barely contain their enthusiasm. You could hear comments like, "This is the best day of my life. Now I get to play with my friends," Lindzon recalled.

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Maccabi Ontario making itself more accessible

TORONTO— The Ontario region of Maccabi Canada is back with a new attitude, a new enthusiasm and, a new address.

The move is part of an ongoing effort to make the Jewish sports organization more accessible to the public, whether prospective athletes, financial contributors or potential volunteers, said Maccabi spokesman David Phillips.

Those wishing to contact the Jewish sports organization can do so at the following address:

MACCABI CANADA (Ontario Region)
2300 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 67030
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 1E0

Alternatively, the Ontario Maccabi organization can be reached by telephone at: (416) 480-2346.

Sports news

Red Fisher has seen all there is to see of the *Habs*

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — For 41 years, Red Fisher has covered every aspect and angle of a legendary hockey team called the Montreal Canadiens.

So long, in fact, that he plans to keep on doing it till he drops.

At 69, Fisher, speaking recently to a luncheon of the Jewish Business Network, was every bit the sportswriter straight out of central casting. He was knowing, jaded, cynical and funny, scriptless but never at a loss for words, regaling the crowd with biting anecdotes and gems from a sportswriter's unsentimental bag of bon mots.

At his age and experience, Red doesn't care and Red doesn't have to. He's seen it all, done it all, and written about it all, including 17 Stanley Cups by *Les Habitants*.

He still goes regularly on road-trips, to practice, keeps his eyes and ears open, and meets 20-minute deadlines dozens of times a season.

There is, of course, the accumulated wisdom according to Red. Call it Fisher's little Red book.

Today's hockey players?

"Overpaid, overpampered, and too many of them."

Tearful at seeing the venerable old Montreal Forum, a veritable shrine, see its last?

"It's a building," says he. "The Forum didn't make the team. The people who wear the [Canadiens] sweaters make the team."

And what about that *La Presse* story last year about Fisher trying to influence five anglophone Canadiens to get coach Jacques Demers fired?

"I was the only one trying to get Jacques Demers fired," pleads Fisher.

The proverbial question, "What's a nice Jewish boy doing in the sportswriting business?" is the easiest query of the day, maybe because Red asked it himself.

"The fact is," says Fisher, "that I always wanted to be, since I was nine or ten."

What could be a greater career, thought he, as he pored over the pages of the now defunct *Montreal Herald*, than getting paid to accompany the Canadiens down to spring training and to cover the team on a day-to-day basis?

Being in the "right place at the right time" helped Fisher do just that.

Fisher moved his way up from *The Monitor* and the weekly (and also defunct) *Montreal Standard* to the *Montreal Star*.

His first game was a memorable one: the infamous Maurice Richard riot on March 17, 1955, at the Forum.

When Fisher called the city desk in the midst of the melee that spilled into the streets to tell them to send a reporter down, he recalled, he was told to "circulate in the crowd."

Fisher opted instead for survival, and talked his way back into the Forum.

"It was a terrible night," he says with perfected deadpan, "but that's why I love this business."

Fisher's most thrilling memory?

"By far," he says, Paul Henderson's series-winning goal for Team Canada against the Soviets in 1972, when he put the stick "right up their butts."

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Health news

Israel reluctant to approve no-calorie synthetic fat

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Health Ministry will not rush to approve the use of olestra, the synthetic, zero-calorie fat that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved for use in potato chips and other snacks after a decade of testing.

Dr. Brian Coussin, head of the ministry's food service, said recently that his office will ask the FDA for more information and carefully consider the matter before agreeing to the import of snack foods with olestra or their manufacture here.

"FDA approval does not automatically mean we will approve it," the food technologist said. So far, no local company has applied to use the artificial fat.

The synthetic chemical, made of sugar and vegetable oil, consists of large molecules made of six to eight fatty acids that enzymes can break apart and that pass through the intestines without being absorbed.

Unlike other fat substitutes, it doesn't break down at high temperatures, so food can be fried in olestra. Twenty-eight grams of regular potato chips have 10 grams of fat and 150 calories, but the same amount of olestra chips have no fat and just 60 calories.

U.S. sales of olestra are expected to reach $1 billion soon and could top $100 billion if approved for use in other foods.

Scientists at Procter and Gamble, the U.S. food giant, have been working on olestra since the late '50s and patented it in 1971. The company applied to the FDA to approve it as a food additive in 1987, but the supervisory organization delayed because of its unpleasant and perhaps harmful side effects in some people.

According to the FDA, eating foods with olestra can cause deficiencies of oil-soluble vitamins like A, D, E and K.

Health experiences among sexes differ, says psychiatrist

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

The health experiences of women differ from those of men, at all ages and in all societies, according to an Australian psychiatrist.

Lorraine Dennerstein, a professor of public health and community medicine at the University of Melbourne and the director of the university's Key Centre for Women's Health, recently addressed some 130 supporters of the Weizmann Institute of Science on the topic of global issues in women's health.

Dennerstein is the co-author/editor of 19 books and 200 papers on women's health issues and a consultant for the World Health Organization on human reproduction.

She said women's health issues have been given more attention in the last 20 years and there are more medical interventions geared specifically to women than in the past, but women's health remains a low priority in many Third World countries.

"The general consensus is that women's health is a matter primarily concerning women, rather than an issue affected by men's attitudes, behaviors and decision-making powers," she said.

"Women's experience of health is currently dependent upon many exterior factors which women themselves are powerless to change without the support of men."

Women in developing countries tend to be disadvantaged socio-economically at every stage of their lives and their health suffers accordingly, she said.

In some African and Asian countries where girls are not valued, sex selective abortions and infanticide are practised. Thirteen developing countries report higher mortality rates among female than male children aged one to four, she said.

A female child's health, survival and education is determined by the value placed on women in her culture and the family she grows up in, Dennerstein said.

Furthermore, marriage and child-bearing at young age exposes females to increased health risks. By the age of 15, 18 percent of Asian and 16 percent of African girls are married.

Illness connected to pregnancy and delivery is the most significant health problem among women age 15 to 44 in Third World countries, and while many women may want to limit the number of children they bear, such family planning decisions necessitate the cooperation of their male partners, Dennerstein said.

Sexually transmitted disease — in Africa exposure to HIV/AIDS is prevalent — is the second most serious problem among these women, who often don't get proper treatment because they are embarrassed or don't have access to medical attention, she reported.

The lecture was organized by Weizmann Women for Science and the Women's Health Committee of the University of Toronto.

Conference to explore medical ethics

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — The seventh Annual International Conference on Jewish Medical Ethics is scheduled to take place Feb. 16 to 19 in San Francisco.

Speakers include some of the leading rabbinic and medical authorities in the world, as well as political leaders from Israel.

The conference is sponsored by the Institute for Jewish Medical Ethics of the Hebrew Academy of San Francisco and co-sponsored by the National Council of Young Israel; the Stanford University School of Medicine; the Stanford University Centre for Biomedical Ethics; and the Department for Leadership Development and Dor Hemshech of the World Zionist Organization, Jerusalem.

For a free conference brochure or for further information, call 1-800-258-4427. Or contact the institute's web site at: http://www.hia.com/hia/medethic. Or write to: Institute for Jewish Medical Ethics, 645 14th Ave., San Francisco, Ca. 94118.

Woman thinks she's melting

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A 28-year-old Israeli woman is one of the few people in the world to be diagnosed with a strange, but usually short-lived psychiatric syndrome that caused her to believe the world and parts of her body were "melting" and that she would live forever.

The rare illness, called Cotard Syndrome, is so obscure that it is not even listed in the the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders - considered the psychiatrists' bible. Fewer than 20 cases have been authenticated. The case is described in the latest issue of *Harefuah*, the journal of The Israel Medical Association, by Drs. George Simovici and Arye Bauer of the Jaffa Community Mental Health Centre.

The woman is unmarried and an only child who completed only elementary school. She lives in sheltered housing and works in a factory.

Complaining of anxiety, she suddenly claimed witches had cast a spell on her; when she looked in the mirror, she saw herself without a nose. A computerized scan of her head showed physiological changes in her brain.

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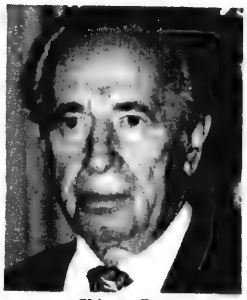
Peres promises referendum on Golan

By DOUGLAS DAVIS AND SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Shimon Peres has committed himself to holding a referendum on withdrawal from the Golan, if an accord with Syria is reached after early elections.

Addressing a news conference in London last Thursday, Peres said he would not take the results of early elections as a mandate for territorial concessions on the Golan.

Earlier, after declaring that he would decide this month whether to call early elections, Peres, appearing on the BBC's current affairs program *Newsnight,* brushed aside suggestions that by calling early elections he might be perceived as "cashing in" on the wave of support for Labor following the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.



Shimon Peres

At the news conference, held toward the end of a two-day visit to Britain, Peres said he would prefer to see the government continue until its term ends in late October, but "there are some considerations, not connected with the peace process," which incline him to early elections.

"We have to have a new mandate because this government exists as a result of a tragic event," he said. "Just as a bullet cannot stop the democratic process, it cannot justify an extension of the mandate

"There are other unspecified economic and political considerations" which might make early elections necessary, he said.

Interior Minister Haim Ramon said that while Peres "may want an early mandate, he also does not wish to slow down the negotiations with the Syrians."

The final decision about the Golan, he said, should "in any case be subjected to a referendum, regardless of when elections take place. There are many people who would like to see Peres as prime minister but who have a problem on the issue of the Golan. Why should we stop these people from voting for Peres? This can be done if we let them have a separate say on the Golan in a referendum."

The Golan Residents Committee last Thursday night called for a law to ensure that a referendum on the Golan will be held regardless of elections.

"We are demanding that a Golan referendum law be passed by the present Knesset to ensure that the promise made by Peres is not just a trick designed to help him win a quick election, then reach a speedy agreement with the Syrians," said committee spokesperson Uri Heitner.

Nazi goods sold in China

By LORI SILBERMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – A Beijing business that was selling Nazi paraphernalia was shut down by Chinese police.

A broadcast on Chinese state television last Monday announced the police action.

German diplomats in Beijing, commenting on the broadcast, said that Nazi revivalism was virtually unheard of in China.

"This is worrying," one diplomat reportedly said Tuesday.

"This must mean there is a wider problem or they [the government] would not be reporting it so widely. They would be keeping it quiet."

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, said in an interview that the announcement was significant because it indicates that renewed Jewish and Israeli contact with China "has heightened China's sensitivity" to this matter.

In the past, such an incident would have been ignored, he added.

China established diplomatic relations with Israel in 1992.

The broadcast, noting that Jan. 27 was the 51st anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz, began by saying Germany had proclaimed Jan. 27 "a day to reflect on the persecution of Nazism," in order to teach future generations not to forget history's lessons.

It then provided a list of the Nazi paraphernalia available at the store, including gas masks, helmets and clothing, and badges and medals with the Nazi swastika – "everything but weapons," according to the broadcast.

The report did not say, however, who was behind the operation or if it had links to neo-Nazi groups.

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Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Israel , PLO jockey for control of Jerusalem

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

Final status talks on Jerusalem are not due to begin until May, but jockeying for control of this ethnically and religiously diverse city is well under way, pitting Israel against its negotiating partner in the Oslo peace process, the PLO.

The latest skirmish of this running battle took place last month as Palestinians in the territories went to the polls to elect an interim self-governing council with limited powers.

Along with the Palestinians of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Arab residents of East Jerusalem — annexed by Israel but claimed by the PLO as its future capital — were permitted to cast ballots. They voted for seven candidates who would represent them in the 88-seat legislative council.

But from the moment the Knesset passed special legislation transforming five post offices in East Jerusalem into temporary polling stations, controversy flared.

The Jewish mayor of Jerusalem, Ehud Olmert, described the arrangement as a ploy "to undermine Israel and the Jewish people's sovereignty over its eternal and undivided capital."

The Palestinians complained that Israeli police and soldiers had interfered with campaigning, and that the five polling booths could only accommodate a fraction of Jerusalem's voters.

But once the votes were counted, the Palestinians had won a small victory. With Israel's reluctant acquiescence, they had elected legislators who would represent *their* interests in *their* sector of Jerusalem.

Was it, as one Likud parliamentarian suggested, "the beginning of the dividing" of Jerusalem?

Perhaps.

As far as the Israeli government is concerned, no such thing happened. Israel regards Jerusalem, all of it, as its eternal and indivisible capital.

In the wake of the Six Day War, the Knesset passed a law extending the city's municipal boundaries beyond the Green Line. In 1980, the Knesset enacted legislation affirming Jerusalem's status as Israel's capital.

Two years ago, Israeli parliamentarians decreed that the Palestine National Authority (PNA) — which administers the Palestinian autonomous areas — cannot conduct official business in Jerusalem.

Furthermore, Israeli leaders have laid claim to Jerusalem's hinterland. For example, Prime Minister Shimon Peres has reportedly assured the mayor of Ma'aleh Adumim that it will remain part of Israel in any agreement with the Palestinians. Ma'aleh Adumim, the largest Jewish settlement in the West Bank, lies close to Jerusalem.

Be that as it may, the Palestinians have pressed their own claims to Jerusalem. Yasser Arafat, head of the PLO and president of the new Palestinian council, has repeatedly asserted that Jerusalem belongs to the Palestinians. By that, he means East Jerusalem. The PNA recognizes West Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

To bolster their title to East Jerusalem, the Palestinians have taken a number of steps which, Israel claims, contravene the letter and spirit of the Oslo accords:

- They have taken control of the private school system in eastern Jerusalem while leaving the old Jordanian administration intact to appease Israel. Olmert believes the takeover threatens Israeli authority in Jerusalem.
- Against Israel's wishes, the Palestinians have revived the Arab Jerusalem Municipal Council, which Israel broke up in June 1967. It is uncertain whether the council still holds regular meetings.
- Last month, the PNA appointed a "governor of Jerusalem." Olmert called the appointment "a provocation."

Most of all, tension has arisen over the functioning of Palestinian offices in East Jerusalem.

When he was foreign minister, Peres said Israel would recognize and preserve Palestinian institutions of an economic, social, educational and cultural nature, provided they were not directly linked with the PNA.

Since then, there have been a series of disputes over this matter. Last summer, Israel closed, then reopened, the Palestinian Health Centre, the Palestinian Broadcasting Authority and the Palestinian Statistics Centre.

Orient House, the PLO's de facto headquarters in Jerusalem, has also caused problems.

In contravention of Israeli wishes, more than 40 foreign officials, including Canadians, have visited Orient House in the past two years. Notwithstanding pleas by Olmert, Israel has no plans to close it.

Jan. 29

- Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said he opposes allowing the United States to offer proposals that would narrow the gap with Syria in an effort to reach a peace accord this year. "I think the best way is for both sides to reach it by themselves," Barak said.

Jan. 30

- A bill that would allow minors to carry out AIDS tests without their parents' permission unanimously passed first reading in the Knesset.

- The government committee on Israel-Diaspora relations declared in its first meeting that Israel still has a role in offering "spiritual" rescue to world Jewry.

- Prime Minister Shimon Peres called on Israel's moderate Arab neighbors to form a coalition against fundamentalist Islamic nations and groups that threaten "taking the world backwards 500 years."

Jan. 31:

- Two Palestinian police officers were caught in a stolen car near Ramallah, the same day the Palestinian police in Hebron returned to Israel 73 stolen cars located in areas under their authority.

- Some 2.5 million tourists arrived in 1995, a record year for tourism, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced.

Feb. 1:

- Mohammed Rajib Salameh Mohammed, a Palestinian academic arrested on suspicion that he spied for Iran, was expelled to Jordan. Security sources said Mohammed, 44, caused no damage to national security.

Feb. 3:

- Palestinian police raided a house in the Shati refugee camp near Gaza City and killed two Islamic Jihad activists who had apparently refused to surrender, camp residents said. Israeli media said the two men were involved in planning the Beit Lid double bombing that killed 20 soldiers and a civilian one year ago. Sources in Gaza said the two were suspected of planning attacks against Israelis to avenge the killing of Jihad leader Fathi Shkaki in Malta three months ago.

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Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Christopher seeks to advance stalled Israel/Syria talks

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jewish Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived here Sunday night in yet another attempt to advance peace with Syria, though chances for a breakthrough are fading, given the prospects of early elections here, diplomatic sources said.

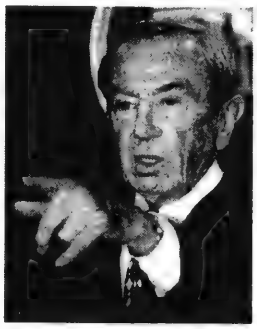
There are indications that Christopher realizes the Syria-Israel talks will be low priority until after the elections are over, they said.

"It is fair to say that if there are early elections in Israel, peace talks will continue, but the tough decisions on issues such as security arrangements will only be made after the elections are over," an American diplomatic source said.

Both Israel and Syria seem to prefer that talks continue so as to preserve some momentum.

"We still have no signs that the Syrians are willing to compromise on a few issues that are critical to us and if they don't show any compromise there won't be any peace," said Minister Yossi Beilin.

"There is room for working groups to start more extensive talks on all issues on the agenda, but I don't think there is reason to expect a breakthrough," Beilin told Israel Radio.



Warren Christopher

While the United States may not be pleased by the prospect of early elections, Christopher is not seeking to press Prime Minister Shimon Peres on the matter. In a phone call last week, sources said, Christopher noted the calling of early elections is an Israeli matter.

Yet, it is important to Christopher that he not be blamed by Israeli officials for failing to deliver an early breakthrough this week, and therefore be perceived as the immediate trigger for early elections, the American diplomatic source said. Christopher is slated to leave the region on Thursday, and Peres said he would make his announcement about early elections by next week.

State-run Radio Damascus expressed disappointment with the progress in Maryland. Syrian radio attacked Foreign Minister Ehud Barak as being uninterested in doing what is needed for peace. Barak said recently that he would not give a drop of water on the Golan to Syria.

American diplomatic sources were doubtful that Hafez al-Assad would agree to a "photo-op" with Peres before the elections, which might bolster Peres domestically. They said Assad will continue to link any meeting with Peres to a prior commitment to fully withdraw from the Golan.

Before meeting Peres, Christopher will participate in a Yad Vashem ceremony for an American Righteous Among the Nations, Darian Fry.

The secretary of state left for Damascus Tuesday morning and is expected back in Israel the next day.

Radical right distancing itself from extremism: prof.

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — Israel's radical right has become much more moderate since the murder of Yitzhak Rabin, says a Hebrew University expert.

"The right wing has gone through an enormous change, distancing itself from extremism," says Prof. Ehud Sprinzak, author of the *Ascendance of Israel's Radical Right*.

"There is still a small core of a few dozen individuals who are capable of assassination. But even extremists need a sense of communal approval in order to act. With the change in public mood on the right, these extremists find themselves isolated."

Sprinzak would not speculate on the likelihood of another political assassination. But he said two factors could drive extremists to the brink: increased Arab terrorism or evacuation of the settlements.

"Such a heightened level of conflict could lead to another assassination," he told *The CJN*.

Speaking earlier at a symposium at Bar Ilan University, Sprinzak dismissed the commonly heard view that right-wing ideology had led to Rabin's murder.

"The Oslo accord was a threat to the dream of a greater Israel. But that is not what drove people to the streets. It was Arab terror that led to the radicalization of the right."

Wave of terror

Sprinzak maintains that until late 1993, pragmatism characterized the right-wing and settlement movement.

"For many, living in the territories was a way of realizing a bourgeois dream. What led the pragmatists to close ranks with the extremists was the wave of terror," says Sprinzak, citing a series of murderous attacks against settlers and soldiers in November and December of 1993.

"The right wing became radical not because of ideology, but because people began to worry about the safety of their children."

In the aftermath of Rabin's assassination, the settlement movement has adopted a much more moderate stance, said Sprinzak, noting that last week the Council of Settlements of Judea and Samaria decided to rally behind Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu.

"The fact that settlement leaders have opted for the parliamentary approach is significant," said Sprinzak. "A year ago, they were trying to bring down the government by taking to the streets. This marks an enormous change."

But Sprinzak warned that Arab terror could radicalize the right again. "Terrorist attacks could set the machine in motion. It could mobilize people to take to the streets again. We may see renewed efforts to delegitimize the government by blaming it for terrorism."

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Tsomet links with Likud

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Tsomet had in past campaigns nibbled into Labor's support, and it is not clear whether its potential electorate would fully follow it into a partnership with the Likud, and whether those with a Labor past would vote for a Likud-led list.

News of the deal may also cause internal problems in Likud, where the primary race for safe slots on the Knesset list is very crowded.

At this point, no one knows where the Tsomet candidates will be placed and how far down on the list the Tsomet newcomers would push the very hard-pressed Likud contestants.

Tsomet had already finished putting its own list of candidates together, the first party to do so.

Meanwhile, the consensus in the Labor party is that Peres has made a decision on early elections and will make an announcement shortly.

But Peres told Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal and Labor Knesset whip Ra'anan Cohen he prefers the line that he has not yet decided. Presumably this is done in order to deny a tie between the decision and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit.

The word in Labor is that Peres will meet with Netanyahu this week to give him the official word, to ask for Likud cooperation in passing legislation to dissolve the Knesset, and to find a mutually agreeable election date.

Netanyahu said his party does not oppose rescheduling the elections, but that he is awaiting word from Labor.

According to Cohen, the dates now contemplated for the elections are May 14, 21 or 28.

Peres told Shahal that "announcing early elections now would be too early and doing so after mid-February will be too late."

Cohen was to confer with his Likud counterpart MK Moshe Katsav to begin the traditional haggling about an election date.

Meanwhile, practical preparations for early elections were underway in Labor headquarters. These include advancing the party's Knesset primaries once again. They were already moved back from June to April 17, and the talk now is about moving them to March 26, the day the Likud had long ago slated for its primaries.

Party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli has ordered generous overtime allotments to insure that the bureaucratic groundwork for the primaries is completed by an earlier than envisioned target date.

Early elections fever, however, extends beyond the primaries. There is already hectic activity to prepare the infrastructure for the campaign itself. Shahal is seen as managing Peres's campaign for prime minister, while Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer is likely to be put in charge of the Knesset campaign. Labor sources claim that Interior Minister Haim Ramon will be heading the party's "information drive."

"Everything is all ready for the race. All that is needed now is the firing of the starting pistol," Cohen said Sunday night.

MDA director goes to court

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Tel Aviv's Labor Court issued a temporary restraining order Sunday barring any change in status for Magen David Adom (MDA) blood services director Dr. Amnon Ben-David. The case will be discussed with both sides present at a future date.

The order, sought by Ben-David's lawyers Uzi Atzmon and Dan Ahiezer, cut short discussions by MDA's board of directors about proposed sanctions against Ben-David, who four years ago approved his predecessor's decision not to use most blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants or to inform them that their blood was likely to be destroyed.

Atzmon said that dismissing or suspending an employee for the reasons given by Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, who last week asked MDA director-general Amos Luria to suspend Ben-David, was "without precedent." Before the court order was issued, Luria appeared before the 11-member board in Tel Aviv and asked that it approve putting Ben-David on a forced vacation until the Navon Commission reaches its conclusions on the blood donor affair.

Sneh said he would wait for the court to reach its final decision. If it decides to permanently bar any sanctions against Ben-David, Sneh said, he would honor this decision.

The Israel Medical Association and the Israel Hematology Society voiced their full support for Ben-David, saying his decision not to use most blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants because their risk of HIV was 50 times that of the general population and because lab tests could not discover all carriers was correct.

His decision not to inform immigrant donors that their blood would not be used (except for rare types, which were frozen and the donors later retested) was aimed at protecting the Ethiopian immigrant community from stigmatization by the general public, they said in a statement.

As the 11-member MDA board deliberated, dozens of blood services workers demonstrated in the building in support of Ben-David, and eight Ethiopian immigrants protested below to demand Ben-David's dismissal. The board asked MDA legal adviser Ami Osnat to prepare the organization's response to the court order and ask for the go-ahead to send Ben-David on forced vacation. The board also issued a statement rejecting claims that MDA had acted in a "racist" or "anti-Semitic" way.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres Sunday night officially appointed former president Yitzhak Navon as head of the commission of inquiry into the Ethiopian blood donations affair.

Meanwhile, the Unified Ethiopian Immigrants Organization withdrew its petition to the High Court of Justice against Magen David Adom's refusal to use blood donations from Ethiopian immigrants.

The court was scheduled to hear the case Tuesday.

Terror suspect caught

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Israeli security forces this week apprehended a wanted member of the Islamic Jihad movement at the Rafah Crossing separating the Gaza Strip from Egypt.

The man, arrested Sunday as he was trying to flee to Egypt, was reportedly suspected of involvement in the Jan. 22, 1995, Beit Lid and April 9, 1995, Kfar Darom terrorist attacks.

At least 27 people, including American student Alisa Flatow, were killed in the two attacks.

The apprehension came in the wake of the arrest the previous night of two other members of the fundamentalist group by Palestinian police.

The two were arrested in the Shati refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, and are suspected of involvement in a terrorist attack in Gaza.

The two arrests were made shortly after Palestinian police killed two members of the Islamic Jihad in a shootout in the Shati camp.

The two were also wanted by Israel for involvement in the Beit Lid bombing. Last month, a member of Islamic Jihad detained by Israel's domestic security service confessed to planning the Beit Lid attack.

During Sunday's funeral for the two, followers of Islamic Jihad, which violently opposes the Israeli-Palestinian accords, vowed to kill Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

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The seminar is on Tues., Feb. 20, at the Primrose Club, 273 St. Clair Ave. W., beginning with lunch at noon (dietary laws observed). Couvert $15.00; to reserve a seat, please call **(416) 789-3351**.

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"Obviously that's frustrating for us as the creators of the program, but more importantly it is unfair on consumers," says Christopherson. "If someone who could truly benefit from the reverse mortgage doesn't do it because they have been given the wrong information, they may end up compromising their retirement lifestyle quite unnecessarily."

Carol Christopherson
V.P. Canadian Home Income Plan

According to Christopherson the wrong information often comes from sources that should know better. "Bankers, lawyers and financial planners are three of the groups, that think they know about reverse mortgages because they work in related fields, but I have yet to meet one who has the true picture. It's not that they mean to mislead anyone its just that they often jump to conclusions without knowing the full story."

The reverse mortgage was designed by the Canadian *Home Income Plan*™ Corporation in 1986 to provide Canadians over the age of 60 with a unique financial opportunity. Through CHIP™ they were able to access some of the substantial equity that had built up in their homes. Over the past eight years, thousands of eligible homeowners have taken advantage of the program to enhance their lifestyles and assist their children with financial goals. Because the home represents the majority of assets for retirees, unlocking a portion of its value to provide a desired lifestyle appears to make a lot of sense.

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Lufthansa

Actress' roles help her discover her Native roots

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – Daughter of an Israeli father and an Ojibwa mother, actress Jennifer Podemski, 22, admits, "I honestly didn't do much discovering of my native side until I began getting the roles I was getting."

Life in the Wilson-Bathurst neighborhood of North York, where the former student at the Claude Watson School of Arts school grew up, is nothing like the Saskatchewan reservation where many of her relatives on her mother's side live.

"All my friends were Jewish. I went to a Zionist camp for 11 years, and that's all I knew," says Podemski, who speaks Hebrew and has visited Israel often.

Playing the lead role of Sadie Maracle in Bruce MacDonald's acclaimed 1993 film *Dance Me Outside*, which is set on a reservation, was an educational experience for Podemski. Last fall, she expanded on the role during filming of *The Rez*, a six-part TV series due to begin airing soon on the CBC television network.

Based on a character created by writer W.P. Kinsella, Sadie Maracle is a tough-willed contemporary young woman who is "a wicked character," says Podemski. "She knows what she wants and she gets it.

"I had to make it extra believable when preparing for that role, because I have no personal experience with a character like that."

Podemski began acting at age 12 when she appeared in *Once Upon A Mattress* at the Adath Israel synagogue. After several acting jobs for CBC-TV, she studied dance at the Koffler Dance Studio and then switched to theatre because "I discovered that I liked my theatre classes more than my dancing classes."

She also played the role of the teenager Pique in the CBC's two-part production of *The Diviners*, based on Margaret Lawrence's classic novel, which first aired in 1992.

Mixed heritage

"It was a perfect role for me, being of mixed heritage," says Podemski, who acknowledges that she is in danger of being typecast because of that same mixed heritage.

In Israel recently, she was offered a part in an Israeli film, playing "someone who was half Israeli and half something else," she says. However, she was obliged to turn down the role, since she had already enrolled in the year-long acting program at the Vancouver Film School that began in January.

The differences between the Jewish and native Canadian peoples are vast, notes Podemski, observing that one is stereotypically a "have" and the other a "have-not" community. "One is perceived as a very wealthy and powerful group that will succeed, and the other as the opposite of that."

But she also acknowledges a gruesome likeness. "Both have struggled for thousands of years with genocide," she observes. She is one of relatively few people who can refer credibly to the Holocaust and the infamous Battle of Wounded Knee in a single sentence.

It's a time of expanding awareness for Podemski, as she attempts to reconcile the differing halves of her heritage. "It's a bit confusing," she admits. "I'm still trying to figure it out."

The first part of *The Rez* airs on CBC on Feb. 23 at 8 p.m.

Jennifer Podemski, 22, (right) stars in CBCs The Rez.

Black and Jewish Music

Soprano Denise Williams and pianist Brahm Goldhamer celebrate Black and Jewish music in a recital of arias, art songs, folk favorites and spirituals, Thursday Feb. 15 at noon at the Gleen Gould Studio, CBC building 250 Front St. W., Toronto.

Admission is free. The program will be broadcast on *Music Around Us* Feb.18 on CBC Radio 94.1 FM at noon.

Goldhamer is music director of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

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TAB news

Successful show a real cottage industry

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If you're in the market for a cottage or you want to fix up the one you own, consider visiting the 1996 Cottage Show at the West Annex Building at Exhibition Place from Feb. 9 to Feb. 11.

One of the reasons to visit the Cottage Show is "to find a great deal" on a cottage and/or property, says Cottage Show director, Ron Cowan. "In today's economy it's a total buyer's market ... You can buy tremendous cottages under $100,000 on a lake two hours from Toronto."

The show is Cowan's brainchild. He came up with the idea in 1989 after the cottage he'd been renting rose 40 per cent in value during one year of the real estate boom. He decided to jump on the bandwagon and invest in his own vacation property.

Although he was a real estate agent at the time, purchasing a cottage was uncharted territory for Cowan. He looked at prefab houses for $29,000 but that price was just for the wood; it didn't include the cost of assembly or of installing a septic system, he said.

He discovered that to get a septic system installed, a road would have to be built; if there were problems on the lot, the septic system could set the purchaser back a further $20,000.

Ron Cowan (inset) founded the Cottage Show in 1989.

Cowan, 33, found the huge range in cottage prices confusing and he realized that if he, a real estate agent, was stymied by the cottage market, the average consumer would have difficulty as well.

That experience sparked the idea for a Cottage Show — a place where realtors from cottage regions like Parry Sound, Muskoka and the Kawarthas could show their wares. It would also provide a place for comsumers to do comparative shopping under one roof, he explained.

He broadened the concept to include a range of products and services geared for cottagers, from winterizing and building cottages to furnishing them.

The Cottage Show, now in its sixth year, has grown to 200 exhibitors from 105 and it attracts some 20,000 people.

The show shifted to Exhibition Place after five years in Pickering. Cowan had approached the CNE about renting space back in 1989, but he was turned down because CNE management considered him too young and inexperienced, he said.

He then linked up with the late Henry Wittenberg, an experienced show manager, who liked the Cottage Show concept. Wittenberg took care of the administrative end of business while Cowan concentrated on sales. The partnership lasted until Wittenberg's untimely death in 1993.

Business Briefs

ITALIANS TO DISCUSS DEAD SEA INVESTMENT

JERUSALEM –Vice- president of Italian holding company IRI, Roberto Tama, is due to arrive here within two weeks to discuss a planned $20 million (US) investment in the Dead Sea.

A visiting delegation of medical and business experts representing the region of Lombardy in northern Italy signed agreements last week for cooperation in business with Dead Sea Laboratories, manufacturers of Ahava products.

The delegation is headed by Dr. Alberto Calibretti, who is the deputy health minister of Lombardy.

Representatives of Lombardy's San Rocco spa and members of the Lombardy regional government also signed agreements with the Tamar regional council for development of a spa near the Dead Sea.

Joint research will be conducted to examine cooperative health tourism ventures and medical research.

Dead Sea Laboratories vice president Dan Benihu said the initial agreement includes distribution of Ahava products in Italy and the establishment of an Ahava Spa at San Rocco.

GIDEON HOLDINGS TO BUY SHARE IN ELITE

JERUSALEM — Gideon Holdings, the Strauss family's investment company, will purchase a 15 percent share in Elite Industries for about $22 million (US), after negotiations between Elite and Clal Industries broke down.

The shares are part of the 25 percent stake Federman acquired from the British Man company and will be purchased at the same price paid to Man.

Recently the Federman group - which includes Elite chairman and general manager David Federman, his father and his brother - bought Man's 25 percent of the controlling shares and 12 percent of the share capital for $44 million.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Group of Seven: The Art Gallery of Ontario celebrates the 75th anniversary of this famed and highly distinctive school of Canadian painters with an ambitious, multi-faceted exhibition of historical and contemporary Canadian artists, along with talks, films, live music and other activities.

Adults, $12.50. Feb. 16 to May 5. 416-872-3333 or 1-800-461-3333.

*****

Jewish Film: On Feb. 11, the Toronto Jewish Film Society presents Ernst Lubitsch's classic World War II black comedy *To Be or Not to Be* (U.S., 1942), a witty satire in which Jack Benny and Carole Lombard are members of an acting troupe trapped behind enemy lines.

The same evening, the society is also screening *The Yiddish Gauchos* (U.S., 1989), an entertaining 30-minute documentary about the Jews who fled the pogroms of Eastern Europe in the last century, settled in Argentina, and gave birth to the Jewish cowboy known as the Gaucho.

Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall. Tickets (for both films) are $7 at the door, and go on sale at 7:15 p.m.; the films begin 7:30 p.m. Bill Emery, 416-924-6211.

*****

In My Father's Court: He was five years old in 1935 when his father left him and his mother in Warsaw to go to America, and he did not see him again for two decades. By then, Israel Zamir had fought in Israel's war of independence and labored on a socialist Zionist kibbutz. His father, the celebrated writer Isaac Bashevis Singer, had toiled in the literary vineyards of late 19th- and 20th-century Jewish life in both the old world and the new, and established his reputation as one of the finest of Yiddish writers.

Despite the huge discontinuity in the father-son relationship, Zamir, whose name translates as Singer in Hebrew, has continued a family tradition by writing a memoir, *Journey to My Father*, Isaac Bashevis Singer (Arcade Publishing, U.S. $21.95). In it, the son paints a less-than-flattering picture of a man obsessed with literary creation and relations with women to the detriment of family life.

Still, the son seemed to benefit from eventually getting to know his Nobel Prize-winning father, and even translating some of his books. "In *Journey to My Father*, the son shows he has absorbed his father's conviction that 'brevity advances the plot, whereas a burden of descriptions renders it heavy'," wrote Rodger Kamenetz in a review in the *New York Times*.

*****

Jewish Music Toronto: This organization kicks off its new season with a program of Jewish music and music by Jewish composers, featuring Offenbach, Meyerbeer, Milhaud, Copland, Weinzweig and Srul Irving Glick.

The music will be played by the North York Symphony in the George Weston Recital Hall, under the baton of maestro Kerry Stratton, at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. Feb. 29, 8 p.m. Tickets are $28. Joan Tooke, Koffler Gallery, 416-636-2145.

*****

The Baker's Wife: The Canadian premiere of this charming musical play is based on the 1935 film, *La Femme de Boulanger*, by Marcel Pagnol and Jean Giono. Set in a town in rural Provence in the 1930s, the story tells of the town's baker, who is inconsolable and cannot bake after his wife runs off with another man. The village is thrown into chaos, and the villagers must examine all their petty differences, old grudges and nursed resentments to solve the crisis.

Joseph Stein (*Fiddler on the Roof*) wrote the book and Stephen Schwartz (*Godspell, Pocahontas*) wrote the music and lyrics about 20 years ago. For artistic reasons the show never opened on Broadway but director Trevor Nunn mounted a London production in 1989.

An Equity Showcase Theatre production, *The Baker's Wife* features 19 characters and 19 musical numbers. It previews Feb. 14 and plays from Thursday Feb. 15 to Saturday Feb 24, nightly except Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at the Studio Theatre, Harbourfront. Recommended minimum donation for admission is $6. Donations for Daily Bread Food Bank invited. 416-532-8178.

Judy Loman

In Brief: Judy Loman, one of Canada's premiere harpists, offers a spellbinding evening of solo classical music Feb. 20 at 8 p.m. on stage at the Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. W., Toronto. 416-205-5555.

Show examines health issues

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Joyce Resin, host of CBC's *Alive*, is committed to telling a story that is not often told.

Her four-year-old show, which airs from Vancouver on Sundays at 11:30 a.m., focuses on a new definition of health that recognizes the influence of families, communities and environment on a person's total well-being.

"Our mandate is to examine the full range of health issues, from fitness and exercise to workplace safety, healthy eating, alternative therapies, native approaches to healing, handling stress, teen problems and sex. Stories focus on solutions — individual, community and corporate responses to health concerns," said Resin in Toronto recently.

Resin said when she hosted CBC's *The Best Years*, aimed at people over 50, it became clear to her that the older people who were happy and healthy were generally those connected to the community.

"It had little to do with diet and more to do with being involved and having a legitimate role to play in society. I began to understand that health is a lot broader than medical issues — it has to do with being active, interested and maintaining close contact with family and friends."

Resin, wife, mother of two teenage girls and part-time aerobics instructor, said that in the western provinces, there is a tremendous movement towards alternative medicine and spirituality.

"People want control of their health. Over the next little while, more and more people will become aware that attitudes, emotions and the way we handle stress have a great impact on our health. Someone may do all the right things as far as their physical health goes, but as well, they must have a positive attitude.

Joyce Resin

"This year's season premiere focused on how anger can kill people. New studies show that anger can threaten health with cancer and heart disease. What we did was to show how expressing anger can make a difference to well-being."

The show is aimed at everyone, she said, although most viewers are female. "Men are not as comfortable in dealing with health issues — they do not talk about themselves as much as women, they are often into macho issues. Some men are starting to get interested in health matters, however, and we are starting to see a breakthrough.

"More and more teens are watching as well," she added, "and we get a lot of mail from boys and girls concerned about such things as their weight, smoking and self-image. We enjoy getting feedback from them because although the show is for parents, it does feature many teen concerns. Issues such as teen suicide, unhealthy school environments and Hepatitis C are all of interest to teenagers."

A story Resin took to heart was one on teenage smoking.

"The bulk of new smokers are teenage girls. So we found a 17-year-old girl who committed on-camera to quit smoking. We gave her a small video camera to record her challenge and she kept a diary about the concerns. She was worried about putting on weight. Being thin was critical to her. We're proud to say that she has kept in touch with us and to this day has not had a cigarette. We feel like we had a direct influence on her life," Resin said.

Alive is co-produced by Resin and Paddy Moore and is a co-production of CBC British Columbia and Vive Communications Inc. Sponsors include Health Canada, Ontario Ministry of Health, B.C. Ministry of Health, Saskatchewan Health, New Brunswick Department of Health, VanCity Savings and Connaught Laboratories.

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TAB news

Singer's Yiddish repertoire mirrors composers' emotions

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Theresa Tova it isn't as simple as belting out the Yiddish songs which flowed to Broadway.

Her repertoire is to fashion a program which mirrors all the joy and anguish of the Yiddish composers, to be faithful to the spirit of the people who were the source of the music.

This formula worked wonders recently at *From Belz to Broadway*, when Tova entertained a sold-out audience of 450 at the New Yorker Theatre.

She sang Yiddish favorites such as *Harbst Lid* and *Avreyml* (with lyrical translations by Hindy Nosek-Abelson), counterpointing them with hard-luck songs of the 1930s--*Brother Can You Spare a Dime* and *My Buddy*.

Obviously she touched a nerve connecting the Yiddish roots and North American experience of the audience, linking Ashkenazi culture to popular music of this era.

For example, she sang the first verse of *Vi Shlekht an Vi Bitter* and

Theresa Tova

with no break in tempo or mood switched to her own English translation, beginning: "I come from Jewish stock, My blood boils good and hot."

She captured the audacious bravado of Mordecai Gebertig's *Avreyml* in Yiddish and its English translation for the New World which begins: "I steal from cheapskates, stingy sons of bitches ..."

Can you imagine Tova swinging *Puttin on the Ritz* by Irving Berlin at the same time as talented co-performer Liza Balkan, is singing Molly Picon's *Yidl Mitn Fidl*? It worked, thanks as well to the clever arrangements by musical director John Alcorn.

This number is from *Still the Night*, a musical to be workshopped in the spring based on the recollections of a young girl in the Polish underground.

In every sense, Tova, a Calgary native who is the daughter of a survivor, is a magnetic stage personality who involves the audience in her own life.

She recounted with delight her love of singing *Under Dayne Vayse Shtern* by Avrum Sutskever (Under Your White Starry Heaven) to non-Jewish audiences in Toronto clubs in the last two years. As she did in those venues, she adds the English translation by Nosek-Abelson, which begins: "Under your white starry heaven, touch me with your pure white hand."

Tova's mode of singing Yiddish songs may be too saucy and naughty for some traditionalists but she is definitely a high-voltage performer for the '90s.

Dictionary volume issued

TORONTO – Local scholar and author, David Mendel Harduf, has just published the third issue of *Harduf's Transliterated English-Hebrew Dictionary.*

The book comes in a soft cover, large-size, limited edition and covers the letters H-K of the English alphabet.

Besides the Hebrew equivalent of the English entries, the book carries a transliteration of each Hebrew word or phrase. This should be helpful to librarians and students alike, as they are guided from the beginning to read and pronounce each Hebrew word correctly.

The dictionary contains a basic English vocabulary, enriched by many new and up-to-date words and concepts. An impressive number of quotations from classical and modern Hebrew literature are given to illustrate the use of the Hebrew transliterations.

The book costs $58.50 and can be obtained by contacting the author at 416-663-5467.

Exploring Jewish Europe

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Did you know that the British Museum in London has the original copy of the Balfour Declaration?

Did you know that the Great Synagogue in Stockholm is considered one of the most beautiful synagogue buildings in Europe?

Did you know that the Jewish cemetery in Worms, Germany, is the oldest of its kind on the European continent?

Did you know that the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw contains one of the most outstanding collections of Judaica in the world?

If you weren't aware of these relatively arcane facts, you'll find them in the second edition of *A Travel Guide To Jewish Europe* by Ben Frank (Pelican Publishing, $18.95 US).

Frank's 600-page compendium, replete with grainy black-and-white photographs, overflows with data about 18 countries from Austria to Turkey.

Written in a pleasing informal style, the book combines history with practical information about local sights, organizations, synagogues, kosher restaurants/cafes and museums.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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Lusia & Joseph Belzycki celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 29. Love from their children Paul, Barbara, Fern and Harold, grandchildren Philicia, Adam, Lana and Racquel and sister and brother-in-law Edzia and Leon Waltman.

Milt & Alice Shefman celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 20. Love from their children Barry and Penny, Alan and Francine, Frank and Vicki, and grandchildren Charles and Nicole, Marni, David, Corey, Joshua, Howard and Zachary.

Jack & Heddy Hoffich celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 22. Mazel tov from their children Marion and Ellen and grandchildren Sidney, Larry and Allen, Jason, Valerie and Justin.

Sheina & Morey Kaye of Kingston, Ont., recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Love from Glory, Joe, Brandi, Amy and Rachel Goldman and Larry, Beth and Joshua Kaye.

TAB news

Mushing with Huskies a true winter's delight

By VERA GILLMAN
Special to the CJN

TROUT CREEK, Ont. – What's a nice Jewish girl doing in a place like this? Ask the Jewish mother who thought her daughter should celebrate her "40 something" birthday mushing huskies in the middle of dog sledding country.

But just as sure as icicles will form on your eyelashes, the smile will freeze on your face as your sleigh weaves its way through the magical winter forests of the near north. Don't get me wrong. This is no sit-back-and-relax, huddle together sleigh ride. This is the true north strong and free Canadian sport of dog sledding.

Whether yelling "mush, easy, whoa, ha, gee" or just collaborating with the leader of your pack, you, your sled and your team of dogs brave whatever the trail and the elements dole out.

Maureen and Doug Groves, owners and operators of Sunvalley Dog Sledding, take the business of fun seriously.

Maureen custom plans tantalizing meals and comfortable lodging for the sledders in her home, while husband Doug, a retired military master of survival training and top dog around Sunvalley, instructs and then leads the new mushers and their dog teams.

In sledding season, November to March, the Groves are busy six days a week, their most avid customers being European tourists. Many go dog sledding over the hundreds of kilometres of trails and Crown land that surround the Groves' abode. Trips vary from a one-day sampler to staying out for two weeks at a time, with a choice of overnight lodging in the house or sleeping under the stars.

Both Maureen and Doug take part in breeding and caring for their dogs. Huskies, Siberian in particular, are work dogs, bred for running, carrying, pulling, playing and lying around in the snow. They're highly intelligent, sociable and, like most dogs, fiercely loyal to those who care for them.

The six of us, my husband and I, our two teenage sons, my sister and her fiance arrived at 9 a.m., a half hour before our scheduled departure time. The pouring rain that greeted us at our final destination some five hours north of Toronto did nothing to calm our trepidation. However, it didn't appear to dampen the spirit of the 50 huskies that dotted the hillside behind the quaint country home belonging to our hosts.

With the assurance of the most up-to-the-minute weather report, we knew that the one-degree drop in temperature necessary to change the rain to snow was imminent. In the meantime, an indoor lesson using a video of Doug taking out a previous group of urbanites was quickly taking our minds off the weather. Instead, I started to wonder whether my current exercise program had included enough weight lifting to get the job done.

Sled dogs love a good shlep

Each of us was assigned to and responsible for our own dog team, usually six dogs. That meant taking these powerful animals from the multitude of dog houses scattered around the property over to our sleds and properly harnessing each one with the the appropriate size of harness. The eager canines had not run in two days, so "easy" and "whoa" became our most valuable commands.

Once out on the trail, the single most important instruction, we were told, was to stay with our team under any circumstance.

After six hours and 30 kilometres of hilly, winding, wooded, winter land, including an outdoor lunch stop complete with campfire and provisions, we arrived back at the house, spent, but not yet finished. Rubbery legs and arms notwithstanding, it was time to unharness the dogs, take them back to their separate dwellings, water, feed and pat them generously for their trouble.

Once the sleds are in motion, you still have to run up hills to relieve the pressure on the dogs, brake hard and repeat "easy, easy" each time they try to overtake the next team, concentrate on avoiding dog fights while remembering to praise yours for their efforts, and build a special rapport between you and your lead dogs.

Sounds like a lot of work. So when does the fun begin? The rewards are numerous and varied. The dogs love to run and when gravity allows, they fly down hills and around corners as you steer with your body weight. Trips are geared to the clients' wishes and capabilities. While the tireless teens stayed outside to help feed the dogs, the rest of us settled into cozy living room couches to await dinner and to allow tired muscles to stiffen. Dinner never tasted so guilt-free.

The greatest rewards – the scenery, the solitude, the thrills, the interdependence of musher and dog team and just plain fun in the freshest air you've ever breathed – all combine to etch a lasting smile onto even the most harassed city dweller's face.

Thanks mom, for the memorable birthday. Now if I could just find that gift certificate I got for a massage.

Getting a game plan key to leasing a car

By JOSEPH SERGE
TAB news editor

TORONTO – Thinking of buying or leasing a car? There's lots you should know.

"Make up a shopping list and have a game plan," advises Mel Wise, co-author of *Gordon Pape's 1996 Car Value Guide.* "It's like playing in the Super Bowl; without a game plan you'll be lost."

Buying a car is the second most important purchase one makes, (second to buying a home) and shouldn't be done on a whim. "Sit down with your family and talk about it. Don't come home with a sports car if you have three kids and a St. Bernard," Wise said.

"You should also have an indication of what you can afford and look only in the price range you'll be comfortable in."

When dealing with salespeople – and Wise should know, he's been in the dealership business for 25 years and is currently leasing manager at Downsview Chrysler in Toronto – don't fall for their sales tactics.

"When they tell you 'It won't be here tomorrow,' that's a load of crap." Always take time to think about it, Wise said.

In the *1996 Car Value Guide,* the authors rate different ranges of new cars, give helpful tips on buying new or used cars, offer maintenance tips and negotiation tips. One chapter deals with leasing cars.

The advantage to leasing is the warrranty. Most warranties, which sometimes include roadside assistance, last for the duration of the lease.

If you're looking to buy a lower-priced subcompact, Wise highly recommends the Pontiac Sunfire. "It doesn't skimp on safety features – dual airbags, ABS brakes, child-proof locks – and is the best bang for the buck."

For a higher-priced mid-size car, Wise recommends the Honda Accord or Toyota Camry. "They're very, very stable. They have great resaleability and the creature comforts are excellent."

In the higher-price range the Oldsmobile Aurora also scores well with Wise.

In the chapter *The Top Value Cars,* the authors also highly praise the Ford Contour, the Chrysler Intrepid, Ford Probe, Mazda Miata, Lincoln Mark VIII, GMC Jimmy and the Dodge Caravan.

The book retails for $14.95. An index detailing where you could find descriptions on each listed car will be a helpful feature in any future editions.

IT'S JUST AROUND THE CORNER

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March 7th in

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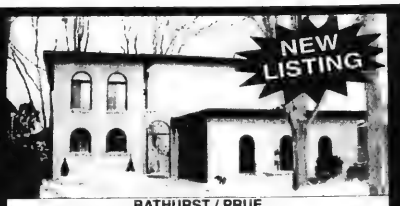

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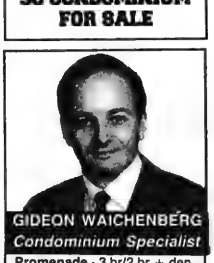

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270 PERSONALS

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attention curious females, attractive, professional male, 35, has intriguing offer. 633-3863.

Gentleman, recently widowed, retired, average height, average weight, in good health, non smoker, financially independent. Wishes to meet female counterpart 60+. Box 6692 CJN

I am a 49 yr. old, 5'71/2", traditional male, looking for a traditional Jewish lady for relationship. I haven't had children yet but would like to have them soon. If you want the same, let's discuss it. Photo please. Mr. Al, P.O. Box 85531, 875 Eglinton Ave. W, Tor. M6C 4A8.

Passionately into living, professional, 46, petite, looking for self-motivated, stimulating, occasional dance partner. 416-636-6815.

Pretty, 20-yr old college student, 5'2", looking for a sincere, down-to-earth SJM, 24-28, interested in a long lasting relationship. Box 6702 CJN.

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For these ads simply address your mail to:
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The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

Widower, 63, would like to meet a woman for serious relationship, widow preferred. Box 6701 CJN.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Wanted! Photos depicting Jewish life in Poland in the 20s & 30s - could be your family photos, for an exhibition. 482-3106. Leave message.

330 OBITUARIES

DAVIS, Samuel - Husband of the late Gladys (Wiezel) Davis, passed away on Jan. 7, 1996 in Saint John, N.B. Mr. Davis was born in Saint John in 1914, the son of the late Harry and Ida (Rozovsky) Davis. He was a retired businessman and former professional engineer. Mr. Davis served as Mayor of Saint John in addition to several terms as a city councillor and had been President of Shaarei Zedek synagogue in Saint John, President of the New Brunswick Museum, Chairman of the Saint John Regional Hospital, a governor of Heritage Canada and an executive of several other voluntary boards. He earned degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of New Brunswick. The latter awarded him an honorary doctorate in recognition of his service to the community. He is survived by sons Roy and Alan of Toronto, Gary of Saint John and Jan of Montreal, brothers Abraham and Isadore and seven grandchildren. He was predeceased by his brother Eli and sister Rose. Contributions may be made to the University of New Brunswick Foundation, Office of Development and Public Relations, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, N.B, E3B 5A3.

Dear Ella,

Not long ago, I was involved in a relationship with a successful businessman and consultant. Martin and I went out for a year but unfortunately (for me), it didn't work out.

During the relationship, I had introduced him to a longtime friend of mine, Adam. The two got along very well, and even developed a business relationship. Now they are good friends, which makes me uncomfortable. Whenever I get together with Adam, I end up hearing about how Martin is doing, how his personal life is. It drives me a bit batty and usually ends up ruining my day. I've asked not to hear about Martin, but I guess I can't resist the details anyway.

In the end, this has put a damper on what was otherwise a very rewarding and longstanding friendship with Adam. I get the feeling that Martin is, in part, using Adam to ensure that I hear about how great his life is without me. Help!

Frankly Miffed

Dear Frankly Miffed,

This sounds like one big game, and you are all playing the parts assigned to you, to see who can aggravate whom best.

It is clear you have not gotten over Martin. Now that you are hearing about how well he is doing without you, it's driving you crazy. Chances are you would have preferred it if Martin had fallen apart without you by his side, but people have an instinct to survive and that is exactly what Martin is doing.

I suggest that you try to do the same. Close this chapter in your life and get on with a new one.

As far as Adam is concerned, let him be. You call him a friend, yet you are using him to hang onto a fantasy.

You will be much healthier and happier when you come to terms with this breakup. It is likely that when you meet someone new to take the place of Martin, your friendship with Adam will go back to what it was and you won't care what happens in Martin's life any more.

It is a "no-win" game you are playing, so why not stop now and move on to something new.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

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6 carrots, coarsely grated (about 1 1/2 lb)	1/2 tsp salt
	1/2 tsp ground ginger
1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries	1/4 cup chicken broth
2 pears, peeled, coarsely chopped	1 tblsp butter
1/4 cup brown sugar	1 tblsp chopped parsley

COMBINE carrots, cranberries, pears, sugar, salt, ginger and broth in greased 6 cup casserole. Dot with butter, cover and bake at 325°F for 45 minutes. Uncover and bake 15 minutes longer or until carrots are tender and cranberries are cooked through. Sprinkle with parsley. Serves 8.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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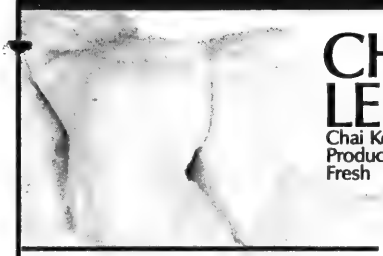

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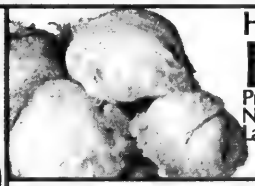

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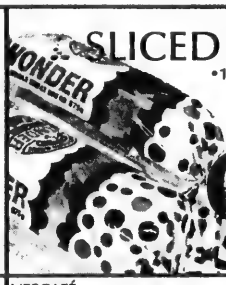

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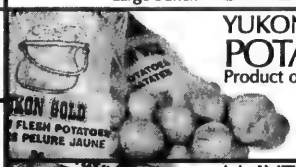

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Project Sarah, a Jewish daycare training centre, receives $15,000 grant. *Page 3*

Our Jerusalem, play in honor of Jerusalem 3000, is entertaining and informative. *Page 6*

Coast to Coast

Chinese group contributes to CJC human rights case. *Page 19*

CJC to maintain role in boosting Canadian unity, Goldie Hershon says. *Page 22*

Israel, U.S.A. & The World

Third Way: Israeli political protest movement becoming a full-fledged party. *Analysis.* *Page 30*

Health news

Lifesavers: A couple's quick thinking saves a man's life at the Bathurst Jewish Centre pool. *Page 38*

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Elections expedited

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Isreal Correspondent

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Shimon Peres kicked off Israel's 1996 election campaign Sunday night with the announcement that he intended to hold early elections, probably at the end of May.

A majority of members of Knesset support the move, including opposition leader Binyamin Netanyahu, who has been demanding early elections since the signing of the Oslo accord.

Peres is expected to decide this week on the exact date – either May 21, May 28 or June 4 – following consultations with Netanyahu.

Speaking at a press conference, Peres described in graphic detail the night that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was murdered. He said that he had preferred not to call immediate elections because the country needed time to stabilize in the aftermath of the assassination. "The country was in shock," he said, adding that Israel has now undergone the necessary "period of stabilization."

The prime minister acknowledged that the pace of negotiations with Syria was a major factor in his decision. Originally Peres wanted to delay elections as long as possible in order to make headway in the peace talks. But on Sunday night he admitted that the negotiations required more time than he had anticipated. "I decided that negotiations with Syria should not be held under the pressure of elections." But Peres added that peace talks would not come to a halt during the campaign and repeated his pledge to hold a referendum on any agreement reached with Syria.

The election was originally scheduled for October 29, but Peres said he would hold it "at the earliest date permissible by law" – which is three months after the Knesset dissolves itself. "A long election campaign... is a waste of time and resources at public expense," he said.

The prime minister vowed that his party would "show restraint" during the campaign, and said he hoped the opposition would do the same. "There must be no return to the terrible charges of 'treachery' and 'murderer,'" he said, alluding to the accusations leveled at Rabin by rightwing opponents. "We will prove to the whole world that Israel can return to itself even after this terrible murder and show that it is a strong country and a true democracy."

Presenting himself as Rabin's heir, Peres said he would continue "the path launched by Yitzhak." Acknowledging the groundswell of support from Israeli youth in the

Continued on page 32

TIME TO GO TO THE POLLS
Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres announced earlier this week that Israel's general elections will be held as soon as possible, likely at the end of May or early June. *[RNS photo]*

New envoy to Canada?

JERUSALEM — Israeli press reported last week that David Sultan, currently envoy to Egypt, will be Israel's next ambassador to Canada.

Eli Yerushalmi, Israel's acting ambassador, told *The CJN* that the naming of Sultan is unofficial.

Sultan has been tapped by the Foreign Ministry as the next ambassador to Canada but the appointment has to be confirmed by the government.

Prior to serving as Israel's ambassador to Egypt, Sultan was the number two person at the Cairo embassy. He has also served as consul general in Milan and at Israel's embassy in The Hague. As well, Sultan was assistant deputy minister for Middle East affairs in the Foreign Ministry.

Mission 3000 set to launch

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

Canada's largest-ever mission to Israel, 1996 Mission 3000, from Feb. 19 to 28, will take over 1,000 Canadians to the Jewish state – 60 percent of them for the first time.

Two jumbo jets will fly a record 1,120 people to Israel – 620 from Montreal, 360 from Toronto, 53 from Winnipeg, 26 from Edmonton, 24 from Calgary and the remainder from the rest of Canada – on a whirlwind tour that will include briefings by Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

Described as logistically unprecedented, the mission is organized by United Israel Appeal of Canada (UIA), Canadian Jewish federations and Keren Hayesod in Israel, and takes place in conjunction with festivities marking Jerusalem's 3000th birthday.

According to UIA, special emphasis has been placed on those who have never been to Israel. As a result, about 60 percent of participants will be first-time visitors or those who haven't been in 20 years, including families, couples and singles.

"This is the largest operation we have ever undertaken," UIA Canada president Harvey Wolfe said in a statement. "It shows the tremendous identification of Canadian Jewry with Israel."

In Israel, 25 buses will be deployed to transport the Canadians to northern Galilee, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, the Negev and other stops, including Yitzhak Rabin's gravesite. Scheduled on the trip's first night is a pick-up ice hockey game between Canadians and Israelis at the Canada Centre complex in Metulla. The idea is to travel the entire length of Israel, from the northernmost point to Eilat.

Touted as the mission's highlight will be a Feb. 22 dinner hosted by Peres and Olmert, to be followed by a presentation depicting Canadian projects in Israel through the Project Renewal and Partnership 2000 programs.

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Davar Rishon *to stop publication — please see page 29*

The News In Brief

CANADA

Education Foundation

VAUGHAN — The Jewish Russian Community Centre of Greater Toronto is launching a Jewish-Russian Education Foundation to enable the children of needy Russian-Jewish families to attend educational programs, the afternoon school, day care and youth activities.

This foundation will be launched on Feb. 22 at the Paradise Banquet Hall and Convention Centre in the City of Vaughan.

Youth Violence Forum

REGINA — Regina Hadassah-WIZO in cooperation with the Regina Crime Prevention Commission will hold a community forum on youth violence on Feb. 21.

The forum, Break the Silence of Violence, includes a day-long session of presentations and workshops for approximately 150 high school students from across Regina.

There is also an evening forum and trade fair open to the public.

ISRAEL

Planting Trees

JERUSALEM— Hundreds of thousands of trees were planted in public ceremonies last week, as Israelis marked Tu b'Shvat, the traditional new year for trees.

President Ezer Weizman, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid and Jewish Agency Chair Avraham Burg were on hand Feb. 5, at the official tree-planting ceremony of the Jewish National Fund in the Jerusalem Forest near Neve Ilan.

Much of the forest was destroyed in a fire last summer.

Some 100,000 saplings have since been planted.

Peres Wins Mock Elections

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Shimon Peres and the left-wing bloc won a sweeping victory in the mock elections at Ramat Gan's Blich High School.

Peres received 61 percent of the votes in the elections for prime minister, compared with Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu's 39 percent, while the left-wing bloc received 56 percent of the votes and the right-wing bloc 38 percent.

In the votes for individual parties, Labor received 46 percent, the Likud-Tsomet list 36 percent, Meretz 10 percent, the Third Way six percent and Moledet two percent.

Covenant Change Urged

JERUSALEM — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher met with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Gaza last week, pressing him to make his regime more democratic and to change the Palestinian Covenant.

The sweetener was another $2.7 million in U.S. aid.

Arafat is leaning towards canceling the charter and replacing it with a new constitution outlining Palestinian aspirations for the final-status talks, including much of the rhetoric in the interim government law now being formulated.

Toxic Cloud Forms

JERUSALEM — A cloud of poisonous gas smothered the Ramat Hovav industrial zone south of Beersheva last week, forcing rescue crews to seal off roads to the site.

A local hospital treated 10 people who were injured after inhaling the fumes.

New Jordanian Envoy

JERUSALEM — U.S.-educated diplomat Omar Abdul-Monem Rifai has been nominated to become Jordan's second ambassador to Israel.

Rifai, 39, a Jordanian foreign ministry official and peace negotiator, would replace Marwan Muashar, who was appointed minister of information when a new Jordanian government was named earlier last week.

Eritrean leader Visits

JERUSALEM — The president of the East African nation of Eritrea made a brief visit to Israel last week, stopping over for talks with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and President Ezer Weizman before heading on to Italy.

After meeting with Peres, Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki said that the two countries would step up cooperation in the fields of medicine and agriculture.

WORLD

Yeshiva U Rep To Visit

NEW YORK — A representative of Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work in New York City will be in Canada in March to meet with students interested in enrolling in the school's summer block education plan and other programs.

Individuals interested in setting up appointments may call Dr. Anita Rotman at 1-914-254-5051 before March 4.

Feinberg Returns Home

NEW YORK — Jay Feinberg, the 26-year-old Jewish man whose medical plight initiated an international bone marrow search, has returned to his West Orange, N.J. home in good health.

Four years after being diagnosed with leukemia in 1991, Feinberg found in Chicago a match for himself from an unidentified young woman.

He received the transplant last July at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Centre in Seattle.

Feinberg is recuperating at home and is said to have tested leukemia-free. Each day he gets stronger and doctors are optimistic that he will make a complete recovery.

LaRouche Activists

SYDNEY, Australia — Two Australian federal parliamentarians have joined Jewish community groups in a call for the government to investigate the activities of the Australian followers of U.S. extremist Lyndon LaRouche.

LaRouche's ideology combines anti-Semitism and bizarre conspiracy theories, such as the claim that Queen Elizabeth heads a drug-pushing ring.

DP Camps Reunion

NEW YORK — An International 50th anniversary reunion of former Jewish refugees who were in post-World War II Displaced Persons Camps in the western sectors of Berlin will be held on the weekend of May 17 to 19.

The event celebrates the 50th anniversary of the founding of those camps. Those camps were Schlachtensee (American sector), Tempelhof (British sector) and the third in the French sector. Also included in the reunion is the Eschwege camp in West Germany.

For more information call Michael Gleiberman at 717-299-0421 or fax 717-293-8512.

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Jewish daycare project gets $15,000 grant

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The battle for Jewish continuity in Toronto is to be fought beginning at the crib level.

Project Sarah, which has been awarded a $15,000 grant, will train dozens of Jewish women to provide day care with Jewish content for working parents and their children from infancy to age four.

The grant is one of 15 totalling $100,000 announced Feb. 4, including the largest for $25,000 to reach unaffiliated adults.

Other grants cover a range of activities including outreach to the downtown community and to a newly revived Jewish outpost in the east-end Riverdale area, talks between kinder and bubbies and zaydes, an outreach to Russian children and several involving teenagers.

The grants are "our first few halting steps," said Les Kline, chair of the action committee for Jewish continuity of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (JFGT), which distributed the grants. Another round of grants will be announced in the spring and implemented in the fall of 1996, he added.

"We're out to reach groups beyond the centre and this funding is an expression of our optimism," said Sandra Brown, JFGT president.

The women providing day care in Project Sarah will be compensated and their training and operation supervised by professionals from Jewish Family & Child Services (JF&CS), Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) and Jewish Vocational Services, the three sponsors of the program.

"It's an exciting concept," said Susan Jackson, action committee director. Since no home will offer day care to more than four children, government restrictions will not apply, she said.

A Taste of Judaism, sponsored by the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism and Kolel, was awarded $25,000 to offer free, two-hour a week, three-week courses to unaffiliated adults in various locations in greater Toronto, covering Judaism core subjects.

In a pilot project which attracted 175 people, one-third were Jewish, one-third were interfaith couples and one-third were looking for a spiritual home, according to regional outreach coordinator Jessie Caryll. Some of those taking part want to go ahead with conversion to Judaism, she said.

The courses, to be offered in June and November, will be given by rabbis and educators and will cover all aspects of Judaism, not just the Reform approach, and will hopefully attract from 300 to 500 people, Caryll said.

The $15,000 grant to the Downtown Jewish Community Council and the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) will allow the use of Internet, e-mail and other means to attract downtowners back to their Jewish roots.

"Our first task is to get people to come through our front door," said Bloor JCC director Bill Emery.

Three grants of $7,500 each went to Parent Teen Dialogue, sponsored by B'nai Brith Youth Organization, BJC and JF&CS; You Show Me Your Israel, I'll Show You Mine, an intergenerational project sponsored by the Canada-Israel Forum and Mini-Moriah Committee; and Yiddishland Cafe, another intergenerational group featuring a once-a-month evening of Yiddish music, poetry and readings sponsored by the Workmen's Circle and its cultural committee.

Grants of $2,500 went to: Beth Jacob High School to sponsor outreach to young Russian newcomers; Thornhill Jewish Single Parents; Zionist Youth Council; Magen David, a project for 18- to 30-year-olds in Earl Bales Park; Good Fellowship Lodge and Jewish Camp Council for an intergenerational program; Jewish Genealogical Society for a beginner's guide to Jewish genealogy; Halleluya '96 steering committee for a song-writing contest whose winner will go to Israel, the object being to connect with young people through the arts; the Riverdale Jewish community; and Aish Hatorah for bringing young children and parents together in an informal setting for games and talks on Jewish parenting.

Les Kline presents cheque to girls from Beth Jacob. Seen here (from left) are Bella Rotenberg, Esther Malka Braun, Hodel Zahler, Henchi Goldstein, Avital Kalter, Chana Weinstock and Yehudis Gross. [Stephen Epstein photo]

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On eternity's shore

Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai once described Jerusalem as a port city on the shore of eternity. Resting in its golden harbor, one begins to understand what he meant.

Everyone meets in Jerusalem. But people don't "travel" to Jerusalem. They arrive, brought to this high place by forces they can only sense. It is a meeting place where history and hope converge, a metaphysical intersection in which human beings have sought answers to heavenly questions for 3,000 years.

Tomorrow's Jerusalem was central to the deliberations of the international media conference. Six different speakers on the subject were lined up for us on the very first day of the conference.

Yitzhak Navon, a many generation Jerusalemite, and the fifth president of Israel, introduced the discussion by reminding us that since the beginning of recorded history, 36 wars have been fought in and over Jerusalem; the last war was in 1967. This significant, but little-known fact set the historical context for subsequent presentations.

Theological presentations came first. Rabbi David Rosen, director of interfaith relations with the Anti-Defamation League in Jerusalem, spoke about the need to find understanding, cooperation and accommodation among the three monotheistic religions that feel an attachment to the city, to ensure this result as the preferred outcome.

Msgr. Matthes, Charge of the Holy See, emphasized that the final resolution of Jerusalem's future must guarantee freedom of control and access to each religion's holy places.

Mithkal Natour, a lawyer practising in the Shari'a, the Islamic Court system, explained the background and the depth of Islam's claim upon Jerusalem. He did not speak about the Palestinian people's claim to the city. The distinction was by design. He put the listeners on notice that any final peace agreement must take into account Muslim sensibilities to Jerusalem.

Theological considerations then gave way to pragmatic ones. Where, if at all, could a viable solution for Jerusalem be found? Prof. Ruth Lapidot of the Faculty of Law at the Hebrew University divided the question into three components. First, she reminded, was the aspect of two competing national aspirations, Israeli and Palestinian, for sovereignty over all or part of Jerusalem. In her view it would be difficult, if not impossible to reconcile the two claims at this time. She suggested the issue be frozen, set aside, placed on the diplomatic shelf, for a period of 30 years.

The second issue she highlighted was jurisdiction over the holy places. Here too, given the number of parties involved and the highly emotional nature of the issue, she foresaw a long, arduous process of negotiation and attempted reconciliation.

Finally, she pointed out, there was the possibility that an accommodation could be explored in terms of a form of shared municipal administration of parts of the area within greater Jerusalem. While a sharp-eared listener was able to detect a degree less pessimism in her tone of voice during the discussion on this third aspect of "tomorrow's Jerusalem," one would have been hard pressed to describe her discourse as optimistic.

A different perspective was offered by Dore Gold, from the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University. Gold oozed authority and confidence. He spoke in the self-assured cadence of one completely at ease with his material and with his audience. He agreed that there cannot be a reconciliation between the two competing nationalities. He could not envision, under any circumstances, a government of Israel accepting the political redivision of the city.

He did offer, however, somewhat guardedly, a faintly encouraging remote scenario for a possible solution. According to Gold, the possibility of a solution may lie in the extent to which the claim to Jerusalem becomes more Arab and less Palestinian. Ironically, the more that the claim to Jerusalem is Islamic and pan-Arab, and less nationalistic and Palestinian, the greater the possibility, that a "solution" could be found. It would focus functionally and probably semantically on the tri-partite dimension of the religious claims upon Jerusalem. And even then, they might find a solution only after a long, wearying journey of negotiation, recrimination and finally, accommodation.

At the end of the day however, Yitzhak Navon's words rang in my ear. "Since the beginning of recorded history, 36 wars have been fought in and over Jerusalem; the last war was in 1967." May it be God's will.

* * *

Several readers called last week, in anguish and in anger, to complain about a news story in *The CJN* dealing with an incident in the community involving the conviction of an individual for sexually abusing a minor over whom he exercised a position of trust. The complaints were twofold: the fact of the coverage and its nature.

As I have written in these pages before, the essential, core purpose of *The CJN* is to serve the best interests of the community. Hiding information, however nasty and unseemly, from our readers, cannot possibly serve the community. We are a stable, resilient, mature community. We no longer recoil in embarrassment lest our neighbours think ill of the whole group for the indiscretions of one. *Chilul HaShem* is even greater when the individual who occasioned it is deferentially treated, shielded from the accountability he owes to his community.

Only a commitment to journalistic excellence, in the long run, is compatible with a commitment to the community. Journalistic excellence requires us to present as full a story as possible, as dispassionately as possible. Some people complained that it was unnecessary to identify the perpetrator's synagogue or where he was born. By having done so, they argued, we tarnished an entire group of people. We cannot agree.

That is not to say, however, that we must abandon decency and sensitivity in covering our stories. In this regard, *The CJN* may have provided excessive detail of the criminal behavior for which the individual was convicted. Given the opportunity to rewrite the article, we may have omitted nine words which perhaps cast too florid a light on the charges. In retrospect, they added nothing to the essential story.

I conclude by quoting Gary Rosenblatt, editor and publisher of the the *Jewish Week* of New York. I have referred to him before in this column as the pre-eminent editor of the North American Anglo-Jewish press. "The line between journalistic integrity and Jewish responsibility will always be thin. But the Torah teaches us that the ultimate test is not perception or public relations. It is the truth."

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Ben-Ari expands WZO duties to Canada

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — New York-based Gad Ben-Ari, who became chair of the Zionist Delegation in the United States and executive vice-president of the Jewish Agency, American section in 1994, is now serving Canada as well.

With an amended title to reflect his new responsibilities, Ben-Ari has taken on the duties formerly held by Herzl Makov, whose term as World Zionist Organization (WZO) representative to Canada ended last fall. Makov had been working out of the Canadian Zionist Federation's national office in Montreal.

Ben-Ari's new responsibilities (held by his predecessors before

Gad Ben-Ari

Canada had its own *shaliach*) are no reflection on the CZF, nor on its Youth and Hechalutz department, which coordinates Israel summer trips, he explained. The recent change was in part a cost-cutting measure, he said.

"Here in Canada you have a good operation," he said during a recent visit which included meetings with Jewish community leaders in both Montreal and Toronto.

In the United States, however, the American Zionist Youth Federation (AZYF), Youth and Hechalutz counterpart, was closed late last year, following an announcement by the Joint Authority for Jewish Zionist Education, the Israel-based umbrella for Youth and Hechalutz.

The authority had decided to deal instead with an as-yet unnamed consortium including the Council of Jewish Federations, the United Jewish Appeal and the Charles R. Bronfman Foundation.

The AZYF was "not operating effectively enough" in recent years, said Ben-Ari.

The new entity, for which Charles Bronfman has committed $1 million (US) — half the budget — for each of the next five years, will handle "marketing, promotion and sales, and will encourage the Israel experience all over the United States," said Ben-Ari.

The Israel experience, the term now commonly used to describe trips to Israel for Diaspora youth, is "essential — to strengthen the link with Israel, to enhance Jewish identity and Zionist identity and to help ensure future leadership and active contributing members [of the Jewish community]," Ben-Ari stressed.

The trends reflected by the creation of the new entity — community cooperation and the stress on facilitating the Israel experience — certainly affect Canada, but the CZF's Youth and Hechalutz department will not go the way of the AZYF, Ben-Ari said. He does, however, anticipate the possibility of some "restructuring."

'Everything is changing'

Right now, he said, "everything is changing."

In Israel, discussions are under way about merging the Jewish Agency with the WZO. It is expected that plans for a merger or a redefined relationship will be formalized at the December 1997 Zionist Congress.

"There's already an understanding that the basis of the [Israel-Diaspora] partnership in the Jewish Agency will be totally changed," said Ben-Ari. Segments of Israeli society which traditionally have not been involved, such as business, academia, the rabbinate, youth movements and associations for olim, will be invited to join, as will their Diaspora counterparts.

Ben-Ari made it clear, however, that anyone who thinks the Jewish Agency's traditional role (of saving Jews from other countries) is obsolete is deluding himself. By the end of the year 60,000 new olim will have come to Israel from the former Soviet Union. It is expected that an additional half million will join them by the end of the century.

Campaign launched to help the homeless

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jonathan Meltz, a 26-year-old college student, is organizing a drive in the Jewish community to get blankets, sleeping bags, clothes and food to street people.

"In this cold and wet weather we must help the homeless who, for one reason or another, live on the street instead of going to a homeless shelter," said Meltz, an advertsing design student at the International Academy of Merchandising and Design.

He has arranged for blankets and sleeping bags to be dropped off at any Metro Police Station and for these items, boots, hats, gloves and scarves and canned goods, to be given to Anishanwbe Help, a native group that distributes items to street people on a non-denominational basis.

Meltz said he will use his own car to pick up donations from anyone who can't get to the other distribution points. He can be reached at 398-3997.

If any donor has a large number of items, Meltz said he can arrange to have them picked up by a van from Anishanwbe.

A member of Clanton Park Synagogue, Meltz has already visited four schools: CHAT, Mackenzie Collegiate, Or Chaim, and his own academy. All students have shown "incredible" interest in the drive, he said, but the schools are not drop-off points.

This drive is intended to last only two or three weeks, Meltz said, but even after that, people are encouraged to keep donating items to the street people.

Jonathan Meltz

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Jerusalem play entertains, informs about the city's past

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An original play, written in honor of Jerusalem 3000, not only succeeds in condensing the city's rich history into a one-hour format, but is as entertaining as it is informative.

Featuring 35 local teenagers, the show is a joint project of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) of Toronto and the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF).

Our Jerusalem (*Gan Yaldei Yisrael*) is being presented this month at the Leah Posluns Theatre to almost 4,000 Jewish seniors and children from local Jewish schools. The greater community will have an opportunity to see it at the March 28 JNF gala launching the Jerusalem 3000 campaign and at the April 24 CZF Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations. Further presentations may also be arranged.

"We hoped for something educational and fun," said Doron Kadmiel, Toronto's JNF *shaliach*, whose wife Roni, also of the JNF, co-produced the play with Tami Savion of the CZF.

"They did it!" exclaimed Malka Ben-Gal, a Grade 4 Hebrew teacher at Associated Hebrew Schools.

On the way back to class, one of her students had asked about 19th-century Jewish leader Sir Moses Montefiore, who played a major role in Jerusalem's history.

Ben-Gal was delighted that the show had sparked the question. Her students will be learning more about Jerusalem in the coming months, she said.

"When we come to our material, it will be more familiar; so we will be able to do more. I think that in one hour they gave the kids more information and knowledge and love of Eretz Yisrael and Jerusalem than what we can provide in our [classroom] studies."

Tova Berle, in biblical garb, holds a gold pitcher on one shoulder as part of the play *Our Jerusalem*. [Clifford White photo]

The first scene alone leaves a whirl of impressions of modern-day Jerusalem — yeshivah *bochers*, Muslims at prayer, a street vendor selling produce from a cart and a soldier slipping a prayer between the cracks of the Kotel.

Much of the material is conveyed through song and dance, the latter choreographed by Rifka Atzmony who also wrote and directed the play. Doron Ophir served as musical director and wrote some original music for the production. Atzmony and Ophir are known for producing Toronto's Zimriyah (children's song festival).

Personages highlighted in *Our Jerusalem* include King David, bearing a gold sceptre; Montefiore, in his horse-drawn coach (a cleverly rejigged rickshaw); and Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, whose fight to make Hebrew a living language is depicted with humor and warmth.

Even some of the performers admitted to having learned things from the play.

"Actually, yes," said Bialik alumna Maya Shapiro, 15, when asked if the play had been educational for her.

Aaron Cohen, a 9-year-old student of Ben-Gal's, liked the special effects used in the Six Day War scene (flashing lights and dry ice smoke), but noted that a number of historical events weren't included in the show. The War of Independence was one of them, although one segment was devoted to Israel's founders.

The creators of the play strove to shed light on less familiar aspects of history, Atzmony explained.

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Feminist quarterly to focus on Jewish women

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish women will be the subject — and authors — of what promises to be a particularly interesting issue of *Canadian Woman Studies*, a handsome feminist quarterly published by York University.

The project, slated for publication this fall, will be the first of its kind in Canada, said Naomi Black, the York University political science/women's studies professor who spearheaded the project and is still looking for contributors.

"Quite a substantial amount" has been written about American Jewish women, she added.

Canadian Woman Studies, published out of a York University office across the hall from Black's, is a 17-year-old journal which more or less recreates itself every issue when a guest editorial board pulls together a specific theme.

A small amount of grant money may be available for the upcoming issue, but most of the estimated $35,000 to $50,000 required to produce it will need to be raised, said Black.

She envisions a publication filled with individual histories, artwork, photographs and poetry depicting a wide range of Canadian Jewish women's experiences, past and present.

The six-member editorial board, itself a microcosm of Jewish diversity, is accepting submissions until March 31, but would like to be contacted as soon as possible regarding an intention to contribute.

It's not necessary to be a writer to participate, Black stressed. The editors have even agreed to process tapes for those who find it difficult to put their stories on paper. They hope to be able to use all submissions, at least in excerpted form.

Black and her co-editors — Yolande Cohen, history professor at the Université du Québec à Montréal and co-author of a history of Moroccan Jews; Frieda Forman, an organizer of both Jewish Women's Voices conferences and an editor of the Yiddish anthology *Found Treasures*; Toronto activist and community worker Sheila Miller; Aviva Rubin, founding member of the Jewish Feminist Anti-Fascist League; and Eliane Silverman, history professor and coordinator, women's studies, University of Calgary — have already sought submissions through Jewish women's organizations, over the Internet and at two women's conferences.

Now they are trying to reach women who would not have heard of the project, women whose contributions will reflect not only "chicken soup reminiscences" but also a broad range of themes.

"Even little things like, 'I remember when we came over' or 'I remember what it was like at school' or 'I had this aunt I think people should know about,' " said Black.

Among the themes the editors hope to include are immigration and migration, rural and urban women, changing ceremonies and rituals, the education of women, gender relations, lesbian and bisexual experiences, issues of social class, regions and languages, anti-Semitism, organizations, work and money, and politics.

For further information, call 416-736-5356 or fax 416-736-5765.

Teens meet peers

TORONTO — In late February, 76 Israeli teenagers will set out from their homes throughout Israel to meet with their peers in dozens of communities in Europe, the United States, Canada, South America, India, China, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa.

The group is a cross section of young Israeli men and women: secular and religiously observant, sabras and immigrants to Israel from all over the world.

Three pairs of 16-year-old students will be in Canada from March 3 until April 1. One pair will be in Toronto and Western Canada, and will visit Hamilton, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.

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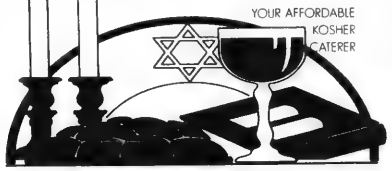

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Who is cheating?

The charismatic premier of Quebec seems always to fall off the high road. Just when his behavior seemed to become more statesmanlike, Lucien Bouchard fell into his old familiar but disturbing pattern of dipping deep into the well of vicious, personalized invective against his political opponents.

His latest "return to form" arose during his public rebuttal of the charges levelled against him by former prime minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau. He aimed his rebutting blasts of buckshot well past Trudeau, towards Prime Minister Jean Chrétien as well. He accused the prime minister of "trying to find ways to cheat on democracy in Quebec."

However, an examination of the record of the referendum campaign and of the separatists' "loyalty" to democracy and democratic principles may tell a different, truer story about who tried to cheat on democracy in Quebec.

Bouchard chides Chrétien for equivocating about accepting a referendum result of 50 percent plus one vote in favor of the separatists. Yet did he not on the very morrow of referendum defeat declare he would never accept the result, he would never sit down at the negotiating table with the rest of Canada to discuss renewed federalism, even though a majority of Quebecers, indeed more than the 50 percent plus one vote had rejected separatism?

Did not the separatists put forward, despite former premier Jacques Parizeau's public promise to the contrary, a deliberately complicated and confusing referendum question, designed by its drafters to hide the bitter truth of a majority Yes vote? Did not the separatists constantly campaign on the specious, false promise of what they called the inevitability of an economic partnership between independent Quebec and independent Canada? Did not the separatists constantly campaign on the specious, false promise that Quebecers will be able to keep their Canadian passports in addition to the newly-engraved Quebec one? Did not the separatists campaign at the edges of an alarming xenophobia and ethnic discrimination suggesting the possibility of a backlash against non-francophones if their votes were instrumental in swinging the outcome away from the separatists' cause?

Ironically, by resorting once again to hostile and extreme rhetoric, Bouchard proves the very point made about him by Trudeau, about his use of "hateful demagoguery." He also proves that he is either conveniently forgetful or shamelessly hypocritical.

An early election

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has decided to move up the date of the Israeli elections. As of this writing, the actual date is not yet known. He has said however, that they will be held in late May or early June, at least four months ahead of the original plan of late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The early election call will likely mean that the final status talks with the Palestinians, scheduled for May, will be postponed. It will also likely mean that the decision by the Palestine National Council expected sometime in mid-April regarding the odious, genocidal clauses of their covenant will be instrumental in determining the outcome of the elections.

Peres' reasons for expediting the elections are both expedient, to take advantage of his current lead in opinion polls, and substantive, to obtain a fresh mandate for negotiating with Syria and advancing his regional economic program. We suspect though, that his chief justification was the latter. He is too experienced, too clever and too wary a politician to bank on the constancy of the voters' affections, especially in Israel. Too many potentially determinative factors hinge on outside forces. One suicide attack, one egregious campaign mistake, one preposterous Arafat remark, the failure to rescind the PNA covenant, can and probably will, affect the public's mood and electoral behavior.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

An individual cannot develop or grow without a link to the past.

THE ETHIOPIANS ARE YET ANOTHER PROOF...
OF HOW MUCH POUNDING IT TAKES
TO BEAT AN IDEALISTIC ZIONIST
INTO A CYNICAL ISRAELI
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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Feb. 12, 1915, Lorne Greene was born. Greene was a Shakespearian actor and the chief wartime news broadcaster for CBC Radio. He may have been most remembered though, for his 14 years on TV as Pa Cartwright of *Bonanza*. (*Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995*)

In defence of Rabbi Rabinovitch

In a thoughtful article (Jan. 18) "Orthodox Jews must do some soul searching," Prof. Martin Lockshin calls into question the reaction of some segments of Orthodoxy and its rabbinic leadership to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

Unfortunately, much of his cogent criticism was misdirected against Rabbi Nachum Rabinovitch, for apparently Lockshin was misled by Israeli media reports which have consistently distorted Rabbi Rabinovitch's views and taken them out of context.

Thus Rabbi Rabinovitch *never* said "a person like Rabin ... is deserving to die." I myself heard Israel radio playing a clip in which he says, "He who returns the land of Israel deserves to die" (according to the Jewish law of *moser*) but the announcer's removal of that bald statement from its context is nothing less than scandalous. When asked on a program to define *moser*, the rabbi replied: "It depends on intent. Thus Prime Minister Rabin, who feels that his policies will lead to peace, is doing a mitzvah. Someone who does not share his policies and returns the land of Israel deserves to die (according to the Jewish law of *moser*), but in any event with the cessation of the Sandedrein, this law is no longer operative."

Lockshin, unlike myself, was not privileged to be a student of Rabbi Rabinovitch. Thus he cannot know that after the Hebron massacre, Rabbi Rabinovitch summoned the entire student body of his yeshivah and absolutely castigated Dr. Baruch Goldstein's awful act. He shredded any attempted justification and ended his address with the prophetic words, "It begins with a Jew murdering Arabs; it may end, God forbid, with a Jew killing Jews."

Rabbi Rabinovitch is a remarkably liberal interpreter of Halachah. He is on record as favoring both territorial compromise and dialogue with Arabs, as saying that Israeli soldiers must desecrate the Sabbath to provide captured terrorists with medical care, and as being firmly opposed to uprooting settlements.

He has explained his views as *not* being based on the idea of the sanctity of land being greater than that of life, an idea which he rejects, but on the moral obligations a government has towards its citizens. His approach is based both on his understanding of Jewish sources and on John Locke. He stated to me in a private conversation that his objections to the removal of citizens would apply to similar policies of any government throughout the world.

Raphael Groner
Jerusalem

Why women are overlooked

I would like to make a correction to Bill Gladstone's item in his Feb. 1 "Eye on Arts."

The selections in *Found Treasures: Stories by Yiddish Women Writers* were chosen and edited by its *four* editors, Frieda Forman, Ethel Raicus, Sarah Silberstein Swartz and Margie Wolfe, only two of whom were named in the article.

Ironically, the article mentions the names of the three male patriarchs at Yiddish literature and goes on to name the male editors of a 1954 best-selling anthology of Yiddish literature, yet fails to mention the names of the four editors, the 14 translators and the 18 writers of the stories, all of whom are female.

Though I'm sure this was an unintentional oversight, it is nonetheless an example of how women's names and their accomplishments are too often obliterated, even in our time.

Sarah Swartz
Toronto

"Yossel" Cooper's role in the eruv

It was my late father, Joseph "Yossel" Cooper who took upon himself the task of arranging the setting-up of the *eruv* (*CJN*, Jan. 11), at the instigation, I am sure, of the late Rabbi Graubart, and it was my father who arranged this with the help of the TTC and the Hydro Electric Company.

Therefore, it was he who constantly checked the condition of the *eruv* after the summer heat and after the winter storms, travelling by street car and on foot, in all weather conditions, making sure that the *eruv* was still kosher.

I remember after I first learned to drive a car in 1948, chauffeuring my father and the late Rabbi David Ochs on one of these sojourns, wherein my father was able to point out the exact location of the wires which were, as stated, from the Don to the Humber and from the lake to just north of Bloor Street.

Lily Silver
Toronto

Trying to trace family

I have been trying to obtain information regarding the "transport" of our family and the entire town in 1942. All without success.

Our *shtetl* was Baranow, Sandomierski, and our town was grouped with Tarnobrzeg, Mielec and others.

Henry Fenster
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Montreal H4W 1T3

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Herzl's radical vision changed world history

On Feb. 14, 1896, The Jewish State *by Theodore Herzl first appeared in print. The CJN asked Prof. Ruth Elboim-Dror to reflect upon the importance of the anniversary.*

By RACHEL ELBOIM-DROR

The 100th anniversary of the publication of Theodore Herzl's book *The Jewish State* provides a welcome opportunity to re-evaluate one of the most enigmatic leaders of our time and his vision of the Jewish state.

Herzl was a second generation emancipated Jew, a liberal European intellectual. He studied at the University of Vienna, the city to which his family had moved from Budapest. He received a doctorate in law, but became a writer. He wrote feuilletons and plays and worked as a reporter for an influential liberal Viennese newspaper, the *Neue Freie Presse.*

In 1891, Herzl was sent to Paris as a correspondent. He attended the Dreyfus trial in 1894. It is customary to attribute Herzl's change from liberal assimilationist to Jewish nationalist to the effects of the Dreyfus trial and the calls for "Death to the Jews" which echoed throughout a France caught in the throes of anti-Semitism. However, there are those who stress, instead, the painful and difficult time Herzl had as a young and enthusiastic student much taken by German nationalism who was forced to confront the realities of anti-Semitism in Vienna.

Anti-Semitism and the problem of integrating the Jews into European society and culture were basic issues that concerned Herzl from his youth on. Thus he writes in his diary: "When, really, did I first begin paying attention to the Jewish problem? ... I think it was in 1881 or 1882 ... The Jewish problem of course confronted me in every corner."

He was seeking a radical solution to the Jewish question, such as a demonstrative conversion of the Jews. He looked at the Jewish ghetto, which kept to itself, through the eyes of an assimilated Jew and accepted anti-Semitic stereotypes regarding Jewish life and the need to change it.

The idea of the establishment of a Jewish state came to Herzl as in a flash, like a sudden vision which seized him and refused to let go.

In May 1895, Herzl met Baron Maurice de Hirsch, the initiator and funder of Jewish settlement in Argentina, to try to persuade him of the need to found a Jewish state as a radical solution to the Jewish question. When he failed, Herzl went on to the Rothschild family — but here too he failed. Before visiting Hirsch, Herzl prepared a 29-page document and in preparation for his meeting with the Rothschilds he enlarged it to 65 pages, entitling it *A Speech to the Rothschilds.* Afterwards, he renamed it, *A Speech to the Jewish People.* This document served as the basis for his *Der Judenstaat, The Jewish State — An attempt At a Modern Solution to the Jewish Question,* which was published in February 1896.

From that time on, Herzl worked unceasingly for the realization of that idea: in August 1897 he convened, in Basel, the first Zionist Congress, founded the Zionist movement, a Zionist newspaper and bank and he met with the Turkish sultan and with many of the European heads of state to try to persuade them to have the sultan issue a charter for the Jewish settlement of Eretz Yisrael.

Herzl in 1895 — the *Judenstaat* period

He was the first leader who gave a clear political definition of the solution to the Jewish problem and acted to implement it. Herzl's message was phrased clearly and unequivocally: the establishment of a Jewish state. He was the first who dared to declare this openly, to speak on behalf of modern Jewish nationalism and to work to implement it.

One can define his work as politicization of the Jews, the establishment of a central political authority and its institutionalization. The lack of a united political leadership was regarded by him as the primary problem of the Jewish people and he acted with all his might to rectify it.

One can summarize Herzl's basic arguments as follows: The integration of the Jews into European society has failed despite emancipation. The blame for this failure lies on both parties. Europe cannot overcome its anti-Semitic tradition and the Jews themselves need to change and surmount their negative characteristics. This change can take place only in their own land as free people. The solution is the establishment of a Jewish state.

A Jewish state is thus an outcome of disappointment and failure. But out of this failure a new example of a modern liberal society will be born. A state that will carry a message of peace, tolerance and freedom to all of mankind, a model to be esteemed and imitated. The dreams that failed in Europe will be realized in the old-new land.

Herzl's vision is a complex mixture of reality and imagination, rationalistic approaches and wild-eyed fantasies. As he writes in the introduction to his diary: This is a majestic idea, which "confuses and intoxicates me."

His Jewish state is both a country of refuge from anti-Semitism and a model of progressive social ideas. It is based on mass immigration and develops a meritocratic elite society. It is a liberal secular state where army and religion are kept out of politics. Using the most advanced technologies it will make the desert bloom. Ignoring the realities of the Middle East, the Arab inhabitants, the conflicting ideas and ideals of religious and secular Jews, Herzl prepared a plan of action that ignited the imagination of thousands.

Herzl appeared as a meteor on the Jewish skies. His Zionist activity lasted but nine short years. He died in 1904. But during the nine years of his Zionist activity he succeeded in making a fundamental change in the Jewish world: He transformed the self-image of the diaspora Jew; he converted the bourgeois, conservative Hovevei Zion movement into a revolutionary nationalistic and modern Jewish protest movement; he insitutionalized the Zionist idea and established the foundations of the state-in-making.

The Jewish State, his utopia *Altneuland,* his diaries, letters, plays, articles and speeches all shed light on the complex personality of the leader of the Zionist movement — and yet he remains an enigma.

There are those who described him as a playwright of limited ability and moderate success as well as a noted journalist; a person with superficial ideas and a naive analysis of the Jewish question, who presented his ideas simply and with gall — but in a spirited manner; a man who presented himself as "the king of the Jews." There were those who regarded him as a politician, who acted as a gambler and sought to establish a Jewish state at one fell swoop; a person who lived in different cultures — the Jewish, Hungarian and German — and was alien to all of them.

Chaim Weizmann, Israel's first president, described him as one who appeared from on high. "He came from a world which was concealed to us and we bowed down before the Great Eagle who came from that world. What enchanted the Jews about Herzl was his origin in European culture. Had Herzl been a product of the cheder, the Jews would not have followed him."

A good part of Herzl's drawing power stemmed from the very fact that he was alien to the Jewish world, that he was a representative of the European cultural world upon whose doors the Jews beat but to which they were not granted full admission. The fact that Herzl had physical charm, that his bearing was aristocratic and far removed from that of the masses of Jews, enhanced his attraction.

After being disappointed by the Jewish money barons, Herzl discovered the Jewish masses and his own charismatic powers as a leader of these masses. He became aware of the nature of modern mass politics.

One may assume that Herzl's very limitations, that very superficiality and ignorance of the complexities of the cultural aspects of the Jewish question and his concentration on a single dimension, the political, were what enabled him to act efficiently and change reality. Herzl was one of the few people who in practice lived his utopia. He prepared a utopian model and lived and acted in accordance with it, as if it was about to be realized; and indeed later, after his death, he succeeded.

Herzl believed that Jewish religion would adjust to the new situation of independent political life in a Jewish state. Such changes cannot be foreseen and, therefore, there was no reason to deal with them at the formative stage, thereby possibly impairing the consensus needed to engage in immediate political action. In Herzl's priorities, what stood first and foremost was the formation of a political and organizational framework. However, this "narrow" view was not acceptable to Ahad HaAm and his colleagues, who were therefore critical of Herzl's program.

Herzl was the leader of the masses, a charismatic leader about whom legends and myths were woven already during his lifetime. The profound need to fill this role was undoubtedly deeply embedded within him and found release on those occasions when his needs and those of the masses intersected. Herzl answered the needs of the Jewish masses who sought "a new messiah." In his case, a "historic moment" and his personality coincided to bring about a shift in history.

He aroused in the Jewish masses messianic hopes. His starting point was political and rational, but he derived his emotional power and political force from irrational levels. Herzl's political Zionism, the modern secular Zionism in whose name he spoke, was nurtured by the fertile soil of thousands of years of yearning for a messianic revelation. The cries that followed Herzl, "King of the Jews" and "Messiah, son of David," found echoes in his soul, for dreams of grandeur had been one of his personal traits ever since his youth. He was able to realize both his yearning and desires and those of the Jewish masses, for redemption, for a transcendental experience.

Without doubt Herzl is one of the greatest visionary leaders history has known, one of the few whose vision — as presented in *The Jewish State* — changed history and became reality.

Rachel Elboim-Dror is a professor of education policy at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Opinions

How is a Jew? The other boundary

Last column, I talked about boundaries in relation to the geographic, as well as the spiritual limits of Israel. While this is an issue with life-or-death implications for the state, there is another boundary, the one between Jew and non-Jew, that will determine how Jews will define themselves in the next century.

By Jean M. Gerber

In the national profile of Canadian Jewry and the 10 regional profiles being published using the 1991 Census data from Statistics Canada, Vancouver was distinguished by the high proportion of intermarriages in our community, compared to the two larger centres of Toronto and Montreal. I do not propose to argue, as some have, that the intermarried couples from those two centres come to live in Vancouver (although that may be true). The issue arises starkly in terms of the continuity of our community here in Canada. How do we define ourselves as Jews in an open and multi-ethnic Canada?

It is a myth that Jews have, until the advent of modernity, always married Jews, or converted out and left the community, or been victims of rapine and terror that forced them into unwelcome contact with the outside world. By embracing modernity, then, they have begun a long decline which will soon leave only a faithful remnant.

In fact, since it is obvious that there is vast heterogeneity in the physical aspect of Jews in Canada and Israel, *someone* has been marrying out — and in — since the time of Joseph. With or without conversion, non-Jews have attached themselves to the community for many generations.

In rabbinic times, the quasi-proselyte (assumed to be mostly men who married Jewish women but refrained from total conversion because of, shall we say, certain physical qualms) receives attention. Medieval laws against Christian contact with Jews reflect the fact that there was contact, and marriage, no doubt distressing to both sides.

Without minimizing the challenges, I want to skate out onto thin ice to offer some thoughts.

Two quick incidents illustrate what we say, and what the young hear about us. One: In a fundraiser for an Israeli project, the speaker remarks that non-Jews have no souls, and not one member of the dinner audience gets up to challenge this betrayal of Judaism's understanding of the human condition. Two: A young couple about to marry considers starting a kosher kitchen. Viewing closely the in-fighting and cut-throat (no pun intended) competition to make the pronouncement of what is kosher or *treif*, they walk away from the idea.

Myth number two is that if somebody really wants to convert, he or she will beat on the rabbi's study door until let in. Sorry, that study door looks permanently closed to many. Others say — well, in the aftermath of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin, what can they say? Religious Jews look like fanatics if viewed through the media. Most Jews are having trouble making sense of the present situation, let alone someone who may want to knock on that door, yet comes from a secular view of the world, a view the Jewish partner shares.

Advocates of circling the wagons picture the Jewish community as a football field, with the players on the field, the lines for in- or out-of-bounds drawn in chalk, and everybody else in the bleachers. Judaism is the field, Jews the team. You are in or out.

This is a metaphor that will not serve us well. In any case, I always find myself resisting the sports metaphor with its winners, losers and bone-crunching. Today we will not sell this metaphor to the very young people we are trying desperately to attract and hold. They live in a society many of us wanted to create, where the intrinsic worth of the individual and the strengths of other traditions are recognized by all. We cannot easily say to them now that we have lied about our commitment to a multicultural Canada. We ourselves live lives that express our assimilation into general society. Even if we speak and read Hebrew, study Talmud daily, or model behavior by keeping kashrut and Shabbat, this was often a very personal choice. And haven't we taught our children that their lives are to be shaped by the individual choices they make?

Over a year ago, Vancouver's Jewish Family Service Agency sponsored a seminar and workshops with the theme Love and Tradition. The meetings were open to all and publicity for the weekend stressed that interfaith couples and their families were the target audience. Over 300 people, most of them young couples, showed up to hear Esther Perel and others talk about interdating, intermarriage, conversion and non-conversion. Parents opened their hearts, young people asked honest and searing questions that pointed up the hurt felt when love crossed over a boundary that many did not realize even existed until they ran up against it.

There were 300 people, but few rabbis, youth workers or Hebrew school teachers.

We should be listening, because there is a lot to hear out there before any one of us can say we have an answer to the question of Jewish identity that will carry us into the next millennium.

Torah translation a stunning work

Maurice Samuel, the great essayist, novelist and Zionist activist once remarked that he always felt gratitude for the gifts of having been born into an English-speaking family and one in which Hebrew was also cherished. These happy circumstances, he said, gave him a special entry into the world of Shakespeare and the Bible.

By Arnold Ages

Samuel's thoughts on this question seem especially relevant these days as the film world honors the prose sculptured by Jane Austen for her characters in *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility*.

There is another question that must be posed. Can the English language successfully convey the values, cadences and resonances of the Hebrew Bible? Purists, of course, can dismiss the question by arguing that a solid knowledge of Hebrew can do away with the need for translations in the first place. The rabbis of the Talmud were very skittish about Jews relying on any kinds of translations and they said it was a black day when the Torah was translated.

William Tyndale, the English clergyman and scholar learned the bitter truth of that rabbinic dictum when he was burned at the stake in 1536 for certain doctrinal errors which he had permitted to infiltrate his monumental translation into English of the Bible.

It has been more than 350 years since the King James version burst upon the scene but during that period it has left an indelible mark on the English language and the religious sensitivities of the English people.

It is not surprising therefore that a publishing house in South Dakota has reissued what it calls the 21st Century King James. This is not a new translation but an updating of the 1637 text in which archaisms of speech have been eliminated. Although the quaint "thee," "thy," "hath," and "cometh," have been retained for sentimental and liturgical purposes, words such as "bewray," "stablish," "dehort," "straitly" and "minish" have been replaced by betray, establish, dissuade, strictly and diminish.

Everett Fox was not after literary precision when he spent the last 27 years executing his own English version of what he calls the Five Books of Moses. This stunning translation, executed by a young American professor at Clark University in Massachusetts, is modeled on the Buber-Rosenzweig German version of the 1920s. It was featured in a recent two-page spread in *Newsweek* magazine.

In this ground-breaking work, Fox seeks to translate not just the meaning of the Hebrew text, but its breathless pauses, its syncopated repetitions, its poetic metre. Space limitations preclude a lengthy discussion of Fox's extraordinary talent as a translator.

In the famous first encounter of Moshe with HaShem at the burning bush, the budding leader of the Israelite nation asks: "But whom shall I say sent me?" The answer in Hebrew is *Eheye asher Eheye*. Fox's version is "I will be-there howsoever I will be-there" sends me. Again, in Fox's rendering of the Hebrew, Pharaoh's heart is not "hardened," as it is in most translations; here his heart is made "strong-willed."

These are only representative samples of the hundreds if not thousands of refreshingly new and original translations which Fox brings to bear. His work succeeds where most fail in demonstrating the flexibility of English in transposing the spiritual inflections of the Hebrew Bible.

I can still hear him sing

His voice is rich, pure, powerful and finely controlled. He knows how to breathe; he enunciates every word as though it were at least as important as the Bill of Rights; he avoids trickery and straining after effect and, in short, is as good a tenor as you could hope to find anywhere."

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

This was the judgement of the *Pittsburg Press* music critic a generation ago, after he had heard Jacob Barkin give his first recital in the city's Carnegie Hall. What impressed the writer even more was the tenor's statement (made to him in an interview), that he preferred singing in the synagogue as a cantor to being a soloist on stage in the public realm.

Elsewhere, a critic wrote that he envied Barkin's congregation for being able to hear him every week, while the concert-going public in other cities had that opportunity only once in a while.

Still, those opportunities did exist, for the cantor wrote into every contract he made, the provision that he would be allowed to take time off for a certain amount of concertizing. I know, because back in the '60s he was the chazzan at Holy Blossom Temple.

I still remember something of his out-of-town schedule during those years: Mexico City, South America and — as always — Israel. There he sang year after year in the premier festival at Caesarea. He performed at the White House in Washington a number of times, and I recall reading that Franklin D. Roosevelt was so moved by one of his renditions that he asked him to sing it again.

But despite these excursions, Barkin was most truly at home in the synagogue. Ours was but one of the several he served during his lifetime: Pittsburgh, Washington and Detroit were Conservative congregations where he served for many years. Irving Lowens, music critic of the *Washington Star*, called him one of the country's finest cantors.

Barkin was often compared to Richard Tucker, whom he resembled in voice and stature, but Barkin made the pulpit the centre of his life. No wonder. He imbibed the love of chazzanut from his dad, Cantor Abraham Barkin, and grew up in Toronto as a member of a highly gifted musical family. His brother Leo was a concert pianist and his sister Sara a well-known singer.

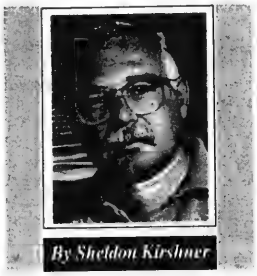
Barkin and his wife Millie (who survives him) became family friends. Toronto was home to him and he was happy to have, at last, returned here. He later confessed that his decision to make one more move was the mistake of his life. When he retired from full-time work he settled in Florida, where he died a few weeks ago.

I owe a great deal to Barkin, for he introduced me to chazzanut as it ought to be. He was knowledgeable not only in music, but in Jewish tradition in all its riches, and was self-critical enough to share with me that it was often hard to remember the chazzan's first and foremost responsibility: to sing prayerfully, so that the congregation would be led not so much to admire the voice issuing from the pulpit, but to pray with devotion. That recognition was part of his great impact. I can still hear him singing.

The Kirshner file

Nazis expropriated Luther's anti-Semitic rantings

Protestants in Germany will mark the 450th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther — the father of the Reformation — later this week at solemn ceremonies.



By Sheldon Kirshner

The special events — church services, exhibitions and tours — will take place in several locales: Eisleben, where he was born (Nov. 10, 1483) and died (Feb. 18, 1546); Erfurt and Wittenberg, where he completed part of his studies; Wartburg, where he found safety from prosecution by the pope; and Augsburg, Nuremberg and Worms, where his rebellious ideas initially took root.

In paying homage to the man and his doctrine, Lutheran leaders should also reflect on Luther's darker side, his crazed anti-Semitic dimension, which surfaced when he was middle aged.

To their credit, thoughtful Lutherans have already begun to come to grips with this embarrassing legacy, which was exploited to the hilt by the Nazis. Last summer, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada denounced Luther's "anti-Judaic diatribes" at its biennial national conference in Winnipeg. Prior to that, Lutheran churches in the United States and elsewhere had issued similar declarations.

As a glance at his career indicates, Luther's open hostility to Jews was formed by his conviction that they had utterly rejected his well-meaning theological message.

Before he was infected by the bacillus of anti-Semitism, Luther was something of a defender of Jews, condemning their persecution and recommending greater tolerance of them.

In a pamphlet entitled *That Christ Was Born a Jew*, Luther expressed understanding that Jews had rebuffed the conversionary overtures of the Roman Catholic church, which he considered spiritually lax and corrupt.

"For they have dealt with the Jews as if they were dogs and not human beings," he wrote indignantly. "They have done nothing for them but curse them and seize their wealth. Whenever they converted them, they did not teach them either Christian law or life but only subjected them to papistry and monkery."

In an aside, he added: "I hope that, if the Jews are treated friendly and are instructed kindly enough through the Bible, many of them will become real Christians and come back to the ancestral faith of the prophets and patriarchs ..."

Luther's show of friendship for Jews was not motivated by any respect for Judaism, but by "a thirst to redeem them by destroying Judaism," British/Israeli scholar Paul Lawrence Rose has written in *Revolutionary Anti-Semitism in Germany*.

Once it was apparent to Luther that the children of Israel were resistant to the call of Christianity, he performed a volte-face, turning his wrath on Jews.

In the first glimmerings of his growing antipathy, Luther upbraided Jews for their misguided interpretation of Scripture. Later, Luther's condemnation of usury took on an anti-Jewish cast, while his mean-spirited characterization of Jews as "stiff-necked, iron-hearted and stubborn as the devil" drove him further into fanaticism.

In 1543, Luther's animus probably reached its apotheosis in a vituperative pamphlet, *Concerning the Jews and Their Lies*, in which he urged the authorities to act against Jews with the utmost severity.

A vile and calculating document, it drips with anger and contempt.

"What then shall we Christians do with this damned, rejected race of Jews? Since they live among us and we know about their lying and blasphemy and cursing, we cannot tolerate them ..."

Not content with merely demonizing Jews, Luther listed seven methods of punishing them.

"First, their synagogues or churches (sic) should be set on fire, and whatever does not burn up should be covered or spread over with dirt so that no one may ever be able to see a cinder or stone of it.

"Secondly, their homes should likewise be broken down and destroyed.

"Thirdly, they should be deprived of their prayer books and Talmuds in which such idolatry, lies, cursing and blasphemy are taught.

"Fourthly, their rabbis must be forbidden under the threat of death to teach anymore ...

"Fifthly, passports and travelling privileges should be absolutely forbidden to Jews.

"Sixthly, they ought to be stopped from usury. All their cash and valuables of silver and gold ought to be taken from them and put aside for safekeeping.

"Seventhly, let the young Jews and Jewesses be given the flail, the ax, the hoe, the spade, the distaff and spindle, and let them earn their bread by the sweat of their noses ..."

Luther's admonitions, a grand elaboration of traditional anti-Semitic themes, were gleefully expropriated by the Third Reich and carried out to the letter during Kristallnacht in November 1938. Adolf Hitler, of course, considered Luther a great German, and the Nazi party institutionalized his anti-Jewish ravings.

Fusing the anti-Semitic elements of Luther's dogma with the rabid German nationalism espoused by Hitler, the Nazis created the ultimate nightmarish vision of a chauvinistic society run amok.

Never-ending flow

They keep on coming, in a never-ending flow. Capsule reviews of books of Jewish interest:

The early modern period was a crucial one in Jewish history. In *The Jews of Christian Europe 1400-1700* (Routledge, Chapman & Hall, $45.50), John Edwards provides a magisterial analysis of Christian-Jewish relations against the backdrop of the Spanish Inquisition, the Renaissance, the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation.

A companion volume, *Tradition and Crisis: Jewish Society At The End Of The Middle Ages* (Random House, $22.50), is an erudite study on the movement of European Jewry toward modernity. The author, Jacob Katz, teaches at the Hebrew University.

A third volume, *Englishmen And Jews: Social Relations And Political Culture 1840-1914* (Yale University Press, $45 US), should be read in conjunction with the above two. David Feldman's study is sweeping in scope.

Journey To Oblivion (University of Toronto Press, $35) is the story of two closely-related languages — Yiddish and German — in Eastern Europe before World War II. Through the medium of literature, Peter Stenberg describes their respective path and fate.

The manner in which writers like Chaucer, Shakespeare, Dickens and a host of other novelists depicted Jews is the subject of *Jewish Presences In English Literature* (McGill-Queens, $34.95), edited by Derek Cohen and Deborah Heller.

The paperback edition of Esther Delisle's ground-breaking work, *The Traitor And The Jew* (Robert Davies Publishing, $14.99), is now available. Her analysis of French Canadian nationalism and anti-Semitism during the 1930s is most instructive.

The Stigma Of Names: Anti-Semitism In German Daily Life 1812-1923 (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, $69) by Dietz Bering deftly explores the curious relationship between Jewish surnames and Judeophobia.

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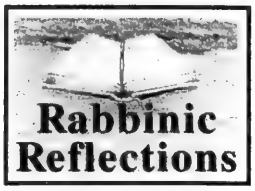


Starstruck by horoscopes

By RABBI YEHIEL BEN-AYON

An early morning thud signals the daily paper's delivery. Admittedly, its front pages are not necessarily the focus of everyone's attention. For some it is the sports, for others it is the mysterious fluctuations of yesterday's investments.

For others it goes like this: "A delightful romance will lead to a new job." "You are not as vulnerable as you think." "Touchy relatives need to talk." I am referring, of course, to the horoscope, something to which some people subscribe and live accordingly, as others might choose their wardrobe after reading the day's forecast.

How Jewish, if Jewish at all, is this belief in the power of the stars over our lives? Wednesday, Feb. 21, is the new month of Adar, Rosh Chodesh. Upon closer examination of a good Jewish calendar, one will see two little fish — the zodiac sign for Pisces!

This month is somewhat of a favored one, indeed a lucky month. "With the onset of Adar, one rejoices," is a traditional phrase.

Fish are a symbol of fertility. When Jacob blessed his children, he told them: "Multiply like fish, across the land."

The very name Pisces is plural, the only one of the 12 signs with this distinction. Fish exist in water, a natural, life-sustaining element, representative of both bounty and purity.

Classical literature contains many references to astrology and numerous customs are based on it. We routinely wish someone mazal tov — which translates as a good luck or good fortune. There exists a definite place for this belief, certainly not the popular journalistic astrology, but an authentic astrology, the belief that just as the sun's position over earth affects climate, so too do the constellations' configurations influence events.

Belief in stars is not really in them, but in the powers invested in them by G-d, the creator. This power is the natural order of the world. Just as summer follows spring, fall is always first, then winter. Nothing can change the course of seasons.

So too is the reality of the zodiac. Having said that, I must continue by explaining that there is a possible and even greater force in action than that of the stars. A person has the ability to relate directly to G-d and to shape one's existence with that G-d by virtue of one's actions.

The vacuum created by an absence of faith or a lifestyle devoid of spirituality sets one's life course on default, to be directed solely by these heavenly bodies. An individual can instead bypass the natural order and have one's day governed not by astrology but by meritocracy.

Rabbi Ben-Ayon is the spiritual leader of Magen David Congregation in North York.

Ethiopians' treatment a disgrace

By ESTHER HERTZOG
Special to The CJN

The Ethiopian immigrants came to Israel all wrapped up in a package deal.

Guest Voices

The rabbinate agreed to their coming in exchange for the letting of a drop of blood from the sexual organ of each adult male (a confirmation of their Jewishness, which incidentally has still not been fully recognized) and with the proviso that their children would attend religious schools. The Ethiopians agreed.

Most of them underwent the bloodletting ritual, a physically, spiritually and collectively humiliating business, and their children go to state religious schools. They were told it was for their own good, and they believed it.

They were all placed in absorption centres and the children were put into absorption classes. They were told it was for the sake of their advancement and their integration, and they really wanted to believe it.

All of them were given blood tests and it was explained to anyone who enquired that "they" had many contagious diseases. They were given preventive pills en masse, which caused horrendous stomachaches. These they suffered stoically - or threw away the pills secretly - and didn't understand why Israelis were being warned not to come near them for six months.

Their rabbis were dispatched like a pack of fools to a course at the "real" rabbinate given by Israeli rabbis and the children were sent away to religious boarding schools. They were told that this would make them equal in the eyes of "kosher" Israeli Jews and that their children would have an equal opportunity to go on to higher education.

And if their *kesim* hadn't been barred from the rabbinate and if most of their children hadn't failed their *bagrut*, they might almost have believed it.

And then they were all branded with the mark of AIDS and it was even explained to them that it had nothing to do with racism.

And then, like Ahad Ha'am's Jews faced with blood-libel, they couldn't believe any longer. This latest blood-libel was the straw that broke the camel's back.

Had there been some differentiation made, for example, between Ethiopians who came here in the '80s and those who came in the '90s; or between the young generation (which tends to have an active sex life) and older people (who are generally less sexually active) the immigrants might have played along. They might have kept quiet had they been told openly that they couldn't donate their blood and been given a reason, valid or not. That they might well have accepted.

But they found themselves treated like some blighted, primitive group, like a bunch of lepers, and that the Ethiopians couldn't take.

What the authorities are now saying is that they were only trying to preserve the Ethiopian immigrants' sense of honor - but the immigrants have stopped believing either the facts as presented or in the authorities'good intentions. So have I.

"There's an optical illusion here about the proportion of HIV carriers among Ethiopian immigrants," said Dr. Ronny Shtarkshall, of the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Public Health and Community Medicine in a *Ma'ariv* interview two years ago, during the previous wave of rumors.

"There has been no general check for HIV carriers among the Israeli population. The estimate is 3,000, but the real figure cannot be known.

"And in any case," the doctor said, "the incidence of AIDS among Ethiopian Jews is far lower than in Western countries like the United States, Switzerland and France. This is chiefly because sexual promiscuity and homosexuality, the most frequent causes of HIV transmission, simply don't exist."

Is there or isn't there a huge risk, above the average, of AIDS in the Ethiopian community here?

I have a theory: There are various interested parties here, and all of them want to preserve the Ethiopians as a mass to be manipulated and concentrated in absorption centres (which need a reason to go on receiving funds for existing) and dominated.

Once it has been "established" that the Ethiopians as a community pose an AIDS danger, they can be smeared with mud, tricked, their children isolated and their blood tossed into the garbage bucket.

For long years to come, the Ethiopians will go on filling a mystical, much-needed role for researchers, absorption organizations and the media.

Esther Hertzog lectures on sociology and anthropology at Beit Berl College in Kfar Saba.

Jewish Life

Finding just what you need

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Imagine walking into a warehouse jammed full of books on every topic imaginable strewn everywhere with absolutely no order in sight.

What a mess!

Compare that to a library, where each and every book is catalogued, ordered and shelved in its proper spot.

What a relief!

The Internet is both of those places.

The problem is pinpointing the information you are looking for and skipping the junk. Unfortunately, there is no central "Table of Contents for the Internet." But that doesn't mean information has to be difficult to find or the experience overwhelming.

Today we'll look at two easy ways to hunt for Jewish information.

Some industrious people have scoured the Internet for "sites" or "pages" on Jewish and Israeli themes. They've taken what they've found and created their own centralized pages with links to dozens or even hundreds of other Jewish sites. These pages are like airline hubs that do nothing but connect to other places.

One of those people is Andrew Tannenbaum of Brookline, Mass. His Judaism and Jewish Resources **[http://shamash.nysernet.org/trb/judaism.html]** is clearly a labor of love of with a special focus on the State of Israel, archeology, Jewish singles and much more.

Another is Matthew Album. His A-Z of Jewish and Israel Related Resources **[http://www.ort.org/anjy/a-z]** is updated several times a week and is growing at an incredible rate.

But for sheer size and scope, pay a visit to Steve Ruttenberg's Ultimate Jewish/Israel Link Launcher. **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/launcher.html]**. As of Jan. 1, it had over 2,200 links!

You will find overlap between the lists, but you are also bound to find some gems on one list that don't appear on another.

If you still haven't found what you're looking for, you can use a program which will search through millions of pages of text for the word or words you are looking for.

One of the most popular search programs (or "engines" as they are known) is called Open Text. Type **[http://www.opentext.com/omw/f-omw.html]**, fill in the blanks, press the search "button" and your results will appear almost instantly.

Yahoo is another great site. You can look for any topic by typing **[http://www.yahoo.com]**. However, if you'd like to jump right to the list of Jewish topics, type **[http://www.yahoo.com/Society_and_Culture/Religion/Judaism/]**. The Israeli topics can be found at **[http://www.yahoo.com/text/Regional/Countries/Israel]**.

There are many more search programs out there. Over 30 others have been conveniently gathered together at the All-in-One Search Page. **[http://www.albany.net/allinone/all1www.html#WWW]**.

And if you still haven't found what you are looking for, you need help.

In a future column, we'll look at how you can ask for that help, send mail and meet other people through the Jewish Highway's news groups and electronic mailing lists.

* * *

A word of caution. Much has been written about objectionable material that can be found on the Internet. It is there if you know where to look.

The same tools that can be used to find information about the Holocaust can also lead you to information produced by deniers of the Holocaust. It's just a click away. If you are concerned about being offended, watch where you click.

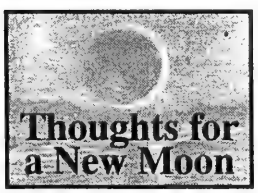
If you are concerned about the sites your children may visit, explain to them what is out there and establish ground rules about their use of the Internet.

The Internet can be scary, intimidating or just a colossal waste of time. It can also a marvelous tool to learn about our people and the world.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at ***mdm@inforamp.net****.*

Purim: a story of exile



By RACHEL TURKIENICZ

Purim approaches and our thoughts turn once again to the story of the Jews in Persia. The Book of Esther opens with a statement of location: "from Hodu to Cush, over 127 provinces." The first verse makes it clear that this is a story defined by its location — it is a story of exile. The Jewish people find themselves threatened with annihilation because they are branded as "different."

Esther, a young Jewish woman, is forced into the midst of the problem. As the story progresses, she alone must have Haman's edict against the Jews rescinded. Esther's life can be seen as the embodiment of the entire Jewish people.

Esther attempts to live a quiet life; yet she becomes involved through no choice of her own. The king is searching for a bride and demands that all the maidens compete. Esther is brought to him and ultimately chosen as queen. As she takes up her life in the palace, she again prefers to remain silent, to live complacently.

She is forced to become active, however, when Mordecai insists that she approach the king. Esther depicts the typical existence of the Jewish people in exile. Some Jews believe, as Esther did, that they can live a quiet existence and remain uninvolved with the world around them. Others fool themselves into believing that they are unaffected by the attitude of society toward their people — Esther likewise fooled herself.

When it becomes clear that she must get involved, Esther executes a brilliant strategy. If Haman's edict is rescinded, she is attacking only the symptom and not the cause. She must succeed in bringing down Haman himself. Esther understands that the king takes nothing so seriously as his manhood. This man easily killed his first queen for disobeying his summons. Esther executes a plan wherein the king views Haman as threatening his manhood and consequently orders Haman's death.

Esther accomplishes this by inviting the king along with Haman to her private parties. The king begins to wonder why Haman is continuously invited. Later, when Haman falls on the queen's "bed" to beg for mercy, the king immediately assumes he is making advances toward her and orders that Haman be hanged.

Esther thoroughly understands the world in which she finds herself and manages to mould the circumstances. Unfortunately, there are Jews who sit in exile and assume the world around them is a Jewish world — it is not. Jewish values are not the norm in the world at large.

When the community is faced with a problem, it is important to understand the avenues that are open to pursuit. The reality of exile is that we must function in two worlds at all times. Esther has a Jewish name (Hadas) and a Persian name — so do we. She understood that one cannot live passively in exile. Queen Esther is not only a role model, she is also a depiction of the Jewish psyche as it functions and grows in exile.

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Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Preferred area of practice: Family Law
Author of Religion and Culture in Canadian Family Law

Are alimony agreements becoming meaningless?

PART 2 OF 3

As discussed in the Feb. 1 issue, a recent minority decision by Madame Justice l"Heureux-Dubé that "final" alimony agreements could be challenged on the basis of "fairness" (whatever that means) has created a state of legal limbo wherein the Court could now arguably ignore the agreement and make an Order for alimony that it thinks is "fair", given the circumstances of the case.

Madame Justice L'Heureux-Dubé does give some vague comfort to lawyers who draft these agreements if they incorporate words that reflect the economic basis for the agreement on spousal support: "The weight to be given to agreements will depend first, on the extent to which the agreement reflects the principles and objectives stated in section 17 of the *Divorce Act*, 1985, and, second, on the scope and nature of the change which has occurred, taking into account all the circumstances of the parties. The more the agreement or support order takes the overarching principle of the Act into account in promoting an equitable distribution of the economic consequences of the marriage and its breakdown, the more likely it will be to influence the outcome of a variation application. In drafting future agreements, counsel would be well advised to articulate the bases on which both spousal and child support covenants have been negotiated .... it would clearly be useful for the parties to mention the various factors and objectives they took into account in their agreement to share the economic consequences of the marriage and its breakdown."

With the greatest respect to what her Lordship is trying to achieve, this new approach to separation agreements and marriage contracts creates tremendous uncertainty. No lawyer can now assure a payer spouse that the agreement finally binds the other spouse. In her minority decision, Madame Justice l"Heureux-Dubé is now insisting that such agreements recite a detailed explanation as to why the parties feel that the support provisions are fair in writing, and in the agreement itself. If some prospective Court doesn't feel that the explanation takes into account all the future needs or means of either spouse, then in her view it can ignore the agreement, despite any wording that suggests that the agreement is final and cannot be overturned.

FEBRUARY 29 ISSUE: Implications for lawyers and clients.

John Syrtash is a litigation lawyer with the Toronto firm of Kronis, Rotsztain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler. Mr. Syrtash's preferred area of practice is Civil Litigation and Family Law. Neither Mr. Syrtash nor the law firm of Kronis, Rotsztain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler nor B'nai Brith Canada is liable for any consequences that may arise from any party relying upon the information in this material. Mr. Syrtash can be reached at (416) 225-8750.

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Greater Toronto Area

Author urges women to challenge the status quo

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The footnotes alone take up 75 pages of Aviva Cantor's most recent book, *Jewish Women/Jewish Men: The Legacy of Patriarchy in Jewish Life.*

That the New York author has a passion for detail is obvious. Her meaty tome, released last year, reflects her vast knowledge of Jewish issues and the movement she remembers from the days it was known as Women's Liberation.

The "recognition that Jewish life is and always has been a patriarchy, a society dominated by men," serves as the prism through which the book examines a long list of issues. Anti-Semitism, assimilation, Zionism, Jewish family life, community leadership, even weight and thinness are all examined under Cantor's distinctive microscope.

An interviewer, about to meet her for the first time, might be forgiven for expecting to find a "*farbrente* feminist," to borrow one of Cantor's own expressions.

But the label is too one-dimensional to paint an accurate picture. "I consider myself a realist," Cantor said in an interview on the eve of Jewish Women's Voices, the January feminist conference at which she was an invited speaker.

The 55-year-old grey-haired woman sitting at her Toronto host's kitchen table didn't *look* particularly *farbrente.* Dressed casually and unpretentiously, with knitted slippers on her feet and a panda bear sweatshirt pulled over her clothes, Cantor had set water to boil for tea and lifted a cat off the table before pulling up her chair.

She said that she herself calls an Orthodox organization to have prayers said at the Kotel when someone is sick, although she knows she may be dealing with "the same guys who threw chairs at women who wanted to pray with a Torah at the Wall. My God!" she exclaimed at the thought.

In the early days of the feminist movement, Cantor, who studied journalism at Columbia University, was criticized by her peers for taking a job at the "mainstream" *Hadassah* magazine.

Around the same time, she experienced a different kind of conflict at home, trying to divide household chores in an exact 50-50 split with husband Murray Zuckoff before they reached a workable compromise.

Aviva Cantor

Her career has included stints at the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the New York bureau of the *London Jewish Chronicle,* although she is better known as a co-founder of *Lilith,* the glossy Jewish feminist quarterly magazine which she edited for 11 years, and as the author of *The Egalitarian Hagada.*

The latter book was written for everyone "from the little kids spilling the wine to the great-grandparents."

Cantor believes "it's not totally consonant with the spirit of Pesach to have separate seders for anybody." She has participated in a feminist seder only once.

Although she has spent most of her adult life as a secular Zionist, Cantor attended an Orthodox day school as a youngster and went through a phase of being observant as a teenager.

A history major before she studied journalism, Cantor is practically on a first-name basis with ancient rabbis. "There was a wonderful rabbi in the Middle Ages, Rabbi Perez of Corbeil, who tried to have a *takana* (amendment to Jewish law) regarding battered wives. I found him very human," she said.

"I think the traditional rabbis, the great ones, would have found solutions to some of the questions we raise today."

Cantor urges women to be "militant" in challenging the status quo. A Jewish feminist organization is desperately needed, she said.

She often finds her own answers in the process of writing.

Her new book is the result of six years of intensive work, incorporating material she'd gathered in the form of newspaper clippings and her own reportage (including original notes) on feminist events and issues dating back to 1963.

Unexpectedly, Cantor, who had felt comfortable expressing her Judaism in a secular way, became increasingly convinced about "the centrality of Halachah" as she worked on the book.

Writing about connectedness with the past, Cantor was moved to start lighting Shabbat candles again, although she had yet to reach any conclusion about Halachah.

"After that I started putting a tablecloth on the table. I decided to cook something special. One thing led to another."

About four or five years into the book, Cantor stopped working and shopping on Shabbat. At the suggestion of an Orthodox friend, she began using paper clips on Shabbat to mark newspaper items she wanted to keep, giving new meaning to the term "clipping," she laughed.

On a broader scale, Cantor finds her personal changes "problematic. On the one hand, I believe in pluralism. People need to find their own way, but I do believe in Halachah. The problem is [that] Halachah hasn't evolved for a long time, and it needs to."

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Participants kick up their heels at Yavneh Olami's Chanukah party in Israel.

Group helps promote dialogue between Jews

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As if it wasn't hard enough to combat negative stereotypes of Orthodox Jews, the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin has made the task doubly difficult.

Yet Yavneh Olami, a Jerusalem-based organization that supports observant students, is attempting to do just that — bridge the gap between Orthodox and secular Jews by promoting dialogue between them, said the organization's executive-director, Maury Kelman.

During a recent visit to Toronto, Kelman said Meretz city councillor Anat Hoffman was invited to address a recent memorial service in Jerusalem for Rabin sponsored by Yavneh Olami and "she had a hard time geting over blaming us [Orthodox Jews] even though we're trying to create dialogue."

Several of Yavneh Olami's programs have been geared to fostering better relations, either directly through programs like the Rabin memorial or indirectly by moulding observant young people into "ambassadors for Judaism," Kelman said.

But the organization's prime mission is to support observant university-aged students in Israel and the Diaspora through a variety of programs and initiatives, Kelman said.

It has also begun to sponsor programs in the Toronto area, and recently hosted a Shabbaton for 55 young adults at the Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Synagogue.

In addition to sponsoring cultural programs, Yavneh Olami hopes to attract young people by creating a non-threatening atmosphere in which their concerns over everyday issues are addressed, he said.

Many observant young people grow up in a "cocooned" lifestyle and on entering university for the first time are confronted with new issues and new views on everything from sexual ethics to criticism of the Bible's divine origins, he said.

Many are unprepared to respond to these views, not having encountered them before, said Kelman, 30, who is an ordained rabbi.

Yavneh Olami brings these young people together in study groups and social situations and discusses with them the Jewish perspective on current issues. Among the issues tackled at Israeli meetings are the Jewish view of Western morality, ethical issues like cheating and Judaism's views on the environment.

People must realize that Orthodox youth are watching *Seinfeld* and *Friends* and are interested in many of the same issues as their non-observant contemporaries, said Kelman, an alumnus of Associated Hebrew Schools.

Not only does Yavneh Olami strengthen their Judaism, it also encourages them to be open and friendly to those who hold different views, to serve as "ambassadors for Judaism" by presenting a positive image of Orthodox Jews.

Established in 1984 in Jerusalem by, among others, former MK Yossi Shapiro and Avraham Duvdevani, who headed the leadership training division of the Jewish Agency, Yavneh Olami lay dormant until revived by Kelman in late 1994.

The organization now attracts hundreds of observant Jews under 30 — mostly anglophone *olim* — to numerous activities that include a weekly beit midrash (lessons on scripture), social events, prayer services and even bone marrow drives.

So far in Canada, it's spreading by word of mouth and several young Canadians have enrolled in its summer job internship programs in Israel. Yavneh Olami is currently looking for counsellors to work at Israeli summer day camps in community centres, Kelman said. It is also sponsoring a Jerusalem 3000 seminar from June 16 to 23, with classes on historical and modern Jerusalem and on Jerusalem through the arts.

It differs from existing student organizations by spanning various campuses and being aimed at observant students, he added.

For more information, contact Yoni Stanleigh at 905-764-0392 or 905-764-1324.

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John, age 30, has a maximum RSP contribution limit of $8,100. So far, he's only been able to save $2,100. Let's consider the benefits of John borrowing the additional $6,000 he needs to reach his limit.

Scenario #1

John decides not to borrow, leaving his total 1995 RSP contribution amount at $2,100. Assuming his combined federal and provincial tax rate is about 42%, his tax savings would be $882 (42% x $2,100). If his $2,100 RSP investment earns 10% per year over 25 years, it will grow to $23,000.

Scenario #2

John borrows the additional $6,000 to reach his goal of making his maximum contribution of $8,100. At his combined tax rate of 42%, his tax savings will be $3,402. If he receives this as a tax refund, he can reduce his loan immediately to $2,598.

$6,000	original amount borrowed
$3,402	less his tax refund amount applied to the loan
$2,598	new loan balance

John has also made a big difference in the value of his savings for his retirement years. By borrowing the $6,000 required to make his maximum contribution, John's $8,100 contribution, earning 10%, will have grown to $88,000 at age 55. That's $65,000 more than if he only contributed $2,100! That's the power of borrowing your maximum contribution.

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Tuesday, Feb. 27th, 8:00PM
at the **Barbra Frum Library**
1 block north of Lawrence, just west of Bathurst
A public lecture with **Chana Weisberg**
Dean of The Women's Institute
Also featuring a musical interlude with "The Dynamic Duo" Starring Chevi Rappaport & Ruth Coodin
Coffee & pastries will be served • Admission: $6
For more information please call **(905) 881-2012**

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

•GAMES Jewish Singles Play! Sunday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook. Ages 26-40, 41-69. **•Bridge, Chutzpah, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, etc., Early Bird Bingo.** 7:30-8:00 p.m. Prizes. $5. **51 couples have already met! Free Introductions!** Mollie, 733-3634.

Adath Israel Synagogue Singles Group, 35-55, (Bathurst & Wilson), invites you to a Sunday Brunch, Feb. 18th, 1996 at 11:30 a.m. with guest speaker Dr. Fred Stulberg, dentist, hobbyist and humorist. Topic: "Some of my best jokes are Jewish". A lighthearted look at Jewish practices and life events. $8. prepaid reservations at the synagogue office (416) 635-5340. Deadline is Fri., Feb. 16th - 2:30 p.m. $10 at the door. Visa accepted. For reservations call the synagogue office. For further information contact Rabbi Sheldon Kom, 416-635-5340.

BEEN THERE? DONE IT? Made In Heaven, an introduction service for Jewish singles, 30 and up. For free consultation in your home or office call Duane or Ronda, 416-512-2994.

Beth Tzedec Young Members invite Singles in their 20s & 30s to a Savoury Wine Tasting Event with Carol Slatt, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 15, Mezzanine Hall, $20.

Circle Thursday, March 21, 1996 on your calendar if you want to be at the single event of the year! The 3rd annual Jewish Bachelor and Silent Auction for Anshei Minsk Synagogue promises to be the event that will be the talk of the town! Call 416-410-5677 to reserve tickets!

Jewish Contemporary Singles is now offering personal service. Let us introduce you to someone special. Call today! (416) 484-9733

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Large Singles Valentines Day Party, Fri., Feb. 16, 8 p.m. in Hava Nagila, live band music, ages 30-55, $13. adm., 739-7371, Lili.

"Celebration of Hearts" party. sponsored by New Leadership Division, Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation, Thurs., Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. "Atlantis" @ Ontario Place. Great music, dancing, prizes, fun. For ages 25-45. Prepaid tickets $25 including parking. $30 at the door. Partial tax receipt. To order call 781-3584.

"Did you hear the one about ...?" The Young Associates of the **Israel Cancer Research Fund** present an evening of comedy and dancing on Thurs., Feb. 29th. at **Comedywood,** 800 Steeles Ave. W. (NW corner of Steeles & Bathurst). Doors open 8 p.m. Show begins at 9 p.m. Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Space is limited. Free parking. For tickets call the ICRF office at 416-487-5246.

Artist Herman Reches holds the pedestal he created for Holocaust memorial candles. [Frances Kraft photo]

Pedestal designed for memorial candles

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Six outstretched hands, each forefinger pointing upward at the Hebrew word *zachor* (remember), form part of a recent ly unveiled sandstone pedestal designed for Holocaust memorial candles.

The holder, designed by local ceramic artist Herman Reches, was the brainchild of David Singer, a past president of Beth Tzedec Men's Club.

The group started distributing the candles about a decade ago for Beth Tzedec members to light in their homes on Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day).

The idea spread, and this year approximately 200,000 candles will be distributed through Conservative synagogue men's clubs across North America, said Jules Surdin, Men's Club special projects chair, who conceived of the candle program "so that children now and future generations will ask, 'Why?' "

After Singer came up with the idea of creating a pedestal for the candles, a committee from Beth Tzedec proposed a design contest for ceramicists affiliated with the Koffler Gallery. The artists, however, declined to participate, insisting that Reches — the Koffler's artist in residence — was the one who should execute the design.

A Polish-born Holocaust survivor who worked as a cake decorator before taking up sculpting in his retirement years, Reches is now in his 80s. Many of his sculptures depict scenes of the Holocaust and of pre-Holocaust *shtetls*.

The pedestal symbolizes the six million Jews killed in the Holocaust reaching up through barbed wire.

Through Beth Tzedec's sisterhood gift shop, the pedestal is being made available to sisterhood gift shops in Conservative synagogues across North America, at a suggested price of $18.

Disabilities forum

TORONTO — Working Together Towards an Ontarians With Disabilities Act will be the subject of a public forum on Feb. 19 from 6-9 p.m. at North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, 200 Eglinton Ave. W.

Speakers will include David Lepofsky, co-chair of Ontarians with Disabilities (ODA) Coalition; Gary Malkowski, Former MPP and member of the ODA coalition; and Carole Riback, member of the ODA coalition.

There is no charge for admission to the forum.

Greater Toronto Area

Kids, adults paint unique gift for Jerusalem

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — More than 100 children and adults gathered recently in the Artists' Lounge of the CBC Building to paint a mural which will be a gift to the city of Jerusalem in celebration of its 3,000 anniversary.

Sponsored by the New Leadership Group (NLG) of the Jerusalem Foundation of Canada, the mosaic, created with some 200 hand-painted wooden tiles, is part of its Paint for Peace project.

Under the direction of artist Ian Leventhal, the mural is a tribute to the universal character of the city. The tiles were painted in Leventhal's characteristic whimsical style and depict Jerusalem's various Jewish, Christian and Muslim archeological and historical sites.

"It's not often that we get to celebrate a birthday of 3,000 years," says Leventhal.

Connie Putterman, co-chair of the NLG with Glenn Gold, told *The CJN* that the Paint for Peace project is a gift from the Toronto NLG to the Nurit Street Elementary School in Kiryat Menachem in Jerusalem, "as a gift of peace and hope and a symbol of our connection to them. We are hopeful that our contribution will provide an esthetic addition to the school."

The idea for the mural, says Gold, came from a brainstorming session with Leventhal who is an active member of the NLG. "The idea was to do a hands-on event and aim it as a fun day for parents and kids — and it was."

Putterman said the Paint for Peace day was also a kick-off for a NLG fundraising event. The completed mural will be on display at the CBC Building on May 11, where it will form a backdrop for an evening soiree of interactive Middle Eastern cooking and belly dancing sponsored by the NLG in celebration of Jerusalem 3000.

The mural will later be taken to Jerusalem, where members of the NLG and the Toronto board of the Jerusalem Foundation will participate in an international conference of Jerusalem Foundation members celebrating Jerusalem 3000.

The NLG recently raised $30,000 to build a children's park in Kiryat Menachem in Jerusalem.

"Our projects primarily are aimed to support underprivileged children," says Putterman. "This coming year, our goal is to fund a children's music room in a school in the same neighborhood."

NLG members are 25 to 45 years old and Gold says new members are welcome (416-413-0100). "We have a passion for Jerusalem and we like to do something about it," he says. "Along with raising money, the NLG members participate in cultural events and leadership development activities, and we like to have fun."

The Jerusalem Foundation is a charitable trust founded by former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek in 1966 for the purpose of improving the quality of life in the city.

ALPHA OMEGA EDITOR

Barry Chapnick a Toronto Alumni Chapter member of Alpha Omega's International editor for a three year term at the organization's recent annual convention near Tampa, Florida. Barry and his wife Jane took part in post-election celebrations.

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NILE PERCH WITH POTATOES			VALUEPAC 750g	$6.19
HAKE FISH STICKS WITH CORN	400g	$3.29		
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Greater Toronto Area

'I felt like I had arrived home'

Communities cannot function and prosper without the commitment, care and tireless efforts, mostly unrecognized, of countless hard-working individuals. They are the "unsung heroes" of the community. Spotlight *will appear occasionally in these pages to shine a light on some of these heroes. If you would like* The CJN *to cast a spotlight on the unsung heroes you know, please contact Carolyn Blackman at* The CJN *any Friday before 3 p.m.*

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When Sudha Ghelani began working at Associated Hebrew Schools in 1978, she knew little about Judaism.

Now, not only is she well-versed, she is amazed at how much her religion, Jainism, has in common with Judaism.

"We are vegetarian; so there is the aspect of dietary restrictions. We have a fast day which we spend praying for forgiveness and we also have Diwali, a celebration of lights. At one Chanukah celebration I showed [everyone in the school] how we light our lamps and they have been using the same method for their menorah.

"Another thing we have in common is that we get married under a wedding canopy and the bride and groom walk around each other seven times. Our calendar is a lunar calendar as well, so we have 13 months every three years. To top it off, I was pleased to discover that I could buy kosher cheese because it contains no [animal] rennet. All these similarities contributed to an immediate bond that is still strong today."

Sudha Ghelani

She adds that she learns a lot about Judaism from her daily contacts at work .

Ghelani, who arrived in Canada from Bombay, India, in 1971, said she worked at a variety of accounting jobs before she was hired as senior bookkeeper at Associated.

"I felt like I had arrived home. The staff was wonderful, the people I dealt with were friendly — everyone here was like family to me. In Toronto, my only family is my husband, daughter and son, so being so close to the people with whom I work fills in a gap."

Now manager of accounts, Ghelani is responsible for such tasks as managing the school payroll, budget and accounting.

"Anything financial is referred directly to me. I am the first person places such as Revenue Canada, Workers Compensation or the Jewish Board of Education contact. As the largest Hebrew Day School in Toronto, we have about 300 teachers, as well as supply teachers; so each year I prepare about 500 T4 slips. It is my responsibility to ensure that everything runs smoothly."

She concedes that as a working mother, she is constantly trying to balance work and home life. "I discovered quickly, however, that the people at Associated are totally responsive to my needs. If I needed a day off to stay with a sick child they always understood. I could always be honest.

"In turn, they know they can count on me. For me, the interests of the school come first and I want it to be among the top Jewish organizations. I'm always trying to do things as effectively as possible and always trying to save them money. We really have a give-and-take relationship and it makes everyone feel good. We all know that if we respect someone, they, in turn, will respect us."

"Those who are lucky in life are those who leave something behind. You were such a man, my friend."

— King Hussein of Jordan at the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA

Announcing the establishment of the

Yitzhak Rabin Forest

in the Jerusalem Corridor

The Jewish National Fund has traditionally dedicated a park or forest in memory of former Prime Ministers of Israel. The area of the Jerusalem Corridor is closely associated with Yitzhak Rabin. During Israel's War of Independence, he commanded a brave Palmach Brigade in that area and always felt a close attachment.

Last July, 2 million trees were burnt during a terrible forest fire in this same area.

Therefore, the Jewish National Fund will replant, rename and rededicate the Jerusalem Corridor area as the Yitzhak Rabin Forest in memory and in honour of Israel's slain Prime Minister.

Some dream about changing the world. Yitzhak Rabin tried to turn dreams into reality — to end decades of blood and tears. You now have the opportunity to honour the memory and the vision of Yitzhak Rabin by participating in the development of the Yitzhak Rabin Forest.

Please call JNF Toronto at 416-638-7200 or send the following to us at:
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The Canadian Jewish News

The Leonard Wolinsky Lectures
on
JEWISH LIFE AND EDUCATION AT YORK UNIVERSITY

Sunday, February 18, 1996

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THE BIBLE'S FIRST INTERPRETERS

4:00 p.m. **Professor Nehama Aschkenasy**
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PRAYER, DIPLOMACY, AND SILENCE: WOMEN'S LANGUAGE IN THE BIBLE

The Wolinsky Lectures are sponsored by the Centre for Jewish Studies, the Faculty of Arts, and the Faculty of Education of York University in cooperation with the Toronto Board of Jewish Education. Lectures are open to the public free of charge. Inquiries: 736-5823

From coast to coast

Chinese group helps CJC fight human rights case

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA) has contributed $2,000 to the Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region (CJC-P) legal defence trust fund to help Congress fight a human rights case against controversial columnist Doug Collins and the newspapaer he writes for, the *North Shore News*.

The specific column CJC-P is objecting to is one published March 10, 1994, headed *Hollywood Propaganda*, which deals with the movie *Schindler's List*.

CJC-P filed the complaint last year with the B.C. Human Rights Council and is waiting for a decision regarding a hearing by a Human Rights tribunal. The complaint was filed under a section of B.C. Human Rights Act Bill 33, which is designed to discourage publication of hatred and contempt material against a person or group of persons.

Bill Yee, chair of the CBA, commended Congress for its action, at a dinner recently hosted by the association.

"Since Bill 33 was passed in 1993 as legislation to combat the proliferation of discriminatory publications in B.C., its effectiveness as an instrument of protection for identifiable groups has never been put to a test," Yee said. "This test case will have profound implications for all cultural and religious minorities who seek to be free from vilification and hatred."

Promoting equality is an issue for the entire community."

Congress was represented at the dinner by Dr. Michael Elterman, regional chair; national executive chair Renee Switzer Bellas; honorary legal counsel Herb Silber; and CJC-P executive director, Erwin Nest. Neil Steinman, chair of the Congress legal advisory committee, discussed various aspects of the complaint.

Raise funds

CJC-P has been conducting a campaign among Jewish lawyers in the area to raise the funds to retain specialized legal counsel to fight the case.

Other racial and religious groups represented at the dinner that pledged financial support included the Canadian Pakistani Congress, Canadian Arab Federation, Congress of Black Women, Council of the Muslim Community in Canada, Khadsa Divan Society, National Association of Canadians of Origin in India, Filipino Canadian Congress, United Chinese Enrichment Services Society, Immigrant Service Society, Vancouver Multicultural Society, Pacific Interfaith Citizenship Association of B.C., Anglican Church of Canada — diocese of New Westminster, Roman Catholic Archdiocese, Unitarian Church, United Church of Canada — B.C. Conference.

Aziz Khaki, president of the Committee for Racial Justice, which sponsored the dinner, said, "We have joined hands with one of our member organizations which has initiated an action, the outcome of which is important for all of us.

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9:50 AM PICK UP AT 4455 Bathurst St. (In front of apartment building)
10 AM ARRIVES AT SUNNYBROOK
11 AM DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK
12:40 PM PICK UP AT JCC, 4588 Bathurst St. (at main entrance)
12:45 PM PICK UP AT B'nai Brith Building 4266 Bathurst (on Reiner Rd.)
1:00 PM ARRIVES AT SUNNYBROOK
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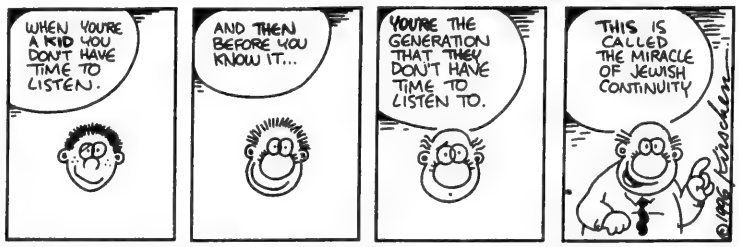
From coast to coast

Dry Bones



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גידי קורן

וישראלי שלא שם

זוכרים את "שורשים"? מספר ישראלים אמיצים השקיעו מאות אלפי דולארים כדי לחקים מעדון -מסעדה ובמשך מספר שנים חביאו לטורונטו אמנים ישראלים כמעט בכל שבוע. הם הפסידו את כספם ואנחנו הפסדנו חלון תרבותי, מקום שהיה ישראלי. עכשיו עוברים לפעמים ארבעה וחמישה חודשים ללא שום מופע ישראלי.

זוכרים את "המקומון"? כמעט אותו סיפור, נסיון לעיתון ישראלי שסחב מספר שנים. אינני יודע אם המשקיעים הפסידו כסף רב או לא, אולם אנחנו הפסדנו חלון תרבותי, עיתון שהיה ישראלי. האם 40,000 הישראלים שכאן אינם קהל יעד גדול מספיק? לדעתי זהו קהל רחב ליצור תרבות והווי משלו. עובדה - היהודים שהגיעו הנה מרוסיה מנחלים מספר עיתונים במקביל ומוסדות רבים אחרים. האם זה בגלל שהישראלים התרגלו לכך שכל ההתארגנויות מסוג זה באות מלמעלה, מחמוצה, העיריה ההסתדרות? קרוב לוודאי. במספר אירועים שנטלתי בהם חלק תמיד ניגשו אלי ישראלים להתלונן ולתת לי הצעות איך לעשות טוב יותר, כאילו הייתי איזה פעיל הסתדרות שהם עושים לו טובה. לא עלה על דעתם שאם הם לא יעשו - לא יהיה. או אין.

למאמיים יש שמש בבטן:

זה שמו של ספר חדש בעברית מפרי עטה של יהודית קציר. קציר הופיעה בזירה למני מספר שנים בספר סיפורים קצרים "סוגרים את הים" שחפך לרב מכר ויצר סגנון חדש בכתיבה: כל משפט שלה נמשך כמעט עמוד שלם, עם משפטי משנה והרבה חשיבה אסוציאטיבית. הסיפורים היו בהחלט מעניינים, קצת מטורפים אבל מה - מרעננים. הפעם ניסתה קציר לכתוב רומאן שלם, שבמרכזו היחסים שבין בחורה בשנות העשרים לחייה לגבר נשוי בן הארבעים פלוס. הכתיבה דומה לספרה הקודם, קולחת ואסוציאטיבית, אבל הספר עצמו - מרגיש כמו רגל נרדמת. אין מה לעשות - כתיבת סיפורים קצרים דורשת תכונות שונות מאשר כתיבת רומאן, בדיוק כמו שרוב המשוררים אינם יכולים לכתוב סיפורים או רומאנים. ממש לא ממלקי.

סוגרים בתי חולים:

אם יצא לכם להקשיב לרדיו, תשמעו הודעות חירום של אירגון עובדי בתי החולים נגד סגירת 12 בתי חולים במטרו טורונטו, שתביא לדבריהם לירידה תלולה בשרותי הבריאות. מה שההודעות האלה שוכחות לספר לנו הוא שבעשר השנים האחרונות ירדה כמות האשפוז בבתי החולים בכמעט 50 אחוזים, ללא סגירה של שום בית חולים. מסקנה: המון כסף מיותר משקע בכפל אדמיניסטרציה, בניינים וחשמל. סגירת בתי חולים תוך איחודם עם בתי חולים סמוכים תשחרר כספים כדי לשפר את רמת שירותי הבריאות. אם לא יעשו צעדים אלה - או שתרד רמת השירות, או שיצטרכו להעלות את המיסים. המעניין בכל הסיפור, וגם את זה שוכחות הודעות החירום לספר, הוא שאת ההחלטה על 12 בתי החולים שימוזגו סיכמה ועדה שיוצגו בה נציגי בתי החולים, רופאים, אחיות, ומינהלנים. יותר מכך: את חועדה מינתה ממשלתנו הסוציאליסטית של בוב ריי ולא הממשלה הנוכחית.

מצדה - חי:

לא, זו איננה הסיסמה של אירגון ימני קיצוני. זהו שם תקליטו של דיויד ברוזה, Massada alive, שהוקלט בהופעה חיה במצדה. הקלטת כוללת רבים מלחיטיו של ברוזה, אבל אני דווקא אהבתי את קטעי הסולו הוירטואוזיים שלו בגיטרה. הם מסבירים מדוע ברוזה מצליח לא רק אצל קהל ישראלי-יחודי, אלא גם אצל הקהל הרחב שלבטח לא יצא לו לשמוע ניטרוסט כה מעולה. שימו את הקלטת במכונית ותנהגו בזהירות.

SHMOOZIN

"I just thought of a way to make snowballs that will fly faster and hit harder. Inside each one I'm going to put one of Mom's matzo balls!"

From coast to coast

Mount Royal Liberals give support to Finestone

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Lawyer Eric Maldoff denied that he has been asked by the federal Liberal party to run as a candidate in Mount Royal or any other riding, now or in the next election.

"The only place I hear this is in the press ... It seems to be generated by the media," he told *The CJN*. "I have not been asked to run ... I'm flattered that the media think I have. I find it all quite amusing."

Mount Royal Liberal Association president Sidney Margles also sought to put to rest rumors that Sheila Finestone, 69, is being urged to give up her seat and allow Maldoff to join the cabinet as the Chretien government prepares for this crucial phase of the national unity debate.

"Mrs. Finestone has no intention of giving up her seat at this time," Margles said. "In fact, she has not ruled out seeking re-election."

The riding association board "wholeheartedly endorsed" Finestone's continuing as MP after she lost her position as secretary of state for multiculturalism and the status of women last month. "The board meets again in March and I don't expect that position to change," Margles stated.

He said there is some ill-feeling within the association and among constituents that anglophone Quebecers have received a "raw deal" by losing their only cabinet minister.

Finestone lost her portfolio to make way for a young francophone Quebecer, Outremont backbencher Martin Cauchon, who is now secretary of state for Quebec regional development.

(Secretaries of state are not members of cabinet, but assist ministers in various areas.)

"There's been an outpouring of support for [Finestone] since she was eliminated from the cabinet" from constituents, Margles said. "It's been a spontaneous response."

Margles acknowledged that Maldoff is among numerous names circulating as possible contenders for one of the surest Liberal seats in the country in the next general election, which could be another two years away.

Among the names is Margles' himself. "I never rule anything out. Two years is a long time."

Maldoff, who practises with the firm Martineau Walker, also works as an adviser to Prime Minister Jean Chretien. Currently, he is negotiating on behalf of the government certain native land claims.

Founding president of the anglophone rights group, Alliance Quebec, Maldoff, now in his early 40s, has held a number of respected community positions, including president of the Montreal Children's Hospital, and is a frequent television political commentator.

Margles is virtually sure that the next Liberal candidate in Mount Royal will be anglophone and/or ethnic. "The reality in Quebec over the past 40 or 50 years is that religion, ethnicity or language have been factors in representation."

One veteran riding association insider, who asked not to be named, said it was unlikely the Chretien government would ease out another Quebec Jewish MP. St. Henri-Westmount David Berger was persuaded to give up his seat to Lucienne Robillard just over a year ago and he was rewarded by being named ambassador to Israel.

"The Liberal Party has many friends in the Jewish community and a lot of funds are raised in the community, so it's not likely it would break with the tradition of having at least one Jewish representative from Quebec," the insider said.

Canada Week tour of Israel part of Jerusalem 3000

MONTREAL — The Canadian Committee for Jerusalem 3000 is organizing a tour of Israel May 29 to June 10, with Neri Bloomfield, the committee's national chair. The trip will coincide with Canada Week June 2 to 9, part of the official Jerusalem 3000 calendar, as well as other cultural events.

The intinerary includes three nights in Tiberias at the Moriah Plaza, five nights in Jerusalem's Sheraton Plaza and three nights in the Nirvana at the Dead Sea.

Neri Bloomfield

A highlight of Canada Week is a performance of the Gala des Etoiles, an annual showcase of leading Canadian and international ballet and modern dancers, organized by Victor Melnikoff at Place des Arts. Tour participants will be able to buy tickets for the June 6 Jerusalem performance for $36, that includes a reception with the dancers. The regular price is $200.

Also on the itinerary is a visit to Canada Centre in Metulla, a Bedouin feast, sightseeing in Jerusalem and a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee.

The cost is $2,799 (Can.) from Montreal or Toronto, based on double occupancy, plus $73 airport tax, and includes return airfare via El Al, 11 nights accommodation, some meals and transfers. Extensions in Jerusalem or Eilat are available.

Add-ons are available from other Canadian cities.

For information, call Paula Mendelsohn, 1-514-486-9526.

Correction

TORONTO — In last week's issue of *The CJN*, some of the names of York University exchange students presently attending university in Israel were omitted from the picture Reunion in Jerusalem. These students include Lisa Perlman, Bram Rogachevsky, Yona Shem-Tov, Josh Tizel and Shira Veidlinger. *The CJN* apologizes to all those concerned

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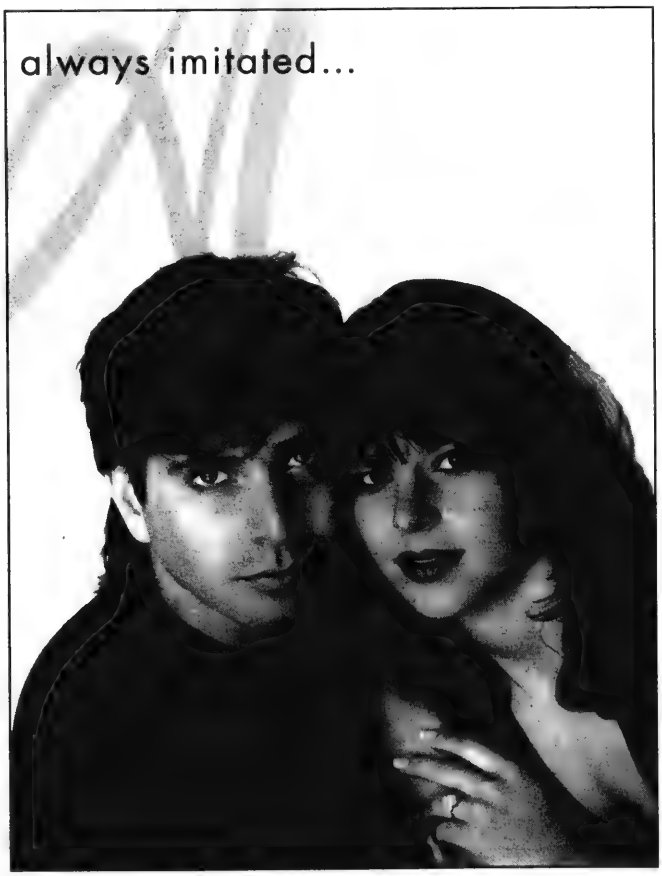

From coast to coast

CJC to maintain role in boosting Canadian unity

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Corespondent

VICTORIA — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) took an active role in helping defeat the Quebec referendum and intends to step up future efforts to foster Canadian unity, said Goldie Hershon, national president.

"As Jews," she said, "we benefit from our good relations with Canada and we are doing all we can to preserve our Jewish life in Montreal."

Hershon spoke at a meeting of the Victoria community at the Empress Hotel during a recent retreat of CJC national officers held here. She was on a panel to answer questions about the Quebec situation.

Other panelists were Reisa Teitelbaum, chair of CJC's Quebec region; Jack Silverstone, national executive director; and Jack Jedwab, Quebec region executive director. Sid Tafler of Victoria, a former Montrealer, was moderator.

Billed as a national unity meeting on how Montreal Jews are coping, this was a typically laid-back Victoria meeting — no singing of *O Canada*, no flags, no stirring appeals to help the country, except for Hershon's statement that "we hope to travel the country more to hear your views on what we should consider for future action."

In responding to questions, the panelists said, among other things, that the Jewish community in Montreal is 95 percent in support of national unity; relations between the Jewish and francophone communities are generally positive; Quebec Jews are not going to "stand back" and wait for the separatists to dominate the next referendum, if there is one; Pierre Trudeau's recent attack in *La Presse* and the *Montreal Gazette* will have little effect on unity because his credibility in Quebec is not high.

In the audience of about 100, one former Torontonian asked if CJC has any specific plans to fight the next referendum — "It doesn't have to be plans A or B. Tell us if there's a plan Z," he urged.

A man from New Brunswick wondered if CJC was concerned that separation could wreck Canada's fragile economy; and a former Montrealer asked if CJC has considered the necessity of operating in a Canada that begins in Cornwall, Ont.

Chuck Waldman, who for a number of years has voluntarily run one-man campaigns for the United Israel Appeal (UIA) on Vancouver Island, noted that UIA, indirectly, helps fund CJC activities. He told *The CJN* that the Montrealers "presented a good case for a unified Canada by telling us of the strong support for the No side and the good relations that exist between French Canadians and Jews."

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REMINDER: Purim is on March 5th. Deadline for all orders is February 18, 1996.

Hate crimes unreported, study finds

TORONTO — Crimes fuelled by hatred of a person's race, religion or sexual orientation are much more frequent than those recorded in official statistics, says a report by University of Ottawa criminologist Julian Roberts.

Only about one in 10 hate crimes is ever reported to the criminal justice system, says the report prepared for the Justice Department.

In addition, not all police forces record crimes based on hate; so even if an incident is reported, it may not be categorized as hate-motivated.

The report claimed the number of hate crimes in nine Canadian cities during 1993-94 was 60,000, far more than the 1,000 recorded by police.

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From coast to coast

MP stresses need to end Internet hate

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — The cyberspace information highway should be devoted to harmony, not hate, said Dr. Rey Pagtakhan, Liberal MP for Winnipeg North.

Pagtakhan, who represents one of the most racially diverse constituencies in Canada, was speaking at the Empress Hotel, during a retreat of national officers of Canadian Jewish Congress. He said hate on the Internet is a "social cancer" which will spread and management of it is essential.

He said 11 percent of Canadians over age 16 have access to the Internet and more than eight percent of the Canadian population already have access to World Wide Web sites and can pick up messages from anywhere.

Parliament unanimously passed his motion last year calling for measures aimed at stopping the spread of hate propaganda on the information highway, but the motion has not yet been enforced, he said, adding that Justice Minister Allan Rock appears willing to act on it.

He said federal regulations already exist covering broadcasting and telephones and there is the Canadian Human Rights Commission — all equipped to handle illegal acts that spread hate. The law is quite clear, outlawing the wilful spread of hate, except for a private conversation between two people.

He said hate propaganda on the Internet is not new; just the method of distribution has changed.

He described hate as "an emotion of intense and extreme nature associated with devastation and vilification exercised against identifiable groups: race, religion, ethnic origin and color. Hate calls for them to be despised and deprived of respect because of their affiliation."

Pagtakhan conceded the magnitude of the problem of halting hate on the Internet because its source cannot be easily identified. He said people who oppose in principle the philosophy of spreading hate still want complete freedom of speech, as practised in most of the United States.

"But nothing is absolute, even freedom itself," and if Canadian regulations are adhered to, freedom of speech can be pursued in accordance with Canadian values.

"We must find a way," he urged, "to fight hate and have legislation to stop it while preserving freedom of expression."

The MP called on the computer industry and Internet purveyors to help develop a code of ethics. He also called for international agreements to solve the problem.

"It's not wise to be complacent," he warned, urging organization such as Congress to help develop the means to work out a solution.

Earlier in the session, Ken McVay, director of the Nizkor Project, which monitors and fights Internet anti-Semitism, showed examples both of the kind of hate material being used and of how Nizkor is responding.

He said that when Nizkor responded on the Net to some of the claims being made by anti-Semites, they stopped sending their messages. The big problem, he added, is tracing the source of the hate messages and that it's easy for purveyors to deny sending them.

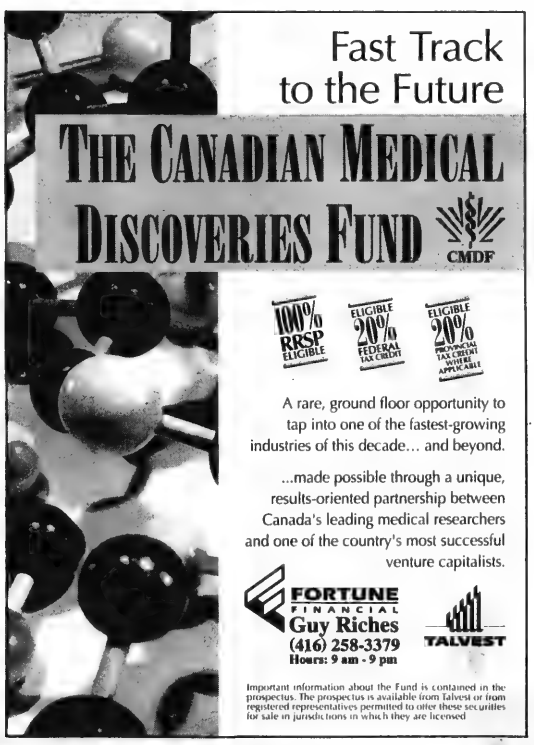
Hilary Ostrov, Web master for Nizkor, said Ernst Zundel's hate messages originate in California, where there are no restrictions. Therefore, Canadian Human Rights Commission can't take action against him.

She said that other Canadian racists who use the Net in Canada are careful to observe Canadian laws as they relate to content. For example, they define the Jews as "special interest groups."

Hal Joffe, chair of the national community relations committee of Congress, said his committee is working on developing a policy to combat Internet hate. He said Canada has accepted that there are limitations on free speech through its regulatory bodies and "we don't need any more laws or regulations. We don't want to go through long litigation to get new laws."

HOMES FOR HOPE

Temple Emanuel, chaverim have sold thousands of hand made pins in their Homes for Hope campaign to raise awareness and money for women who have experienced violence. At a recent breakfast meeting, a cheque for $5,000 was presented to Jewish Family and Child Service to provide additional services for abused women and their families. Seen (from left) Marlene Landa and Brenda Waltman of Temple Emanuel, Gail Gould, supervisor, Jewish Family and Child Service, and Pat Wolfson of Jewish Women's International.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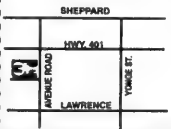

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Campus *news & views*

Israeli, Palestinian students discuss peace issues

By STEVE MOCK
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — The first official meeting has taken place between Israeli and Palestinian student organizations.

On Jan. 24, members of Ofek, the student organization supported by the Labor party, and members of the Fatah Student Bureau met at the Seven Arches Hotel on top of Jerusalem's Mount of Olives, to discuss issues significant to the peace process.

Omer Egozi, chair of Ofek at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, said the peace process and the policy of the current government made such a meeting possible.

"Instead of fighting we are now conversing," he said. "Though we may have different views, we are now able to discuss them without violence."

His counterpart, the chair of the Fatah Student Bureau, agreed, saying, "Peace cannot be built between leaderships. Peace must be built between peoples."

Nissim Zvili, general secretary of the Labor party, opened the conference, stressing the role of the youth in ensuring the success of the peace process.

The goal of the meeting between the student groups was for each side to get a clearer picture of how the other side felt and to put a human face to these opposing opinions.

The aim is not to reach "a consensus or an agreement of any sort. We are here today to get to know each other," Egozi said. "The importance of this conference is its very existence."

The participants discussed some of the most difficult issues of the peace process: prisoners, settlements and the status of Jerusalem. Surprisingly, the two sides found a great deal of common ground, and frequently found few issues over which to argue.

Yael Goyski of Ofek moderated the discussion on the issue of settlements, where the mood was friendly. A Fatah participant even jokingly suggested that he recognized one of the Ofek participants out of uniform. After the discussion, phone numbers were exchanged.

At first, Goyski said, she was apprehensive about meeting her Fatah counterparts. "I was afraid at the beginning, but after the seminars I felt that they are like me – they are human. I think that we broke a psychological block."

The significance was not that Israelis were meeting with Palestinians, Egozi said. Israeli and Palestinian students have been studying together in Israeli universities for years.

"The unique point of this meeting," he said, "was that they were members of Fatah ... a terror organization. The idea was to try to get over psychological obstacles and to meet the people who were trying to kill us just months ago."

Jerusalem was the most difficult issue. In a hall with a window that framed the Temple Mount and the city skyline, Israeli and Palestinian students discussed whether it could some day be the capital of a Palestinian state.

"No one lost patience," observed Egozi. "But it was not very pleasant to hear some of the things they said. I'm sure it was the same for them when our people spoke."

He found it encouraging that no one feared engaging the other side. "It is important that we met to speak and debate, because when you don't speak, guns start to speak."

Despite differences, the two sides appeared comfortable together. "I'm sure many people's opinions changed," Egozi said. "For one thing, many of us didn't know that a person could be a religious Muslim and not extreme."

Refreshments were not served at the meeting because it was held during Ramadan, and the Muslim students could not eat.

"It is important that it was the students who met this time," said Egozi. "It is the students who will be ... leaders in a few years. If we meet and start to talk, it makes what we read in the newspapers real."

The conference concluded with short speeches by Faisal Huseinni and Knesset member Yael Dayan, who then answered questions about the current state of the peace process.

Huseinni said the conference was a necessary step towards ensuring an important role for Israel and the Palestinians in the region.

"We, Palestinians and Israelis, have a problem living on this land. On this land we have no oil. On this land we have no iron, no mines. But what we do have is minds."

Only in a state of cooperation, he said, can the talents of the next generation be fully realized to the benefit of the region.

Dayan referred to the personal contacts made at the conference. "When the time is right for you, there can be visits. You can take your Palestinian colleagues and friends to see things in Israel that are important to you. And you can ask to see things in the West Bank.

"It's not only important to understand. It's also important to remove ignorance. Lack of confidence and even hatred can be understandable, but it is fed by ignorance ... A group like this has an excellent chance to understand each other."

While Ofek and the Fatah Student Bureau have no immediate plans for a follow-up to the conference, all express a desire to continue the relationship between the two groups.

But for the most part, the future of the relationship will be in the contacts made between individuals.

Holocaust Awareness program held at McMaster

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — A Holocaust Awareness program organized by four members of the McMaster University Jewish Students Association (MUJSA), had "the highest attendance of any program we have ever had at McMaster," reports campus advisor, Sheila Freedman.

The audience of about 150 "exceeded my wildest expectations," she said. "Twelve years ago, we would have been lucky if 10 or 12 people had turned up."

She was especially delighted, said Freedman, who has been advisor to the MUJSA for the past 13 years, to see so many black, Asian and East Indian students in attendance, along with the members of the local Jewish community and several parents who came in from Toronto.

The four students who took part in last year's Anguish to Hope Mission to Poland and Israel were Michelle Eidlitz, Stephen Neufeld and Allison Lidsky, all of Toronto, and Candace Wiseman of Dundas.

They showed slides of their trip and Lidsky spoke briefly of the impact the visit to Auschwitz had had on her, and the profound shock she had felt when she entered one room not knowing what it was, and on looking up, saw the shower head and realized she was in a gas chamber.

The evening's main speaker was survivor, Frank Junger, who was introduced by Wiseman.

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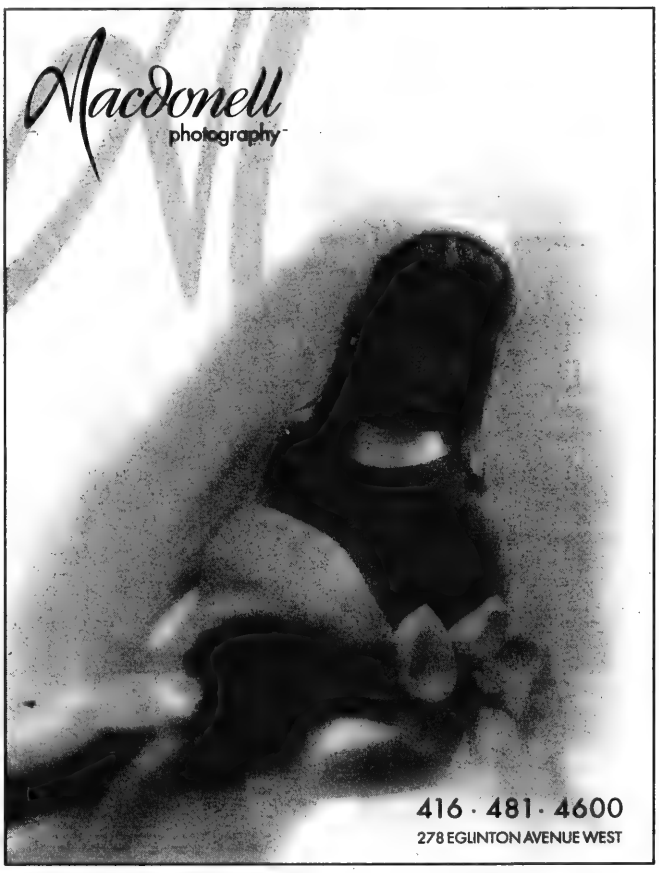

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 15, is deadline for Feb. 29 issue, and Thursday, Feb. 22, is deadline for March 7 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, Feb. 15

KIDS AND SEPARATION

Jewish Family & Child Service presents When You're About to Separate What to Tell the Kids. Learn about children's typical reactions and questions; how to deal with a "loving out" day; how to best meet your children's needs in the early stages of separation; 7 p.m., Promenade office, Promenade Mall, 3rd floor. **Elinor Gertner** 905-882-2331.

Friday, Feb. 16

ONEG SHABBAT SERVICE

West Toronto Jewish Community Association Oneg Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m., Swansee Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave. **Sharon** 236-2054.

Saturday, Feb. 17

A NIGHT OF LAUGHS

Na'amat-Aviva chapter's A Night of Laughs at Comedywood, 800 Steeles Ave. W. Doors open 7 p.m., showtime 8-10 p.m. $12 ($8 tax receipt for two or more advance tickets). **Doris** 905-771-7988.

WINE TASTING

Secular Jewish Association Evening of Wine Tasting, 7:30 p.m. RSVP **Brendy** 905-881-4814. Non-member $12.

Sunday, Feb. 18

JAZZ, JEWISH EXPERINCE

Du Maurier Arts concert, Jazz and the Jewish Experience, with **Fern Lindzon**, pianist/vocalist; **Brian Katz**, guitarist; and **Peter Telford**, bass; 3 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $5. **Joan Tooke**, 636-1880, ext. 299.

Monday, Feb. 19

SUPPORT GROUP

Support Group for Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. **Ruth** 763-9111, in confidence.

NEWTONBROOK ALUMNI

Newtonbrook Secondary School alumni are invited to the Alumni Association family event, 7-9 p.m. **Attorney General Charles Harnick** is guest speaker. 395-3280.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Tzedek, a Jewish social action group, launches its Campaign for Economic Justice with The Cutbacks and Economic Alternatives: Where Does the Jewish Community Fit In?, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Speakers **Ernie Lightman**, economist and professor of social work, U of T; **Jason Stevens**, Canadian Federation of Students; **Mark Adler**, St. Clair Meals on Wheels; **Rayna Nobler**, JF&CS; **Anne Schlifer**, Association of Jewish Seniors.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Bring in Rosh Chodesh Adar b'simchah at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Maariv for and by women 7:45 p.m. followed by shiur with **Ellie Gelman**, Zemirot l'Shabbat: Escape to Another World.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

ENLIGHTENED COOKING

United Synagogue Day School Parents' Association presents An Enlightening Evening with Rose Reisman, featuring **Rose Reisman's** new cookbook, *Enlightened Home Cooking*, 6:30 p.m. boutiques, 7:30 p.m. demonstration, Beth Tikvah Synagogue. $10 in advance, $15 at door. **Sharon** 905-764-5400.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch

[Cont'd. on page 27]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

and Learn in Retirement features Current Trends in Immigration with **Dina Polyak**, social worker, Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, noon, at the temple. Bring your lunch. Coffee, cookies served. $1.

VILLAGE SHUL AUCTION

Village Shul Auction, live and silent auction, mystery envelopes, light buffet, at Primrose Club, 273 St. Clair Ave. W. Doors open 6:30 p.m., auction at 8. $10 at the door.

Thursday, Feb. 22

KAMENETZKY WRITINGS

Canadian Friends of Darche Noam and Or Chaim Kollel lecture by **Rabbi Yitzchak Shurin** on Biblical Interpretations in the Writings of Rav Yaakov Kamenetzky, 8:15 p.m., Or Chaim Yeshiva, 159 Almore Ave.

Rabbi Shurin, principal, Midreshet Rachel, the women's branch of Darche Noam Institutions of Jerusalem, also lectures at Shomrai Shaboth Congregation, 585 Glengrove Ave., Saturday, Feb. 24, 8:30 p.m.

And What Else Is New...

PEACE IN PROGRESS

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Education Week series, Peace in Progress: Issues to Resolve:

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m., with Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University and B'nai Brith Canada, **Dore Gold**, *Jerusalem Post* columnist and TAU lecturer, speaks on Jerusalem.

Wednesday, Feb. 21, **Itamar Rabinovitch**, Israeli ambassador to the United States, speaks on The Golan Heights, 8 p.m. Dinner for the ambassador at 6 p.m. at the synagogue, $36. 633-3838.

SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Scholar in Residence Weekend, Feb. 23, 24, 25, on the theme Commitment, Challenge and Change, features **Rabbi David Woznica**, 92nd Street Y's Bronfman Centre for Jewish Life.

Friday, Feb. 23, 8 p.m., Oneg Shabbat, The First Four Questions G-d Will Ask Each of Us.

Saturday, Feb. 24, Shabbat luncheon, The Ten Commandments Confront Contemporary Values; Mincha study class 4:45 p.m., A New Look at the Portion of the Week; 8 p.m., melaveh malka and havdalah service followed by lecture and discussion, Leadership and What We Can Learn From Noah, Abraham and Moses as We Enter the 21st Century.

Sunday, Feb. 25, 9:15 a.m. services followed by breakfast, Cain and Abel: The Torah Speaks to Us About Human Nature.

COMEDY CENTRAL

Young Associates of the Israel Cancer Research Fund present *Comedy Central*, an evening of comedy and dancing Thursday, Feb. 29, Comedywood, 800 Steeles Ave. W. Doors open 8 p.m., show begins 9 p.m. $20 in advance, $25 at door. 487-5246.

GOOD VIBRATIONS

Good Vibrations, a four-session wellness series sponsored by Na'amat Canada: Monday, Feb. 26, Managing Stress, **Heather Rosen**; Tuesday, March 26, Re-Entering the Paid Workforce, **Vered Gorewicz** and **Lianne Krakauer**; Tuesday, April 30, The Food and Fitness Connection, **Marsha Rosen**; Tuesday, May 21, Conflict, Resolution and Effective Communication in the Family, **Barbara Benoliel**. All sessions 7:45 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Four sessions $35, single session $10. By reservation only. 636-5425.

COMEDY-AUCTION NIGHT

Beit Rayim Synagogue, 9711 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill, comedy-auction night Saturday, March 2, 7:30 p.m., featuring comic **Larry Horowitz**, auction by **Shelly Kofsky**, razzle dazzle raffle. $10. 905-770-7639 to reserve.

JEWISH AWARENESS

First Time Shabbat, Feb. 16-17, special weekend to introduce and re-introduce students to the fun and spirit of a traditional Shabbat experience — beginners services, explanation of rituals, at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Sponsored by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, Jewish Students Union, Jewish Student Federation, Hillel and Shaarei Shomayim Youth. Information/registration **Rabbi Michael Skobac** 512-0814.

Fire and Ice, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m., havdalah and ice skating at Forest Hill arena $3. Proceeds to Tay-Sachs and allied diseases. 736-5178.

BURGESS CONCERT

Temple Har Zion's 25th anniversary celebrations include a concert starring **Michael Burgess** of *Les Miserables* fame, Sunday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m., Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. $100 (about $60 receiptable). 905-889-2252.

THE PURIM PANOPLY

Test your wits at a multi-media challenge Monday, March 4, 8:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. All proceeds go to Zareinu Educational Centre. Information/tickets **Tamar** 780-0739 or **Dahna** 781-7437.

PARENTING GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Parenting the Young Child, Parenting the School Age Child and Teens begins in March; Single Parent Challenge begins Feb. 27; For Women Only begins March 4. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

HEART SAVER COURSE

On Wednesday, Feb. 28, Baycrest Centre Wellness Education Group presents a Heart Saver Course, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. $20 prepaid by Feb. 21. **Judy Chu** 785-2500, ext. 2340.

AISH HATORAH

Love Your Neighbor Like Yourself, Monday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

It's Not Just Me, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamensky**, Tuesday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m. Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

VOLUNTEER IN ISRAEL

Adult volunteers, teach conversational English to recent immigrants by joining the Yad BeYad program under the auspices of the Canada Israel Forum. You don't have to be a teacher; training is provided. Two- or three-week stay in July in a choice of eight locations. Information meeting Monday, Feb. 19, 8 p.m. 221-7384 or 445-4554.

HEBREW CLASSES

Kehillat Shaarei Torah Synagogue offers Hebrew classes, reading, writing, conversation with **Yael Lev**, daytime or evening, three levels, beginners, intermediate, advanced. Easy ulpan method. Yael 225-6151.

AARON NUSSBAUM AWARD

Dr. Aaron Nussbaum Award is for students furthering their Jewish education or planning careers in Jewish education or Jewish communal service. To be eligible, candidate must be a graduate of United Synagogue Day School, have applied to a recognized and approved undergraduate program which includes a significant Judaic studies component. For application forms and information: The Dr. Aaron Nussbaum Award Committee, United Synagogue Day School, 3072 Bayview Ave., Willowdale, M2N 5L3, or fax 225-9108. Deadline March 29.

JUDAICA GALLERY

The Royal Ontario Museum Judaica Gallery's new installation of Jewish ceremonial art displays over 60 objects representing the traditions of Jewish life in post-medieval Europe from the 1500s to the present. Gallery visit included with ROM admission. 586-8000.

FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Register now for spring and summer sessions of Earl Bales preschoolers. Nursery and parent and tot programs available. 905-731-7216.

TEL-AIDE

Tel-Aide: The Jewish Distress Line, is a telephone listening service. If you are lonely, depressed, confused or just need a friendly ear, the number is 636-9610.

For Seniors

Senior Adult Services, Bathurst Jewish Centre cruise to Alaska July 14-23, airfare, meals, entertainment, gratuities aboard the Star Princess, Anchorage, Vancouver, cancellation and medical insurance. **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: dance with live band Sunday, Feb. 25; Buffalo, March 14; Atlantic City, April 15-19; Catskills Raleigh Hotel July 22-28; musical *A Little Night Music*, April 17 matinee, St. Lawrence Centre; *Beauty and the Beast*, May 16, Princess of Wales Theatre; *She Loves Me Not* musical, Drayton Festival Theatre plus Farmers Market Kitchener-Waterloo, May 30. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Feb. 22 program is Polish film (English subtitles) *Warszawa, Year 5703*. Also, a Purim party Sunday, March 3, 7:30 p.m., music, dance, light supper, wine, hamantashen. Members $8, non-members $10. **Aaron Dahari** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Tulip Time Festival in Ottawa May 14, 15, 17, filling up quickly; Catskills Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Donations to Golden Book go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 224-5923.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute classes in conjunction with North York Board of Education: soft crafts with **Terry Winston** Mondays, 10 a.m. to noon, and creative writing with **Sylvia Warsh** Fridays 10 a.m. to noon. Register now.

Movie *Brigadoon* Sunday, Feb. 18, 2:30 p.m.

Musical show, **Helen Knight** Wednesday, Feb. 21, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. **Anna**.

at the JCC/BJC

Senior Adult Services, BJC, presents Low Fat Cooking and Tips for Eating Out, with **Rosalie Moscoe**, wellness consultant, Tuesday, Feb. 20, 1 p.m., Room 206. **Yvonne** 636-1880, ext. 259.

BJC and Junior UJA Club Purim extravaganza, Sunday, March 3. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at BJC. Purim Hotline 636-1880, ext. 284.

Gimme a Break, a March break camp March 11-15, for children ages 4-12, arts and crafts, music, dance, drama, swimming. 636-1880, ext. 378.

BJC is offering Tai Chi Yang, a slow moving exercise, in March. **Ruth Kula** 636-1880, ext. 291.

Good Age Club at Bloor JCC presents A Potpourri of Travel with **Tutzi Haspel-Seguin** award-winning TV personality and art consultant, slide presentation and stories of travels around the world, Thursday, Feb. 22, 2 p.m. members $1, non-members $2. **Judy** 924-6211.

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Saturday, February 17
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Singles Registry - busier than ever ... making relationships come true

As he put down the phone, the message centre was flashing again. This time there were three more calls to return. It is fast approaching 8:00 p.m., eleven hours after the **Jewish Singles Registry (JSR)** opened that morning. "It has been an incredible month!" a tired but jubilant **JSR** director Rob Singer exclaimed. "We have signed up more members this month, than any other, in our three and a half year history." They are fast approaching the 1,000 member mark, a milestone even Singer had not expected to happen so soon.

What makes the **JSR** so successful is its concept of allowing singles to select for themselves who they would like to go out with. By reviewing detailed and comprehensive biography profiles on each member, including **photographs**, members are provided with a clear "picture" of what their potential partner is all about. The **JSR** process is very much a two way street. You can be the **selector** or the **selectee**. Once both parties give mutual consent, phone numbers are then exchanged. The system enables members to make informed and quality dating choices, without relying on others to decide for them.

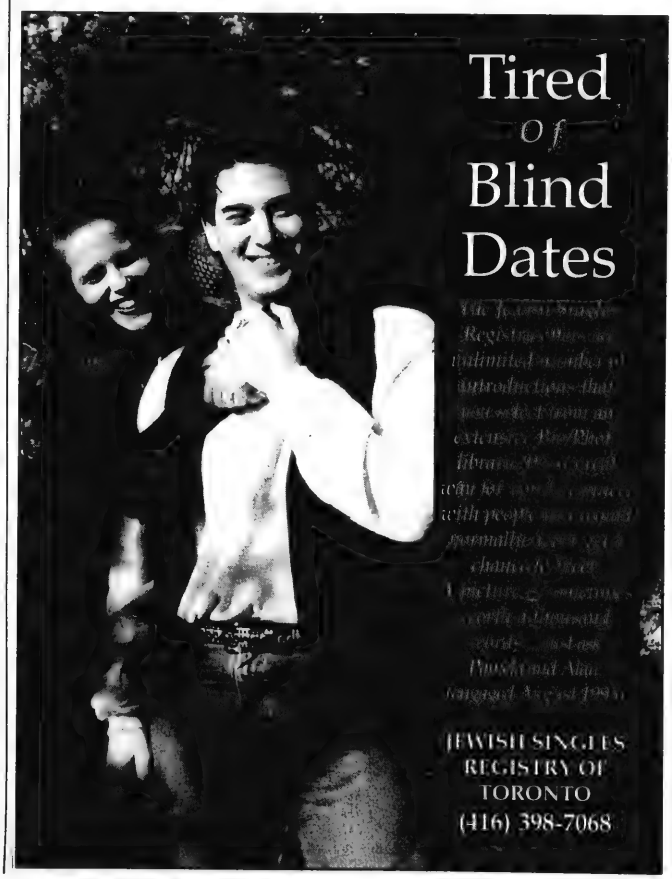
Another important factor which **JSR** members benefit from, are long office hours. The Registry office is open six days a week including evening hours and Sundays. A professional and dedicated staff ensures that **JSR** members are well taken care of on each visit. Members can make appointments as many times as they wish, and may choose up to three people each visit. A new customized computer system means faster connections. **Most new JSR members are usually dating within one week of joining the service.**

The **JSR** concept has been so successful that the service is **averaging an engagement every seven and a half weeks**. Hundreds of dates are set up each month, with thousands of selections made each year. With new members joining on practically a daily basis these figures are expected to rise even higher in the very near future.

What's even more interesting is that there are lots of things happening behind the scenes that will only be made public within the next few months. "We are not sitting still," remarked Singer. **"Both current and future JSR members are in for an exciting 1996."**

With intermarriage still on the rise, **JSR** accepts the challenge of being Toronto's number one Jewish dating service. It will continue to play a large role in the Toronto Jewish community.

Whether you are looking to meet soneone for friendship, a relationship, or even marriage, **now is the time to register with the Jewish Singles Registry of Toronto**. The phone number is **416-398-7068.**



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British intermarriage rate around 50 per cent: report

By SIMON ROCKER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON – Nearly half of British Jewish men under age 40 who are married or in steady relationships have a non-Jewish partner, according to a new survey of British Jewry.

The report, conducted by the Institute of Jewish Affairs, also showed that one in three British Jews did not belong to a synagogue.

And the survey indicated that British Jewish men intermarry more frequently than women.

The survey was based on questionnaires answered by more than 2,000 people. Its authors maintain that because of the size of the sample and the methodology used, the survey provides the most representative picture yet obtained of Britain's Jewish community.

For British Jewish men of all ages, 38 percent of those who are married or in steady relationships have a non-Jewish partner, according to portions of the report that have been released. It will soon be released in full. Among those under 40, the intermarriage rate rises to 44 percent.

For British Jewish women, the rate is estimated at between 20 and 25 percent.

In the United States, by comparison, the average intermarriage rate for Jewish men and women who have married during the past 10 years is 52 percent.

The gap in the intermarriage rate in Britain between the sexes has "clear implications," according to the report.

In the future, "either the rate in Jewish women will move towards that of men because of the unavailability of Jewish partners, or a higher proportion of Jewish women will remain unmarried," the survey said.

Figures on synagogue membership offer "no comfort" to the main Jewish religious bodies in Great Britain, the report also said.

Along with the finding that one in three British Jews do not belong to a synagogue, the survey found that more than 25 percent of the Jewish community had not attended synagogue during the previous year and that nearly half of the Jews under age 35 were not members of a synagogue.

Histadrut paper soon to close

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – *Davar Rishon* will close at the end of the week, following the Histadrut's decision last Sunday not to give the newspaper additional financial support.

"We'll publish the paper to the very last moment as a live and active newspaper," said editor-in-chief Ron Ben-Yishai, "not only in the hope that something can still be done to save it, but because even facing death, one must die on one's feet."

The decision to close *Davar Rishon* came after a long, tense Histadrut executive session, when it transpired that all the attempts to find investors for the newspaper had failed.

Members of the paper's executive committee appeared, outlined the newspaper's business and editorial achievements, and requested another $6 million over the next two years, to get "breathing space" to negotiate with potential investors.

"*Davar Rishon* has a right to exist "as an independent, serious newspaper. The others are tabloids," Ben-Yishai said. "*Ha'aretz*, the only other serious paper, is business oriented. It is essential that there is at least one serious newspaper which has a humanist orientation and social sensitivity, like ours."

He noted that "most investors, like those who bought *Ma'ariv* and the *Jerusalem Post*, knew that even if their investment fell flat, the papers had enough real estate to cover the costs. In *Davar*, however, all the real estate was mortgaged a long time before I arrived on the scene."

The Histadrut, which decided to get rid of the paper when Haim Ramon was elected chair two years ago, agreed to pay $1 million a year for three or four years to support the paper, on condition that an investor was found to purchase its stock with the workers. During the past year, the Histadrut paid $35 million to cover the newspaper's debts, severance fees, and maintenance. But the decision to cut off further financial support constituted a death sentence for *Davar Rishon*.

"This is a sad day for *Davar Rishon*, but also for the Israeli press, which will remain with three newspapers, privately owned by three families constantly at war with one another," one worker said.

A PRIVATE WORD

Since the death of Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister Shimon Peres (left) has assumed the defence portfolio and has taken on the task of furthering the peace process. He's seen here with Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak prior to the weekly cabinet meeting. [Israpet photo]

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Third Way movement challenges Labor party

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

Israel's newest political protest movement, The Third Way, is well on its way toward becoming a full-fledged party. Recently, its governing council voted unanimously to field a slate of candidates in this year's general election.

Composed mainly of disaffected members of the ruling Labor party, The Third Way hopes to win as many as a dozen seats in the Knesset, mainly at the Labor party's expense.

Barely capable even now of mustering sufficient votes to pass legislation, the Labor party is painfully aware of the damage The Third Way may inflict on its election prospects.

Late last year, in a bid to dissuade The Third Way from forming a party, the Labor party's secretary-general, Nissim Zvili, held talks with The Third Way's chair, Avigdor Kahalani (who is still technically a member of the Labor party). But Kahalani could not be budged.

The Labor party retaliated by barring Kahalani and his fellow maverick, Emanuel Zissman, also a Labor MK, from running in the party's upcoming primaries.

The rift between the Labor party and The Third Way had been growing before that fateful meeting. Last September, for example, Kahalani and Zissman defied the Labor party by voting against the Oslo 2 agreement.

Last month, the pair broke ranks with the party once again, supporting separate Knesset bills to enlarge Jerusalem's boundaries and for early elections.

The Third Way — which is to the left of Likud but to the right of Labor — was established in 1994 to lobby against an Israeli pullout from the Golan Heights.

In the summer of 1995, Kahalani and Zissman backed a bill which would have obliged the government to win a referendum by a two-thirds majority before making territorial concessions to Syria in peace talks. The bill was not passed, but The Third Way has continued its campaign to keep the Golan in Israeli hands.

The Third Way bears a strong resemblance to the short-lived Democratic Movement for Change (Dash), which was led by Yigal Yadin, a former chief of staff and a renowned archeologist.

In the 1977 election, Dash cut deeply into the Labor party's constituency, winning 15 seats and thus enabling the Likud to form its first government. Dash joined the Likud in a coalition and remained there until its breakup in 1981.

Nearly two decades later, The Third Way is poised to play the same spoiler's role as Dash.

Some members of The Third Way, however, are clearly uncomfortable with the idea of undermining the Labor party. Shortly after The Third Way announced its intention to contest the 1996 election as an independent entity, one of its founders, Mordechai Hod, resigned.

The Third Way's guiding motto is "peace with secure borders." Its overriding objective is to seize what it regards as the middle ground in Israeli politics. Third Way leaders believes that the Israeli electorate is disillusioned with the Labor party, yet wary of the Likud.

Like the Labor party, The Third Way favors territorial compromise and rejects the Greater Israel ideology of the Likud.

According to one of The Third Way's recent newspaper ads, "the two major parties — Labor and Likud — are being held captive by extremists, making it impossible to reach an agreement acceptable to the majority of Israel's citizens. Between the right's 'Not One Inch' policy and the left's 'Return to the 1967 Borders' there is a *third* way."

The ad, of course, is disengenuous, since the Labor party opposes a withdrawal to the pre-1967 lines. Be that as it may, The Third Way's peace plan is a hybrid affair, falling somewhere between the Labor party and the Likud.

Apart from hewing to the dogma that the Golan Heights cannot be given up, even in exchange for a peace treaty with Syria, The Third Way is of the view that the settlements on the West Bank should be concentrated into blocs containing about 90 percent of the Jewish population.

By all accounts, The Third Way's peace map would leave Israel with about half of the West Bank, a formula that the PLO would not and could not accept.

And The Third Way's insistence on retaining the Golan rules out any possibility of a deal with Syria.

Like the late Democratic Movement for Change, The Third Way has toyed with the notion of forming an alliance with the Likud should it win the election.

As well, The Third Way has considered aligning itself with two new parties, led by David Levy — the foreign minister in the last Likud regime — and by Natan Sharansky, the former Soviet Jewish activist.

Whatever happens, The Third Way is bound to make an impact in the next election. For that reason alone, the political scene is Israel is likely to be volatile.

The Week in Israel

Feb. 5

• A survey conducted by the Tami Steinmetz Centre for Peace Research at Tel Aviv University disclosed that the Israeli public's image of Yasser Arafat had improved over the last year. One year ago, 43.7 percent of the people polled regarded him as more of a terrorist than a statesman. This year the figure was 34.3 percent.

Feb. 6

• Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu and Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan formally agreed to ally their parties for the upcoming general elections. Under the agreement, the two parties will maintain their independence. Eitan will be slotted into the second position on the combined party list. As well, eight positions of the top 40 will be reserved for Tsomet party candidates. (*Eitan also agreed, later in the week, not to join a government headed by Shimon Peres if the latter were to win the election for prime minister.)*

Feb. 7

• *Ha'aretz* reported that Prime Minister Peres visited IDF and South Lebanon Army troops near the town of Marj Ayun in southern Lebanon.

Feb. 8

• The government announced a series of measures in the spheres of religion, education, health and absorption, in an attempt to improve the quality of services to immigrants from Ethiopia.

Feb. 9

• Public opinion polls released today showed Shimon Peres far ahead of Benjamin Netanyahu in the race for prime minister and Labor ahead of the Likud-Tsomet alliance in the elections to the Knesset. The Dahaf Institute gave Peres a 51-36 percent lead over Netanyahu and Labor a 45-36 percent lead over Likud-Tsomet. Gallup gave Peres a 52-36 percent advantage over Netanyahu and Labor a 48-35 percent lead over Likud-Tsomet.

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• Two thousand people were expected to attend the conference of the Makuya New-Zionist Movement of Japan.

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Rabin assassination put peace process on fast track

By DAVID NEWMAN

It is now three months since the fateful night on which Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated. While Israeli society has not fully recovered from this traumatic event,

COMMENTARY

and probably will not do so for a long time, the affairs of state continue to play out their role under the forceful leadership of Prime Minister Shimon Peres and his government.

The peace process did not, as the assassin intended, come to a halt as a result of his murderous act. If anything, it has been speeded up. The full, and so far successful, implementation of the Oslo 2 accords has been carried out according to schedule.

Despite the skepticism from many within Israel, the Palestinians have undertaken their first shaky step into the world of democratic elections. And for most Israelis, the transfer of power to the Palestinians is an irrevocable fact, one which will not be changed even if a Likud government should come to power in the coming Israeli elections, to be held later this year.

Much of the negotiation surrounding the final territorial arrangement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority is based on attempts to include as many settlements as possible within Israel. However many settlements remain under Israeli control in the final arrangement, these are only likely to include 60 to 70 percent of communities which are located in relatively close proximity to the pre-1967 border, and which can be included within Israel through border redemarcation or even possible territorial exchange between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. It is incomprehensible how any agreement can include settlements located far into the interior of the region, physically disconnected from Israel, surrounded on all sides by the Palestinian political entity.

But it is precisely these settlements, such as Eilon Moreh, Shiloh and Kiryat Arba, which form the ideological hard core of Gush Emunim and the West Bank settler movement. Herein lies the geographical dilemma of the final stage negotiations.

Those settlements which could be influenced to evacuate through promises of adequate monetary compensation are located in areas which have a greater likelihood of remaining part of Israel, while the settlements which will be the most difficult to evacuate are in locations where there will be little choice but to evacuate if a final agreement is to be reached with the Palestinians.

Any attempt to remove these communities will be met with physical opposition on the part of the settlers and their supporters. But any attempt to leave them *in situ* will equally be met with fierce opposition on the part of the Palestinian authority. The idea, as reported recently, that Peres is interested in returning to a functional system, rather than the Rabin concept of territorial arrangement is doomed to failure if it leaves settlement exclaves scattered throughout the West Bank.

The traumas of settlement evacuation await us around the corner and fill many of us with fear for the expected scenes of intra-Jewish violence. It will be a price that we will have to pay for a final peace agreement. But the price of social dislocation will be great and it remains to be seen whether we as a society will come through it in one piece.

On the Syrian front too, the new government has attempted to push ahead with much vigor. It is not easy to understand the logic behind this move. If the Israeli populace is slowly giving its support to the Palestinian accords, it is hard to see, at this stage, how the government would succeed in getting a majority vote in favor of full withdrawal, including settlement evacuation, from the Golan Heights.

To many observers, it would appear more logical for the government to hold elections around what has already been achieved. A return to power with an increased majority would enable the government to push ahead with the negotiations over the final territorial arrangement with the Palestinians, as well as attempting to make a deal with the Syrians.

Of course, the big unknown is the outcome of the Israeli elections. Immediately following the assassination it was thought that the government would cash in on the feeling in the street and turn to the electorate. Only the rules of the Israeli electoral system are such that even "early" elections would have meant a wait of anywhere from four to six months, during which time the political rhetoric would return to what it was prior to the assassination.

Whenever held, this could well be the last election to be fought out over issues of peace, security and foreign affairs. A return of the present government, headed by the architects of the current peace process, Peres and Yossi Beilin, would allow another four years to build on what has already been achieved. It could well signal the transformation of Israeli political life, as we move, hopefully, into a post-conflict era, one in which the issues at stake will be our social, welfare and educational systems, a healing of religious-secular tensions and an attempt to build an even better and healthier society — one which is free of daily war and existential threat.

David Newman teaches in the Department of Geography and Environmental Development and is Director of the Humphrey Centre for Social Policy at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

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Early elections declared

Cont'd from pg. 1

aftermath of Rabin's murder, Peres said, "I feel sympathy and support that I have never known. I feel that the young generation is preparing to put its stamp on the future of the country."

Peres went over the accomplishments of the government, citing continued immigration, reduction of unemployment, improvements in the educational system and road network, and reduction of terror. He promised that by the year 2,000 his government's policies would bring about "an end to war in the region" and a standard of living for Israelis that would be "no lower than that of France or England."

In a press conference held immediately after Peres', Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu welcomed early elections, saying they should have been held "a long time ago." Netanyahu said that these "are fateful elections in which each citizen will have to ask whom he trusts more to conduct the negotiations and maintain Israel's security. We will pose a clear alternative to the government's policy.

"Unlike the government, we will make sure Jerusalem remains undivided, that the Golan prospers under Israel's control, and that a Palestinian state is not established, but limited to self-rule areas. We will have to stabilize a situation gone out of control in a foolhardy, hasty, and reckless negotiating process with too small a return."

Netanyahu said the opposition would not quibble over the precise date of the elections. However, Likud officials strongly oppose two proposed changes in the election campaign law which they claim would put the opposition at a disadvantage .If the government insists on passing these laws, the Likud could withhold its support for whatever election date Peres proposes.

The controversial legislation would lift the ban on television appearances by candidates during the last 30 days of the campaign and would limit election propaganda to the state-financed television station.

While Netanyahu refrained from criticizing Peres' decision to call elections, other Likud MKs blasted the move. Uzi Landau and Limor Livnat accused Peres of trying to capitalize on the wave of support for Labor in the aftermath of the Rabin murder. "It's cynical exploitation," said Landau.

In his speech, Peres addressed these charges, saying: "I didn't create this reality (of support for Labor), and I am not about to deny it."

A weekend poll gave Labor a large lead despite last week's agreement between Netanyahu and Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan, which was intended to boost overall support for both parties. The poll, conducted by the Dahaf Institute, gave Peres 51percent to Netanayhu's 36 percent. Labor got 45 seats, while the combined Likud-Tsomet party received 36 seats – four less than the two parties had in the 1992 election. The upcoming vote marks the first time that Israelis will elect their prime minister directly – a change that the late Prime Minister Rabin fought hard to bring about.

In other election news, David Levy reiterated that he would not return to the Likud, and launched his campaign with a promise to address glaring social issues like poverty.

Former prisoner of Zion Natan Sharansky also jumped into the ring, announcing that his movement, Yisrael Ba'aliya, would become a political party and run in the elections. According to the Dahaf poll, Levy's and Sharansky's parties would garner 3 seats each.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Israeli rabbi meets Mandela

By SUZANNE BELLING
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JOHANNESBURG – Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau met last week with South African President Nelson Mandela at his Pretoria residence, where the two leaders compared notes on their periods of imprisonment.

Rabbi Lau said in an interview that he and Mandela "found a common language from the very first moment.

"We were both prisoners, he for 27 years and I for only six – between the ages of two and eight in concentration camps during the Holocaust," said the rabbi, who was on a three-day visit to South Africa.

Mandela's opposition to apartheid in South Africa was a major factor in his imprisonment.

"I told the president that the only difference was, as written in his book *Long Walk to Freedom*, that while he hoped for a better tomorrow, we didn't want to see the sun rise on another day, Rabbi Lau said.

"I also told him that now we could thank God we both had survived and were able to lead our people, as in Exodus, people who came from slavery to freedom."

Mandela said he was hoping to finalize arrangements with the Israeli Embassy to visit the Jewish state in the near future, Rabbi Lau said.

"I promised him the red carpet treatment when he comes," the rabbi added.

Mandela feels a great "warmth towards South Africa's Jewish community," Rabbi Lau said. "He told me of the contribution Jews had made in this country in all spheres."

Russian neo-Nazis face trial

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW – The trial of three members of a Russian neo-Nazi group known as the Werewolf Legion began last week in Yaroslavl, a city 130 miles north of Moscow.

The group, which was formed in the spring of 1994 in Moscow, includes about a dozen youths allegedly bent on carrying out acts of terror.

Two of the group's members on trial last week are facing charges of homicide, robbery and hooliganism.

The third defendant is the group's leader, Igor Pirozhok, who is accused of inciting racial hatred.

Pirozhok was charged under Article 74 of the Russian criminal code, which makes acts of inciting ethnic and racial hatred a criminal offence.

Shortly after it was organized, the Werewolf Legion allegedly attempted to set fire to the Olympic sports hall in Moscow, which was serving as the site of a messianic Jewish conference.

The group was also reported to have planned a series of arson attacks on movie theatres that were showing Steven Spielberg's acclaimed Holocaust film *Schindler's List.*

Prior to his arrest, Pirozhok said in interviews with several Moscow newspapers that "democrats, Yankees and kikes should be wiped out ruthlessly."

One of the legion's stated goals is the "final solution of the Jewish question by using radical methods."

The Moscow daily *Izvestia* said last year that the organization's ideology was based on "anti-communism, anti-Semitism, racial segregation and anti-liberalism."

Direct flights link Israel, Tunisia

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The first direct flights between Israel and Tunisia will take groups of Israelis to a religious celebration on the Tunisian island of Djerba for Lag b'Omer.

This was announced Sunday by Yossi Englander, chair of Yossi Tours, who reached an agreement with Tunisian Tourism Minister Sallah Moaui.

Yossi Tours signed an agreement to execute the flights with TTS, a large Tunisian tour operator and owner of Nouvel Air, a Tunisian charter company which is to carry out the flights.

The first three flights are to be on MD83s, carrying 167 passengers each, with flight time about 3 1/2 hours. The return flights are to be from Tunis, with passengers having the option of buying a flight ticket or a full tour package.

For the past two years, the company has brought Israelis to Tunisia on package tours via Rome and Malta. Englander said he hopes to initiate a weekly charter flight. The Lag b'Omer flight will cost $500 to $600 (US).

In other air news, Adria, the Slovenian national airline, has resumed direct flights between Ljubljana, the capital of the former Yugoslav republic, and Tel Aviv. The airline is represented here by Mirus Services.

THINKING OF SPRING

Until a few weeks ago, Israelis were wondering whether winter was really coming. They're wondering no more as Israel's sparse sprinklings have turned to heavy drenchings. In higher elevations, snow has fallen. Jerusalem experienced its first snowfall of the year and although the *sheleg* didn't stay, it caused traffic jams and sent people scurrying for shelter. [Isranet photo]

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Black, Jewish music featured at free concert

By PAULA CITRON
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – February is Black Heritage Month and as part of the celebrations, black soprano Denise Williams and Jewish pianist Brahm Goldhammer have put together a recital of black and Jewish music. The free noon hour concert will take place Feb. 15 at the Glen Gould Studio.

"We were two people, a black and a Jew, who worked closely together and we wanted to do something positive in the wake of the divisions that occurred between the black and Jewish communities over *Showboat*," Goldhammer says. (*Showboat*'s opening in North York was marred by accusations of racism tinged with anti-Semitic overtones.)

Goldhammer, an accompanist and vocal coach, is a faculty member of the Royal Conservatory of Music and music director of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am synagogue.

Bridging divisions between communities

Antiguan-born Williams has sung in ensembles as diverse as the Caribbean Chorale and the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir. She is also an accomplished recitalist, equally at home singing opera or Broadway hits. Because of her involvement in Jewish choirs, Williams' command of Yiddish has been highly praised.

"I joined the Jewish Folk Choir because they were looking for professional singers," she says, "but I soon became enamored with the repertoire. I come from a strong church background so I was completely at home with the devotional nature of much of the music. I also loved the richness of the melodies."

Goldhammer became Williams' vocal coach three years ago and the two discovered that their cultures had many elements in common.

"There is a basis in spirituality, particularly Old Testament themes of suffering," Goldhammer says. "The idea of slavery and redemption runs strongly through both histories. For example, many spirituals use the metaphor of the children of Israel to refer to oppressed blacks, the same expression which for Jews has an emotional link with the Torah. In fact, the more we talked about the *Showboat* mess, the more things Denise and I found that we had in common, like similar experiences growing up as part of minority people," Goldhammer says.

"In setting up the program," Williams says, "we chose music written by either Jewish or black composers, folk music from both cultures and music written on Jewish or black themes by others."

Spirituals form the book ends of the concert, while Jewish traditional music is represented by Ladino and Yiddish folk songs. Williams has also tucked in a Calypso song from the West Indies. On the classical side, there is Maurice Ravel's *Kaddisch*, plus selections from Song of Songs by Toronto composer Srul Irving Glick. Black and Jewish influences come together in *My Man's Gone Now* from George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*.

Both Williams and Goldhammer stress the importance of the joint concert beyond its musical novelty.

"It may be an old cliche," says Goldhammer, "but music can be a harmonious bridge that brings people together, a place where they can share things in common. How many events in Toronto reflect a half-black, half-Jewish sensibility? We're probably the only thing, and this is sad because Jews and blacks have more in common than they do apart."

Denise Williams and Brahm Goldhammer. [Russel-Carib photo]

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Film Fest Fundraiser: As it prepares for its fourth annual cinematic celebration, the Toronto Jewish Film Festival is hosting a fundraiser March 18 involving a screening and a party.

The film is *Cafe Au Lait* by French director Mathieu Kassovitz. A hit from last year's festival, *Cafe Au Lait* focuses on a comic ménage à trois: Felix, who is Jewish; Jamal, who is black Muslim; and Lola, who is pregnant. A comically volatile arrangement emerges when the three move in together.

The screening is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Hyland Theatre, Yonge and St. Clair, Toronto. A party is planned afterwards at Tasker's, a nearby restaurant. The admission of $25 includes free food and one free drink. 416-324-8600.

In preparation for this year's festival (May 2 to 9), film festival staff have viewed more than 100 films. Already confirmed are films on the Jewish communities in Cuba, India and Greece; films on Yemenite Jews in pre-state Israel; several dramas from Poland, Israel, France and Russia; and some avant-garde short films. Festival passes purchased before April 1 are $70.

* * *

Daniel String Quartet: Music Toronto presents the Toronto debut of the Daniel String Quartet Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. in the Jane Mallett Theatre of the St. Lawrence Centre, Toronto. The performance includes quartets by Mozart, Shostakovich, Schubert and the Hungarian-born Israeli composer Odon Partos.

Founded in Israel in 1974 by Dutch, Soviet (Romanian) and Israeli-born musicians, the quartet took its name from Daniel House in the 19th-century Israeli village of Zichron Yaacov, a music centre built in memory of a pianist who died in the 1930s. It was the first official string quartet of the Israeli Army until its members moved to the Netherlands, where they perform in their own annual chamber music festival.

The composer Odon Partos was the founding principal violist of the Palestine Orchestra (later the Israel Philharmonic). He was also director of the Tel Aviv Academy of Music. The Daniel String Quartet is set to play the first of the composer's two string quartets, *Concertino for String Quartet*, which he wrote in 1934.

* * *

Royal Ontario Museum: The ROM's Judaica Gallery reopened earlier this month with a new installation of Jewish ceremonial art. More than 60 objects representing the rich traditions of Jewish life in post-medieval Europe illuminate aspects of Jewish religious culture from the 1500s to the present day. Items include circumcision kits to funerary society ritual cups, New Year's greeting cards and Passover plates.

Admission free with admission to the ROM. 416-586-8000.

* * *

Jazz & the Jewish Experience: Pianist-vocalist Fern Lindzon, guitarist Brian Katz and bassist Peter Telford present an afternoon concert in the Leah Posluns Theatre, North York, Feb. 18, 3 p.m. The program is an interesting mix of original contemporary jazz inspired by Jewish themes, traditional Klezmer music vocal jazz standards. Admission $5.

* * *

In Brief: The Paul Brooks Trio, featuring Marci Wilson, becomes the regular attraction at the Heritage Arms restaurant in Markham (905-294-1300) every Saturday evening as of Feb. 24. Wilson is an accomplished singer who also happens to be my sister. She and jazz guitarist Harris Lusher recently drew an overflow crowd to Graffiti's, a club in Toronto's Kensington Market.

The four-day event, Myth and Reality: A Canadian Landscape, is a call to action to save the Algoma Highlands and Algonquin Park from ecological destruction. It features numerous musicians, speakers and an exhibition of works of contemporary Canadian artists. Feb. 15 to 19, DeLeon White Gallery, 455 King St. W., Toronto. 416-597-9466.

Plan now for many tomorrows

TORONTO — At this time of year, we are bombarded with materials suggesting how you can best maximize your Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP).

But by age 71, an RRSP must be converted into a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF), an annuity, or cashed in.

An RRIF has minimum annual payouts and must be completely dispersed before age 95. Consequently, as you approach age 65, your portfolio should be modified, in order to start to provide regular payouts of income.

Nathan Mechanic, investment advisor at Richardson Greenshields, says statistics on the life expectancy for 65-year-olds suggest that the money must last 25 to 30 years. He believes that the statement made by George Burns that "I don't buy green bananas" no longer applies, because seniors know that there will be many tomorrows.

Seniors already know that Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GICs) and bonds provide reliable and regular income to a retirement portfolio.

"The steady decline in interest rates, however, is making it harder to earn a good return from a portfolio of only GICs. To achieve higher returns, seniors today should have a portion of their portfolios in equities and in longer term bonds," Mechanic says.

"Persons approaching age 65 are generally uncomfortable with equities, with longer term bonds, and with any investment that doesn't have the word 'guaranteed' in it."

He says in order to set up a portfolio that can yield more than the 6¼ percent return available from GICs recently, and to sleep at night, seniors need to find an advisor who can understand their tolerance for risk and still create a portfolio that meets both their income needs and risk parameters. Other sources of income should also be discussed.

Generally, a portfolio balanced between stocks and bonds will provide a higher level of income and lower level of risk than an all-bond portfolio. Balanced mutual funds are an easy way for seniors to accomplish this.

Mechanic notes that in 1995, many balanced mutual funds returned more than 15 percent for the year. Including international mutual funds such as the Templeton Growth Fund in the portfolio is another way of achieving these goals.

A careful review of projected annual expenses is a prerequisite for planning, with consideration given to the increase in expenses that may occur if a person's health declines.

"Don't be afraid to ask questions of your advisor. The more you understand, the more capable you will be to make educated decisions about your future," he says.

Exhibit documents tragedy

In April 1994, after a plane carrying the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi was shot down, an episode of genocide erupted, forcing a million refugees to flee to Zaire. The American Joint Distribution Committee put together a coalition of Jewish organizations to raise money and send medical personnel to deal with the tragedy. For two weeks, Toronto photographer Stephen Epstein captured the work done by the team of dedicated people. His pictures are on display until Feb. 23 at Gallery 44, 401 Richmond St. W., Suite 120, Toronto. Call 416-979-3941

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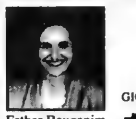
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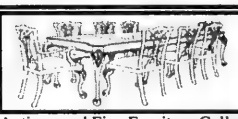
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TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Petra Travelogue: We left Aqaba at dawn. Squat buildings and palm trees receded into the desert behind us as our jeep spat up clouds of dust.

Travelling the King's Highway, we reached Petra in two hours, and took a light breakfast at the Petra Forum, a local hotel. Afterwards, we hired two fine horses – Ruba a noble white steed, myself a sturdy roan – and penetrated the mouth of the Siq, the serpentine arroyo or canyon that winds into the ancient city.

A trained guide, Ruba had been here many times before. Still, she seemed as awed as I, entering Petra for the first time. We rode in silence as the Siq became steeper and narrower around us. While most of the trail was in shadow, sunlight capriciously brightened patches of the colorful rock and danced in quivering patches on the ground. High above us, desert thickets protruded from the craggy rocks.

For almost three-quarters of an hour, the grating of horses' hooves on rock was practically the only sound we heard. Rounding a final bend, we confronted an astonishing sight: the towering and majestic facade of the Treasury, an architecturally splendid building carved into solid rock. At this point the Siq opens into a broad plaza, beyond which lies a city of 10,000 rock-hewn dwellings. The builders were the Nabateans, a reclusive biblical-era tribe, and the Romans who conquered them.

What made the site so desirable to both the Nabateans and the Romans was its seclusion. Strange and vast, this unique metropolis is ringed by mostly impenetrable mountains. Lost to Western travellers since the Crusades, rediscovered by a Swiss explorer in 1812, Petra is considered one of the wonders of the ancient world.

As in centuries past, the only way of getting into Petra is by foot, horse, camel or donkey-cart. Since the Israel-Jordan peace agreement of 1994, more than 100,000 Israelis and probably many more foreign tourists in Israel have crossed the newly opened border into Jordan, and most have visited Petra.

It has been only in the last half-century or less that the city has become accessible to sightseers. Before then, Bedouins camping in the stone dwellings would often greet travellers with rifle-fire. No one lives in Petra any more, Ruba told me. Several years ago, the government declared the site a national archeological treasure and transferred its inhabitants to a nearby village.

We inspected the monumental ruins for a couple of hours. When the sun became merciless, we ducked into a large rock chamber that had once probably been someone's living room; it was dark and chilly inside. To our surprise, a Bedouin boy had fashioned the ancient cubicle into a tiny variety shop. We bought two Pepsis in old-fashioned six-ounce bottles.

Re-emerging into daylight, we spotted a stout elderly Bedouin woman sipping tea. She was dressed all in black and sitting on a rock in the shade of some dwarfish trees.

Ruba seemed to recognize her at once. "Did I say there were no more Bedouins living here any more? No, that was wrong. She's the only one," she said.

The Old Woman of Petra looked possibly 600 years of age. She seemed somehow to embody all the old mysterious ways that live on in the Arabian desert. Her face was wrinkled and tattooed, her head kerchiefed, her teeth rotten, her black eyes reflecting an ineffable knowledge. Ruba spoke with her a moment in Arabic.

"She lives here all alone," Ruba told me as we walked away. "The rest of her tribe accepted the government relocation, leaving her behind. She says that Petra is her home and she doesn't want to leave."

A further revelation dispossessed me of the naive assumption that the old woman, living without modern conveniences, would know little of civilization beyond this petrified desert world. She had surprised Ruba by asking about – of all things – the performance of certain commodities on the New York stock market.

As Ruba explained, the woman's son had married a Swiss woman and had gone to work for a bank in Zurich.

"She's hoping his investments do well so that he can afford to bring her grandchildren here for a visit."

CITIBANK IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM – Citibank's opening of a representative office in Israel last week is expected to speed up the arrival of other foreign banks here, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel said.

Citibank, a subsidiary of Citicorp, is the largest U.S. bank.

At a press conference to announce Citibank's becoming the first major international banking institution to establish a presence here, Frenkel said the central bank is already aware of other institutions which are considering setting up shop.

MEDIOCRE GRADES FOR LOCAL BANKS

JERUSALEM – Israeli banks received mediocre ratings in the first-ever survey of the local banking scene performed by Moody's Interbank Service, a world leader in valuation of financial institutions.

The company has rated the banks according to Bank Financial Strength Ratings (BFTR), based on a scale ranging from A, which represents exceptional, to E, which is very weak.

The survey indicated that Israel Discount Bank and First International Bank have higher BFTR ratings than the country's other large banks.

Moody's rated Bank Discount and First International Bank (FIBI) C and Bank Hapoalim, Bank Leumi and United Mizrahi D+.

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Israel's national hockey team upset by Greece

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In what must be considered a major disappointment, Israel dropped two matches to the Greek national team in the first-ever international hockey tournament held in Metulla.

The losses eliminated Israel from the chance of qualifying for the 1998 winter Olympics in Japan as well as for this year's International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Group C championships.

Israel did manage to get some glory in the national team's home debut when it romped over the visiting Turks by a 19-0 margin.

The Greeks, who also hammered Turkey 19-0, were the only one of the three teams to qualify for the world championships and they remain an Olympic hopeful.

Israeli team captain Oded Orgil, an Israeli-born defenceman who lives in Toronto, said Israel lost despite having upgraded its team. However the Greek squad, which Israel managed to beat in past tournaments, were much improved thanks to the infusion of about 12 or 13 Greek players living in Canada. Most play in the Metro Toronto and Ontario Junior A leagues (Tier II), as well as in Ontario industrial leagues. They're backstopped by a University of Toronto goalie, he added.

Bolstered by that lineup, the Greeks handled Israel 4-1 in the opening game of the tournament — the world championship qualifier.

The Israelis, who added Orgil, right-winger Miron Schacham, defenceman Jojo Rusinek, right-winger Sergie Gudzik and centre Yaron Orgil from Canada, let the game get away early, Orgil said.

The Greeks played a Canadian-style "dump and chase" game with lots of physical contact and that apeared to unnerve Israel's Russian-born players, Orgil said. The ex-Europeans on the Israeli squad didn't like getting hit and they retaliated with their sticks. That gave the Greeks plenty of power play opportunities and they capitalized, jumping into a 3-0 first period lead.

They added a fourth goal in the second — also with the man advantage — and Israel got its lone marker on a shot from former Leningrad winger Benny Shapiro.

Orgil believes that talent-wise, the Israelis were on a par with the Greeks, but the Israelis "weren't prepared to sacrifice," to take a hit to make a pass and that cost them dearly.

"They seemed a little hungrier," he said.

In Game 2, the Israelis toyed with the Turks and ran up the score to register a 19-0 win. Soviet-born goalie Boris Amromin got the goose-egg.

Greece then duplicated Israel's score, beating the Turks 19-0, officially ending Israel's hopes for advancing to the IIHF Group C event.

Game 3 saw a rematch with the Greeks in the Olympic-qualifier match but Israel "didn't come prepared to play," Orgil said.

Some of the Euro-Israelis were wary, if not puck-shy, after the physical style employed by Greece in Game 1. Israel fell behind 4-0 after only six minutes and Israeli goaltender Evgeny Gusin, who had stints in the Colonial and East Coast Hockey Leagues, pulled himself from the twine tent in a bid to wake up his teammates.

After Israel narrowed the margin to 4-1 and then 5-2, Greece broke the game wide open late in the second period and cruised to a 10-2 victory.

The game was marred by plenty of penalties, Orgil said, due to Israeli frustration, chippy play by the native-born Greeks and bad officiating by the Swiss ref.

One Greek submarined sabra defenceman Ran Oz, who got up and began pummelling the first Greek player he could find. (He turtled.) Oz got a game misconduct.

Later, pushing and shoving resulted after a Greek forward kept jabbing at Amromin after he'd frozen the puck.

Even Orgil was frustrated by the ref's bizarre calls and was ejected from the game for yapping with only a minute or two to play.

Despite the losses, Orgil was impressed with Metulla's recently-completed Olympic-size rink, the jewel in Metulla's Canada Centre recreation complex. The complex was built with funds transferred to Metulla through the United Israel Appeal.

Unfortunately, the Israeli media did not give the tournament much play and the approximately 1,000 seats were never full, he said. Orgil put that down to poor publicity and lack of marketing by the Russian-run Israel Ice Hockey Federation.

Hoopsters to go head-to-head

By HARLAN ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — Hoops lovers, set your VCRs now.

At 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 17, NBC will televise a hardcourt matchup between the most famous Catholic college in the world, Notre Dame, and the University of Connecticut, rated among the top five teams in college basketball.

What makes the event unique is that both squads feature prominent Jewish stars.

Leading the Fighting Irish is freshman Doug Gottlieb, wearing 44, while the UConn Huskies will rally around point guard Doron Scheffer, a senior who wears No. 11.

It's a six-foot rookie and a team struggling to reach the .500 mark versus a six-foot-five veteran and a team with a good chance to win the national championship.

In the teams' first meeting on Dec. 6 at South Bend, Ind., UConn won easily as Scheffer, a native of Ramat Efal, Israel, led the scoring with 23 points. He sunk four of seven three-point shots, added eight rebounds, four assists and three steals while committing only two turnovers.

Gottlieb came off the bench to play 22 minutes, score four points, dish out three assists and commit one turnover against the Huskies' pressure defence.

The Tustin, Ca. resident has become a starter since then, averaging 28.7 minutes per game. He's the team's fourth-leading scorer with a 4.8 average, is first in assists (105) and steals (31) and also, as is common for a point guard, first in turnovers (45).

This season, Gottlieb is shooting .345 from the floor, .278 from three-point range and only 42 per cent (21 of 50) from the free-throw line, where the Irish are the worst in the Big East Conference.

Gottlieb scored 10 points against UCLA and had 11 assists against San Diego and 10 against West Virginia.

The Irish lineup has only one senior starter and five of its top seven players are freshman or sophomores.

It's an entirely different situation for the high-flying Huskies, who start four seniors and a junior. Shooting guard Ray Allen, a junior, is forecast to be a top five pick in the NBA draft and a pro career could be in the cards for Scheffer, according to Marty Blake, head of scouting for the NBA.

'Israeli iceman' cometh

Blake, who is Jewish and has been involved with pro basketball for nearly 50 years, said, "[Scheffer] can play in the NBA. Point guards are born, not made. He can pass, he can shoot and he's got a *Yiddishe kopf*. He's a smart player.

"He could be making $250,000 a year playing pro ball in Israel right now.

"People are questioning his speed, but not our NBA people. As for speed being a factor, I have a two-word answer: Larry Bird."

After averaging 11.9 and 10.6 points per game (PPG) and serving mainly as a feeder for current NBA players Donny Marshall and Donyell Marshall, the "Israeli iceman" has stepped up his point production this season. He's averaging 16.1 PPG, second to Allen's 23.5; he's shooting .428 from the field, a fine .403 from three-point range and .849 from the foul line. He's averaging 4.7 rebounds, leads the team with 144 assists and has committed only 64 turnovers.

Scheffer has outscored Allen in several games and has had one "triple double" with 10 or more points, rebounds and assists.

As for whether Scheffer has the physical ability to guard the NBA's slick point guards, Blake said, "Let the $1 million-a-year coaches figure that out. I just say he can play in the NBA. When you get in the NBA, you get real coaching and you play 100 games against the best players in the world.

"You don't get faster, you get quicker; you learn how to steal a step or two, to anticipate another player's moves. And Doron is very, very smart. I like him very much."

"I can't predict what round he'll be drafted in," Blake said, "but I remember 12 teams passing on Karl Malone (a perennial NBA all-star)."

Scheffer is one of the premier players who's been invited to attend the NBA draft on June 26 so he can be shown on television when he's picked by his new team.

Correction

TORONTO — Our story last week, *Jewish Schools Prepare for Hockey Tourney*, failed to indicate that three of the four schools have female players on their rosters.

The tournament, which runs from 9 a.m. to 3. p.m. on Feb. 19 at the Forest Hill Arena, has been named the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Tournament.

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Health news

Quick use of CPR saved swimmer's life

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Shirley Shulman and Allon Hollander just happened to be in the right place at the right time — and Ben Richman can thank his lucky stars for it.

One afternoon a little over a month ago, Richman was swimming laps at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) pool when he blacked out.

"The next thing I know, I was supposed to have left this world and now I'm back," he said.

Though he couldn't have known it at the time, what happened when he lost consciousness was a story of cool professionalism and calm under pressure when it appeared that Richman's life was slipping away thanks to a heart attack.

Hollander, the lifeguard on duty at the time, noticed that Richman was in distress and had grabbed onto a lane-divider in the pool's shallow end. Immediately realizing something was seriously wrong, he called in a "code red" — an indication to the BJC fitness staff that there was a life-threatening, emergency situation in the pool.

Shulman, director of the women's health club, was in the locker room at the time. Hearing the emergency call, she immediately headed through the women's shower room to the pool. There she saw Hollander in the water next to Richman, holding him up. With the help of a third staffer, they pulled the unconscious heart-attack victim out of the water.

At the time, Richman wasn't breathing and they couldn't find a pulse.

"Within seconds of taking him out of the water, we initiated CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation)," Shulman recalled.

Using a special mouthpiece that fit over Richman's mouth, "Allon breathed in and I did the chest compression, very much like you see in *ER* except this was the real thing," she said.

After a few minutes, officers from the fire department, the first of three rescue crews, arrived on the scene and took over the CPR work. Three or four minutes later, an ambulance crew arrived.

Using a tube pushed down Richman's throat (to force air into his chest) and employing chest compression, "they were getting him and then losing him. It was tenuous at the time. They got a pulse that was very weak and then they lost it," Shulman said.

A paramedic crew was also summoned and they administered epinephron, an adrenaline drug administered intravenously that stimulates the heart.

But still there was no response. At that point, after Richman had been removed from the wet pool deck and taken to the aquatics office, the paramedics deployed defibrillators — electric shock pads "where the body literally goes off the floor," Shulman said.

After two or three electric shocks, they finally got a faint, regular pulse.

When he was finally stabilized, Richman was taken to Branson Hospital for recovery.

A former instructor in CPR, Shulman said that during the crisis situation, "I found I reacted calmly. I knew this had to be done, do it. I remembered what I'd been taught ... and Allon did too and it just came together."

As they departed the scene, one of the fire rescue crew turned to the crowd that had gathered and said "whoever did the CPR saved this man's life." Although the full impact of what they'd done didn't sink in at the time, later, when they had time to digest it, "we had the warm fuzzies," Shulman said.

Shulman's and Hollander's life-saving intervention didn't go unnoticed as the North York chapter of the Heart and Stroke Foundation recently presented them with their Lifesaver Award.

As for Richman, he's back at home now, recovering and eternally grateful to Shulman and the others.

"Is there anything I can say that measures up to what they did for me? They saved my life," he said.

New detox technique may help drug addicts

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Bethlehem will become the world's first town to be weaned completely off drugs, using a new form of treatment that will reduce heroin and cocaine use to the point where selling drugs will no longer be profitable, its proponents say.

The project by CITA, an international centre for treatment of drug addiction, is based on an ultra-rapid opiate detoxification (UROD) process which can wean an addict painlessly off physical drug dependency in six hours. This is followed by six months of psychotherapy.

CITA operates in Israel and a dozen countries in North America, Europe and East Asia.

"This is a new concept we have introduced," said CITA founder, Dr. Juan Jose Legada of Spain.

The speed of the detoxification process allows CITA to treat up to 6,000 patients a year and allows for mass simultaneous detoxification of entire communities. Until now, when an individual was treated independently of other drug users in his neighborhood or even in his own family, the chances were great that he would return to the habit.

"To treat a town is to stop drug trafficking," and this will reduce the rate of recidivism, Legada said.

Claudette Habash of Caritas, the Vatican-based welfare agency which is helping fund the project, said drug use among Palestinians has increased "at least four times since the 1970s," but there are no clear figures, as shame often compels families to keep addicts hidden. The new treatment — painless, fast and free to patients — is expected to lure them out of the closet.

Habash conservatively estimates that there are 150 addicts in Bethlehem and 300 to 400 among Palestinians in Jerusalem. The drugs come mostly from Syria and Lebanon, she says.

Bethlehem's drug problem came to light six years ago when thieves stole gold teeth from corpses in the Latin cemetery. Mayor Elias Freij said at the time that the purpose of the thefts was to fund the thieves' drug habit.

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ARNOLD-CLARK PRIME BLDG LOTS FROM $349,900
Lot size 100 x 180 & 100 x 300, plans available. *A. Sidofsky

"SPRING FARM" — 1ST AD!
Large beautiful 3 bdrm, about 2,400 sq. ft., large principal rooms, double garage on a court! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-CENTRE — FABULOUS LOT!
91 x 180 ft. in million $ area, has livable house, can build up to 10,000 sq. ft. *Alfred Benaroia

FAB NEW LISTING NEAR "THE POMENADE"
Sensational 2,101 sq. ft., 4 bdrm with gorgeous lower level, long closing, asking $299,000. *Michael Millstone

CLARK-YONGE — LARGE FREEHOLD TOWNHOME
Hardwood, white kit, walk-out to deck $264,900. *Sarah Rovet

BATHURST MANOR
Large 3 bdrm bungalow, fin. bsmt apartment with separate entry, dble garage, new kitchen +++ *Ted Waxman

BATHURST & CLARK — 1ST AD!
$239,900 — Unbelievable value! 4 bdrms, finished bsmt, main floor family room, won't last! *Allen Sidofsky

BATHURST & CENTRE — MOVE-IN CONDITION!
Great starter home plus nanny's quarters. *Sarah Rovet

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

YONGE & CLARK — SHOWS TO PERFECTION!
3 Bdrms, about 2,600 ft, granite, french doors. *Sarah Rovet

CLARK & YONGE ASKING ONLY $169,900
2 Bdrms & solarium, large white kitchen. Call *Sarah Rovet

BATHURST & CLARK — 1ST AD!
Exquisite luxury penthouse, 2 bdrms, eat-in kitchen, balcony, appliances, new broadloom & painted! $149,000. *Ted Waxman

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

BAYVIEW-16TH. $525,000. Magnificent, 3,950 sq. ft. plus 4 bdrm. + fin. bsmt, 4 bths. 59'x147' lot, upgraded kit. $$ extras.

MUST SELL! WILMINGTON TRIPLEX. $268,800. Lg. 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., balconies, garage, 3 fridges, 3 stoves, 5 wshrms. Close to shopping, transportation, schools, excellent investment.

RYBAK REALTY LTD.
787-7151

EAST OF BATHURST – SOUTH OF LAWRENCE
Lovely 6 Rm. bungalow, modern white kitchen, fin. bsmt. with sep. entrance, cent. air, 48'x117' lot, walk to shuls, schools & all conveniences. **MUST BE SEEN!**

Contact: **RUTH RYBAK,** *Broker* **787-7151**

---

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

HARVEY KALLES
(416) 441-2888 (416) 441-2888
-REAL ESTATE LIMITED-

NORTH

HIGH POINT ROAD — $4,880,000
Recently reno. and lavishly appointed – 14,000 sq. ft. estate on 2 ac. Pool/tennis crt. **Elise Kalles***.

BAYVIEW RIDGE — $4,600,000
Outstanding contemporary estate – grand entertaining space on ravine setting. Pool. **Elise Kalles***.

NEW PRESENTATION — $1,680,000.
Spacious ranch bungalow on 95' x 295' secluded Bridle Path lot. Pool/cabana/tennis crt. **Elise Kalles***.

1ST AD BAYVIEW INDOOR POOL
$1,398,000. Backs onto parkland, fully renovated, w/o basement, prestigious address. **Samantha Graff***.

1ST AD ST. ANDREWS RAVINE
$595,000. Gorgeous setting! Favourite St., schools, mn. fam. rm., huge LR., 4 bdrms., dbl. gar. **A. Carmona***.

BATHURST/ATKINSON 3700 SQ. FT.
$529,000. Outstanding loc., Move-in cond. exec. home., lib., huge fam. rm., 4 bdrms./4baths, best buy. **A. Carmona***.

1ST AD $519,000 YORK MILLS
Library & family room, hardwood floors throughout, quiet crescent, Japanese garden. **Samantha Graff***.

"ONE OF A KIND" UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY
$339,000 custom built 2 + bdrms. – view of city, 3-car pkg., great location. 1800 sq. ft. sec. **N. Fruitman****.

WESTMOUNT/WILSHIRE $322,000.
Value ++. 4 bdrms., library + family rm., mn. flr. laundry w/garage entry, ent. size kit. **Maxine Povering****.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD $139,900.
Best value in years. 2 + bdrm. condo, shower ens., huge din. rm., balc., indoor pool. Immed. **Maxine Povering****.

CENTRAL

WARREN RD. — $1,995,000.
Gracious family home with large principal rooms, hand-carved fireplaces, gourmet kit. **Elise Kalles****.

OLD PARK EGLINTON $569,000
Forest Hill gem. Updated 4 bdrms., den, gourmet kitchen, C/A shows beautifully. **Syma Solomon***.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE GEM! $339K!
Outstanding reno.! 3 + 1 [SOLD] mn. fam. o/l's 70' x 119'. I/G Pool! Immed poss.! **G. Kerbel*/S. Schwartzben****.

SANDRINGHAM AREA! NOW $329K!
Unbelievable 77' x 157'! [SOLD] o. 3 + 2 bdrms., 3 baths, mn. fam. rm. Immed. poss. **G. Kerbel*/S. Schwartzben****.

CRANBROOKE E./AVENUE RD.! $235K!
Won't last! Total reno.! [SOLD] drms., gourmet kit., new bath! Fin. bsmt.! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

150 NEPTUNE DRIVE! $149,900!
Mint 3 bdrms., 2 baths, 2 terraces, superb NW view! Pool + tennis crt.! 10 +! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

130 NEPTUNE DRIVE! $132,500!
Beautiful condo, 3 bdrms. + enclosed balcony, 2 - 4 pc. baths, only $132,500. **A. Sussman*/G. Kerbel***.

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker*

BAYVIEW/16th. Quiet cres., exceptional Homes & Gardens decor, 4 bdrms., huge lot, in-ground pool, Marley roof, extras. $689,000. GABBY GOLDRING.

WOODLAND ACRES. Just listed! Magnificent country retreat, gorgeous kit. & fam. rms., lg. fin. lower lev. LUCY MELAMUD.

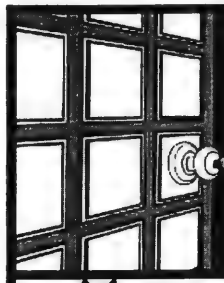
BATHURST-CLARK. Vacant 3 bdrm., fin. bsmt., full master ensuite, mn. flr. fam., dbl. gar., walk to shul, schools. $242,000. GARRY HAZIN.

UNGERMAN ASSOCIATES
R.E., 905-731-7111

GORGEOUS 2 BDRM. CONDO
$169,900. Bathurst & Promen., fabulous corner, magnificent view. 2 bths., bright kit., gar., locker, 5 appls ++ extras, sol.

CUSTOM BUILT 5 BDRMS!
$329,000. Must be sold! Best Manor location, 4 bths., fam. rm., lg. kit., fin. bsmt., firepl., CAC, circular drive, dble. gar. ++ much more.
Call **NAT STARK "THE REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST"**
(905) 889-9330
ROYAL LE PAGE R.E. SVCS. LTD.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE



DAVID EICHORN
REALTY LIMITED

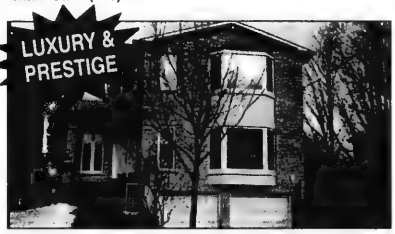
787-1712
"We open doors for you"

We have many anxious buyers who want to locate in your area. If you're thinking of selling your property, please give us a call.

SHEPPARD / WILMINGTON
1st ad! Lots of home, low price! 5 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths, renovated kitchen, large principal rooms, basement apt., generous lot, only $329,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Mint condition! Detached bungalow, sep. ent. to bsmt. apt., 100 AMP service, only $199,000. ACT FAST, WON'T LAST! Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.



BROOKDALE — NEW HOME
Spacious & gracious! Luxury 3,000 sq. ft. (approx.), loaded with upgrades, main floor fam. rm. + library, 4 + 1 bdrms., 5 baths, asking $609,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
New home under construction! 3650 sq. ft. of luxury, 5 bdrms., fam. rm., library, choose your finishes now! Only $599,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON
Immaculate renovated bungalow, 3 + 2 bdrms., hardwood floors, huge side deck, sep. entr. to apt., asking $259,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BAYVIEW / FIFESHIRE
Spacious bung., custom built, quality construction, approx. 2500 sq. ft. + fin. lower level, 70' frontage, fab. location. Call now! Only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON
Spacious 3 bdrm. ranch bungalow on 55' x 132' lot, mint condition, asking $239,0[SOLD] David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / PRUE
Rare offering! European villa style — mint condition! Walk-out to 3 balconies, family room, library, loaded with extras, prestigious location, A MUST SEE! Only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK – BUY YOUR VERY OWN PARK!
Sensational building lot surrounded by luxury new homes, 1/2 acre +, approved for 4400 sq. ft. (approx.) new home, over 300 feet deep. ACT NOW! Only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — A MUST SEE!
Custom-built new home, many luxurious upgrades, spacious rooms, maple kit., granite frplc., approx. 3400 sq. ft. Priced to sell at $539,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON
New listing! 3 bdrm., 2 storey cha[SOLD]g home on 40' x 132' lot, hardwood floors, large eat-in kit., only $209,000. Act now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

TIMBERLANE — REDUCED
Spacious side-split on 80' x 200' lot, prestigious location, surrounded by luxurious homes, country-like setting. Only $559,000. Call now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / EGLINTON COMMERCIAL
Prime location on Eglinton, near Bathurst — store plus 2 large apartments. Ideal for user or investor. Only $399,000. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLEN PARK
Det. bungalow on 40' x 132' lot, hot location surrounded by many luxury new homes. Only $219,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / MELROSE
REDUCED TO SELL! Stunning brand new luxury home, 2400+ sq. ft., fin. bsmt., loaded with upgrades, granite + hardwood floors, only $569,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

Judi GOTTLIEB

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS

$2,680,000 - Bridle Path 11,500 sq. ft. 6 years new. Builders own, 40 ft. kitchen w/Fplc.

$1,680,000 - A premier address on Ravine, Dramatic Family Room addition surrounded by glass.

$1,188,000 - Tennis Anyone? New const. on 6 x 300 ft. lot 5000 s.f. plus fin. w/o lower level.

$788,800 - Sought after street 75' x 150' lot 4 bdrm plus lit/family combo "Better Homes & Gardens."

$709,000 - Walk to best schools. 3600 sq. ft. on ravine. Street of executive uniformity.

MIDTOWN

$759,900 - Avenue/Lawrence 3500 sq. ft. "Indesign" custom with w/o lower. Ultimate! Compare!

$299,900 - Eglinton/Mt. Pleasant. Reno'd 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, fin bsmt, fireplace.

DOWNTOWN

$589,000 - Power of Sale, Upscale! Approx 2500 sq. ft. carved from antique church, original beams.

$399,900 -Steps to trendy Yonge/Bloor 3 levels plus fin bsmnt. Fully reno'd. Victorian.

THORNHILL

$1,199,900 - Bayview & Steeles. Ideal for Professional 5,000 s.f. Ranch bung. with equal size bsmt on 1 Acre.

Call Judi Gottlieb
#1 Company Sales Representative
(Toronto - 5 years)
Top 1% Internationally
449-2020
ThePrudential
Sadie Moranis Realty
801 York Mills Road, Suite 101
Don Mills, Ontario
M3B 1X7

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This is not intended to solicite properties already listed for sale.

ATKINSON/SPRINGATE
Walk to Synagogue
Spac. 3 + 1 bdrm on premium lot; approx. 2,000 sq. ft.; cathedral ceilings; ceramics; dbl. drive. Mint Cond.

• •

BAYVIEW/WILLOWBROOK
Walk to Schools
Stunning Executive 4 + 1 bdrm home on prem. lot, 68 ft frontage; approx. 2,700 sq ft. This one's hot - won't last!
PAULINE GOLD (905) 889-2200
Homelife/Bayview Realty Inc.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

• **CUSTOM BLT. BEST VALUE**
• *NORTH YORK EXCLUSIVE CUL-DE-SAC*
4 bdrm. 4 baths, 20' ceiling liv. rm. 60' frnt., near shuls, shopping, **$374,900**
• **BATHURST STEELES! $179,500**
great [SOLD]home! exc cond. 3 bdrm. 3 bths
• **CLANTON PARK - CUL-DE SAC SUPER LOT – $245,000**
SURROUNDED $$$ HOMES
• **AVENUE RD. - CLYDE $249,000**
3 bdrm[SOLD]ths bung. 46.5' frnt.
• **GLENCAIRN BATHURST**
4 bdrm + fam. rm. 3 bths. fin bsmnt. apt. + rec rm. **$299,000**
• **BATHURST WILSON CONDOS**
3 bdrm[SOLD]0 s.f.
2 bdrm - all w. balconies
& 2 - 4pc. bths. S.EAST EXP.
• **ALMORE AVE. $199,000**
• 2 bdr[SOLD]ng. 50x150
• **CORWIN AVE.**
First time buyer's beauty **$238,900**
• **OLD ORCHARD**
2 st. 4 [SOLD]in. bsmnt **$289,900**
• **DUNDAS ST.**
3 st. 4 [SOLD]Victorian **$375,900**

HOMEOWNERS
Please call me now!
I have very serious buyers for the above areas
ANNETTE ROSENTHAL
416 633-6666 res. 416 631-6883
HOMELIFE / 5 STAR LTD.

BATHURST-LAWRENCE! HOT!
$249,000 only. Brick det. bung. Spacious liv./din. rms., modern kit., 2 bdrms., 2 bths., rec rm., enclosed patio, ideal for "sukkah," prof. landscaped grdn., oversized gar., walk to shuls, amenities. **G. BRONET, 486-5200, HOMELIFE/ CIMERMAN R.E. LTD.**

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bathurst Manor, 60 x 107, 3 bdrm +1, sdsplt, 3 bths, fam. rm w/frplc, hrdwd flrs, pool, dble gar., $299,000. 416-631-9867. No agents.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Thornhill, 4000sf, $3400/mo. No bsmt, $2600/mo, furnished, opt. New, 905-731-0387.

20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT

Bathurst/Steeles, bksplt-semi, 4 bdrms, 3 bths, fin. bsmnt, $215K or $1400/mo. 783-8831.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

"SKYRISE" - SUNSET!
1,646 Sq. ft. of luxury, high floor, 2 + 1 bdrms., 2 baths, large eat-in kit. w/balcony, herringbone hardwood. Superb facilities & security. Must Sell Now!
E. Spivak, sales rep.
RE/MAX Realtron Realty Inc.
Realtor 229-6090

Bathurst/Antibes, 3 bdrms, 2 full bths, ensuite laundry, parquet, corner, facing ravine, sec, sauna, Shabbos elev. 661-1665

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK **REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH**

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THESE BARGAINS ARE SOLD!
Skymark II: Upgraded, 2 b.r. + sol, 2 park. Reduced to $185K.
Skymark Classic: Choice of large open-concept 2 b.r. or 2 b.r. + fam. rm. w/balc. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST,** 441-2003/24 hrs. on call. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

Promenade - 3 br/2 br + den, parquet flr, approx 1,280 sf, 8th floor. $159,900. MUST SELL
5879 Bathurst - 2 br condo. Balcony, Appl. $99,990.
MORE CONDOS NEEDED! MORE CONDOS NEEDED! RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bathurst/Clark, Promenade Towers lux. 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bths, sauna, gym, pool, tennis crt, Avail Mar. 1. 905-886-9044.

Bathurst/Steeles, lux. 3 bdrm, all appls, furn/unfurn $1500/ mo prkg, Avail Mar 1, 229-9843

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Large bdrm. in a 3 bdrm/2 bth apt. to share with 2 profs, 1 blk to Finch sbwy, 416-730-9515.

Looking for 3rd housemate, share gorgeous, brand new 3 bdrm tnhse w/2 fems, Yonge /Steeles, 5 appls, undergrnd prkg, sec., Rent $460+ mo. Avail Mar. 1, 905-669-8964, leave msge for Dana.

Responsible, young, prof. fem., n/smoker to share bright, clean, quiet house in Avenue/Wilson area, great loc., indry, close to 401 & TTC, prkg, backyard, $500 incl., 932-9685.

Room in well-equipped townhouse, parking, TTC, Sheppard/Leslie, 756-9965.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill

488-2875 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

RENOVATED FAMILY HOME!!
5+Bdrms, man fm rm & lib! C. Kwinter* 488-2875

HIDDEN TREASURE IN LOWER VILLAGE
Secluded walled & gated estate! David Wagman* 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE TUDOR $929,000
Fab reno, restored oak panelling. D. Wagman* 488-2875

1ST AD! MAGICAL TUDOR $879,000
Total reno, granite/marble ens! Jeffrey Wagman** 488-2875

IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER!
$795K Ravine prop, his & hers ens's! Jeffrey Wagman** 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE! TUDOR/STONE 3,250 S.F.
Custom home $739K, B. Singer**/F. Sversky** 488-2875

ALL THE RI SOLD MS $669,000
Main flr pwdr rm, mstr ens. J. Wagman** 488-2875

BEST STREET! BEST BLOCK! AVE/LAWR
Fab cstm blt 4 bdrm, 3,160 s.f.! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

CUSTOM BUILT HOME! AVE/LAWR
Near completion 4 bdrms! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

74 STRATHEARN RD 5 BDRMS+ 5 BATHS
Close to finest schools! S. Flancman* 488-2875

UPPER FOREST HILL! BATH/EGLINTON
$639K, spectac nw home! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

1ST AD! TOTALLY RENOVATED $369,000
Lytton Park area! 170' lot! Celine Joel* 488-2875

FOREST HILL! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON $599K
232 Sq. ft. custom built home! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

ATT. DOCTOR'S LAWYERS — FOREST HILL
Offices+waiting rm or live-in! J. Lerner* 226-1987

10 YR NEW HOME! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON
Fab 3 bdrm home! F. Sversky** 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS EST. VALUE $385,000
4 Bdrm - 2 baths, mn flr fa SOLD Patti Pollock* 226-1987

NORTH TORONTO — METICULOUS RENO
Quality, taste & charm! $349,900! Celine Joel* 488-2875

ATTN BUILDERS! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON
Fab. lot! 25 x 132', just $319K, Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

DOLL HOUSE! UPPER FOREST HILL
Spectac reno'd home! New kit etc! F. Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST & SHEPPARD BUNGALOW + APT
Huge lot, 50' x 155'. Call Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/STEELES
Fab 3 bdrm, home, 3 baths! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/16TH WYCLIFFE
4 Bdrm. fam rm+den, pool! J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/STEELES "RAVINE" $525,000
Fab reno, 4 bdrm, 5 baths! J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/16 5,500 S.F. LIVING SPACE
Fab 4 bdrm, fin bsmt! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

GERMAN MILLS — REDUCED $399,900
Exec 5 bdrm, fab reno! Rivy Blass* 226-1987

WON'T LAST! ELGIN MILLS/BATHURST
Fab 4 bdrm fam, cathedral ceilings! F. Sversky** 488-2875

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

PRICED TO SELL
2 Bdrm, 2 baths! Buy or rent! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

MEET YOU IN A SUNNY/PARADISE CONDO
2 Bdrm/white kit, S/W, CN Tower! S. Gruenstein* 226-1987

BATHURST/STEE SOLD +SOL+BALCONY
Great value! Won't last! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

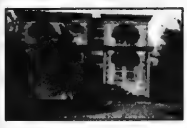
BATHURST/LAWRENCE LUXURY CONDO
A1 Location, 1 bdrm + den, beauty! L. Turk* 226-1987

JUST LISTED — 1 BDRM FOREST HILL
$74,500 incl parking! Value+! Bonnie Singer** 488-2875

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

PRIME THORNHILL LOCATION
BATHURST/CLARK - 2800 sq. ft. – $324,900
4 bdrm. lovely entertaining home, complete kosher kit., huge rooms, just painted. Reno. baths & windows, loaded with upgrades. Vendor motivated.
Call **RANDY COHEN,** *Associate Broker*
RE/MAX REALTRON Inc.
(905) 764-6000 or toll free 1-800-463-7363 ext. 0235

5 HOUSES FOR SALE



SURROUNDED BY PARKS — MONSTER LOT
Stunning! Modern decor, Jacuzzi, sauna, 64x344 lot, marble, 22' ceilings, hrdwd., custom built throughout! **LES SIROTA, 905-764-7111**

3,200 SQ. FT. OF LUXURY
Bathurst-Major Mack. Stunning decor, $$$ extras! 5+1 bdrm., 3½ bths., Scarlett O'Hara staircase, fin. bsmt. **JOHN KOMLOS, 905-764-7111**

BUILDERS/INVESTORS!
Magnificent 86x295 (25,285 sq. ft.) lot in heart of Thornhill amongst $$$ homes. Fully tenanted, 1½ storey, 3 sep. ent., excellent investment. $538,800. **MICHELLE KAHN, 798-7133**

BUILDER'S OWN HOME
Bayview-Sheppard. Custom designed, approx. 7,000 sq. ft., backs to ravine, every conceivable extra! $1,180,000. **MICHELLE KAHN, 798-7133**

BRAND NEW - GORGEOUS
Avenue Rd./Lawrence. 4 bdrm., formal LR/DR., state of art kit. & bths., fin. w/o bsmt., dbl. gar., private dr. $649K, GST incl. **MICHELLE KAHN, 798-7133**

HOLLYWOOD HOME RICHMOND HILL
4 Bdrm., state of art kit./prem. appls., bleached hdwd. flrs., Kohler bths., halogen/track lgts., French drs., California shutters, fin. bsmt. w/sep. ent. Income pot., dbl. gar., gorgeous lot. $328,000. **MICHELLE KAHN, 798-7133**

THORNHILL CONDO
Spacious 2 bdrm. in excellent location. Close to 1,400 sq. ft., 2 wshrms., pkg., move-in cond., must be sold! **LINDA TUCKER, 905-764-7111**

4 BDRM. FAM. HOME
2,000 Sq. Ft. Features mn. flr. fam. rm., lg. eat-in kit., ensuite wshrm., fin. bsmt + more. Very motivated vendors! **LINDA TUCKER, 905-764-7111**

2 STOREY - $223,900
3+2 Bdrm., 4 bths., circ. strcse., pkg. for 3 cars + gar., mn. flr. fam. rm., sep. bsmt. entry, walk to TTC. **ROZ SPLITTER or TERRY DAOUST, 905-764-7111**

BUSINESSES FOR SALE
NORTH YORK. Jewish-style bakery. $15,000 wkly. sales. **ALLEN CIVIL, 905-764-7111**

BATHURST/STEELES. Fast food, Medit. cuisine, excellent lease. **AVIVA KOCHAN, 905-764-7111**

CENTURY 21/HERITAGE GROUP LTD.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Atkinson/Clark, lrg. clean bsmnt rm, modern bth, light cooking, single fem, n/smoker, no pets, nr. TTC. 905-881-9463

Bath/Lawrence 1 bdrm bsmnt, priv ent & drive. $450. 781-1368

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Beautiful & maintenance free cottage, 1 1/2 hrs. from Toronto on Georgian Bay, 70' of safe, sandy, shallow water, 3 bdrm, winterized w/bunkie, pine hrdwd flrs & panelling, very desirable area. Asking $369,900. No agents. Call 416-716-2859.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Resp. young family seeks priv. lakefront cottage nr. Belle Ewart/Barrie area. Must have 3-4 bdrms, lndry, bbq & fireplace, July & Aug., 633-5347.

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Mature Jewish lady, caring, responsible avail. as companion for elderly, refs. Berta 398-776

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Polish cleaning lady for houses, apts., exp., 265-7398.

Polish lady looking for housekeeping position, live in. Only in Polish, 416-497-7930, Wiesia.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Nanny/housekeeper, live in 2 children, Bayview/York Mills, refs., 221-2207.

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Experienced Nursing Aide available, for work Mon-Fri, live out, 416-285-5926.

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2 SJF's, 32, very attractive, each seeking attractive, fit, romantic, sincere men, 30-45, for serious relationship. Photo appreciated. Box 6703 CJN.

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The Best is Yet To Come! Just because we are over 50 doesn't mean we're over the hill! A tall, trim, attractive, optimistic lady would dearly love to meet a matching mensch who likes to laugh. Box 6632 CJN.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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P.S. Pictures would be appreciated. Box 6704 CJN.

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300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Tanuki raccoon fur coat, size 4, never worn, $3500 value, $1000 or best offer. 699-0313.

330 OBITUARIES

Rubin, Ida Freda on January 23, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Fineberg, Henry on January 23, 1996, late of 175 Cummer Ave.
Roza, Dorothy on January 24, 1996
Egit, Jacob on January 24, 1996, late of 1400 South Ocean Dr. #31
Zaigh, Abraham Joseph on January 26, 1996, late of 37 Farrell Ave.
Rosen, Jack Bernard on January 25, 1996, late of 880 Lawrence Ave. E.
Weinstock, Faye on January 25, 1996, late of 518 Fairlawn Ave.
Sklar, Etta on January 26, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Wierzchowski, Mina on January 25, 1996
Geller, Laura on January 26, 1996
Gutman, Malca on January 26, 1996, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W. #214
Green, Rose on January 28, 1996, late of 133 Torresdale Ave. #902
Rosenberg, Berek on January 29, 1996, late of 319 Joicey Blvd.
Laufer, Henry on January 30, 1996, late of 341 Joicey Blvd.
Risman, Carey on January 29, 1996
Edelman, Jack on January 31, 1996
Kampf, Rozsa on February 1, 1996
Nadler, Jack on February 2, 1996

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330 OBITUARIES

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Bill Perlove on January 18, 1996, late of 6040 Bathurst St. #107
Lucille Samuels on January 18, 1996, late of 645 Castlefield Ave #520
Hinda Daniels on January 18, 1996, late of 100 Canyon Ave. #1003
Freida Hertzog on January 18, 1996, late of 6250 Bathurst St. #418
Marion Shatten on January 19, 1996, late of 1125 East 26th Ave.
Helen Shaul Cohen on January 19, 1996, late of 2121 Bathurst St. #1010
Louis Easter on January 18, 1996, late of 8500 Sunrise Ave.
Shirley Kofsky on January 22, 1996, late of 980 Elgin Mills Rd. E.
Henry Rotberg on January 23, 1996, late of 110 Bloor St. W. #1310
Dorothy Herman on January 23, 1996, late of 19 Lower Village Gate #205
Brenda Morris on January 23, 1996, late of 18 Concord Pl. #624
Rose Weinstock on January 23, 1996, late of 18 Maridian Ave.
Ben Lennick on January 22, 1996, late of 91 Bombay Ave.
Dr. Jack Reine on January 24, 1996, late of 68 Strathearn Rd.
Sylvia Moses on January 24, 1996, late of 1 Northwestern Ave.
Isadore Cass on January 24, 1996, late of 19 Lower Village Gate #303
Arthur Steinman on January 25, 1996, late of 82 Rockford Rd.
Ernest Kahn on January 23, 1996, late of 795 Glencairn St.
Anna Hahn on January 25, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
David Altmid on January 26, 1996, late of 145 Brownridge Dr.
Lilly Rush on January 28, 1996, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. West P.H. #1
Tillie Litwin on January 27, 1996, late of 28 McGillivary Ave.
Harry Hanser on January 28, 1996, late of 435 Weldrick Rd. E.
Elaine Lichtenberg on January 28, 1996, late of 120 Rosedale Valley Rd. #603
Reva Pinkus on January 27, 1996, late of West Park Hospital
Wilhelm Friesner on January 28, 1996, late of 100 Canyon Ave. #705
Joseph Sax on January 29, 1996, late of 124 Brighton Ave.
Joseph Godman on January 29, 1996, late of 555 Bedford Park Ave.
David Satok on January 29, 1996, late of 400 Walmer Rd. #2425

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

To place a CJN Classified ad please call **Janice** (416) 422-2528

Dear Jesse,

I am a top level executive in a large corporation. I have been offered a transfer by the company as they are moving their head office. I cannot turn them down as it is an advancement for me.

My problem is my father. He is well into his 70s and he was quite independent while my mother was alive. Since her death six months ago, I find my father has a become reclusive person. He is not able to care for himself at all. I have been doing more and more for him. His doctor says it's a depression and that he should pull out of it with the help of some medication. I don't think it's as simple as that.

How can I leave in two months knowing my father is in this state? I have no siblings to depend on for his care. What is available for my father so that he can maintain his independence that seems to be rapidly disappearing?

M. H.

Dear M. H.,

Have you discussed your dilemma with your father? There are options that he might be interested in pursuing with you, while you are still here.

Family Link, available in Montreal at Jewish Support Services for the Elderly and similar programs offered by community agencies in other cities will provide the link between you and you dad. Although the service may vary the basic concept is to ensure that there is someone close by who can be reached in case of a concern. Services can be arranged quickly.

Another possibility is a seniors residence that provides food and housekeeping. Your father may be interested in moving into a place which would reduce his responsibilities and provides for socialization.

Many communities offer support groups for adult children of the frail elderly. You might discover other options and receive the support you need. However, it is important that you respect your Dad's decision and help him through it.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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1111 Weston Road S of Eglinton 767-1655

2 eggplant
1/2 lb. fettucini
1/2 lb. ricotta cheese
2 lg. cans seasoned tomato sauce
salt & pepper to taste
dash nutmeg
grated parmesan cheese

Peel eggplant and slice lengthwise. Lightly brush with olive oil and broil on each side until browned. Boil noodles and drain. Mix ricotta cheese with noodles, salt, pepper and nutmeg. Place small amount of cheese mixture on end of each eggplant slice and roll up. Pour half tomato sauce in 9x13" casserole. Lay eggplant rollups in casserole and cover with remaining tomato sauce. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese. Bake 30 mins. at 350°.
For low fat - use low fat cottage cheese or ricotta; for wheat allergy - use corn fettucini.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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Call 422-2528
for information on rates

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600 ml Box 2.99 EA

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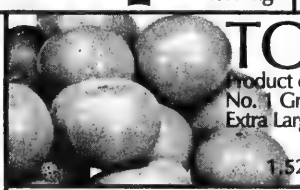
Lazar Yitzchok COR 369
Glatt Kosher Sealed Tray
Packed Meats, Fresh
3.99 LB
8.80 kg



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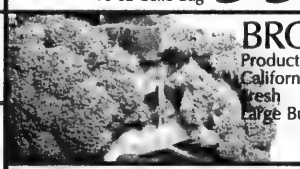

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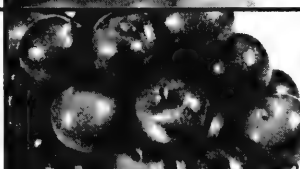

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As Director of Kolel, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein brings a distinguished background to the centre, both as an accomplished academic and as a respected congregational rabbi.

Dynamic, caring, and committed, Rabbi Goldstein has helped build Kolel into a community that is at once energized and energizing. She is an articulate and passionate teacher with a nation-wide reputation.

"Rabbi Goldstein immediately put me at ease, and questions were always welcome. She has been a real source of inspiration."

The Toronto area is blessed with talented and learned educators and Rabbis, many of whom teach courses at Kolel. This gives you the opportunity to learn from a variety of scholars with a wide range of ideas and subjects.

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Kolel is an affiliate of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism and is supported by the Reform congregations of the greater Toronto Area, the Berman Fund of the Bequest and Endowment Fund and the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

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This Week

Coast to Coast

PQ minister urges Quebec's Jews to stay in the province. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Torah Fair: Over 900 people admired the exhibits at this year's fair. *Page 6*

Israel, U.S.A. & The World

Israel, Syria peace talks at odds over a final border. *Analysis* *Page 42*

TAB news

Israeli artist's works on view in Toronto gallery. *Page 46*

Sports news

Israeli swimmers' record-breaking performances set high hopes for summer's Olympic Games. *Page 50*

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Shabbat: Trumah
Candlelighting 5:40
Shevat 3, 5756
Havdalah: 6:45

Election already nasty

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
and LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Stung by a Likud allegation that he would agree to the repartition of Jerusalem, Prime Minister Shimon Peres angrily struck back last week. He issued a statement at the weekly cabinet meeting declaring that the charge is not only baseless, but also constitutes "incitement," given public sensitivity to the future of the city.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert again claimed that academics Yair Hirschfeld and Ron Pundak are conducting secret negotiations on Jerusalem with the Palestinians.

Pundak and Hirschfeld received the green light from Yossi Beilin to discuss the future of Jerusalem, Channel 1 reported last week. This has been consistently denied by the government.

"The fact that the talks are taking place is not being contested," Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu said at the capital press conference at which Olmert made his claim. "What is under dispute is the question of whether they are separate talks by academics or whether they are under Beilin's supervision. We say with complete certainty that they are laying the ground for [an Oslo-style] agreement."

He compared the situation to the division of Berlin, saying: "Physical division follows political division as sure as night follows day."

Peres's statement, read to reporters by cabinet secretary Shmuel Hollander, declared: "Following charges that the prime minister and the government intend, as it were, to divide Jerusalem and with regard to secret talks allegedly being conducted on the matter the prime minister wishes to emphatically and unequivocally state that he has no

Continued on page 44

FIGHTING NEAR A SHRINE

Israeli border police restrain Palestinian demonstrators last week near Rachel's Tomb on the outskirts of Bethlehem. Palestinians protested that the building of a security wall outside the tomb will narrow the main road into Bethlehem by half. *[RNS photo]*

Marx committee holds hearings

Consensus that bylaws need to be changed

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The presenters at a special all-day hearing in Montreal agreed that it was a black mark on the history of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) that shook the community's confidence.

There was also consensus that the bylaws on elections and accreditation must be more explicit.

But the presenters differed in attaching blame for the fact that delegate registration at the CJC Plenary Assembly last May disintegrated into a near riot.

Quebec Superior Court Judge Herbert Marx and his six committee members presided over seven hours of presentations by nine individuals. The tone was frank and at times emotional. In addition to the oral presentations, these nine and others made written submissions to the committee.

The presenters basically fell into two camps: plenary officials who felt the rules had been shamelessly bent and/or broken by supporters of presidential candidate Thomas Hecht; and Hecht defenders – including Hecht himself – who maintained he had to use all means available within the letter of the law because CJC insiders, including most plenary committee chairs, were openly supporting his opponent, Goldie Hershon, and conducting a smear campaign against him.

Hershon defeated Hecht by 16 votes, out of a total of almost 1,000 ballots cast.

Hal Joffe, chair of the plenary steering committee, testified in his brief: "It appears to me that the entire registration process was doomed to fail because we assumed that members of our community would act honestly ... We must now begin to operate more formally with elaborate rules, in order to avoid the abuse of those who would subvert our process."

Hecht, however, charged that he was the victim of a "conspiracy" to "vilify" him and to obstruct his supporters from voting. "Many dozens of voters potentially supporting" his candidature were deliberately "disenfranchised" by CJC staff and laypeople, he said.

Hecht saw a conflict of interest in Hershon's

Continued on page 32

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Israelis voice concerns over Canada free trade — please see page 41

The News In Brief

International

CANADA

Dubin Steps Down

OTTAWA — Ontario Chief Justice Charles Dubin is leaving the bench and returning to private law practice, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien announced last week.

His resignation comes a few months short of his 75th birthday.

Dubin served on several public inquiries, including a royal commission on drug use in amateur sport, as well as one on air safety in Canada.

Hebrew Course

OTTAWA — The University of Ottawa's Modern Languages Department, will offer a three-credit program in Hebrew beginning this September. This is a change from the traditional six-credit program over the full academic year offered since its beginning.

In addition to learning intermediate Hebrew, reading, writing and conversation, the students will be introduced to the study of contemporary Hebrew poetry, literature and culture. New computer software for the language lab has been also implemented for independent studies.

ISRAEL

EU Wants Role in Peace

JERUSALEM — A delegation of the European Union told Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres that it was interested in helping with the peace negotiations between Syria and Israel.

Talks between Israeli and Syrian teams, along with U.S. officials, are set to resume Feb. 28 at Wye Plantation in Maryland.

Peres praised the European Union's efforts and proposed that the European delegation meet with U.S. officials in order to coordinate positions on aid to the Middle East and on the peace process.

Inflation Down

JERUSALEM — Israel's inflation rate in 1995 was 8.1 percent, the lowest since 1969. Inflation in 1994 was 14.5 percent.

A slowdown in housing price increases and a decline in the prices of fruits and vegetables accounted for the low inflation rate.

Triplets Born

JERUSALEM — Two sets of triplets were born last weekend in a Nahariya hospital, in northern Israel.

Both sets, one of which is all girls, the other two boys and a girl, were reported to be healthy.

The mothers, who both delivered their babies through Caesarian section, had undergone fertility treatments.

WORLD

WJC Rejects Swiss Survey

GENEVA — The World Jewish Congress has rejected a survey released by the Swiss Bankers Association which concluded that Swiss banks were not holding vast sums belonging to Holocaust victims.

The survey indicated that the banks had some $32 million in as-yet unclaimed accounts that might have belonged to Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

EU, Palestinian Trade Deal

BRUSSELS — The European Union is willing to reach a trade agreement with the Palestinian Authority, according to EU officials.

At a recent meeting here, the 15 EU foreign ministers invited the European Commission, the union's executive body, to start discussions with the Palestinian Authority about the accord.

Trademark Rights

AMSTERDAM — Two European organizations, both established to preserve the memory of Anne Frank, have been entangled in a legal dispute over the use of the trademark "Anne Frank" name.

The Anne Frank Fund, founded by Frank's father, Otto, in 1966 in Basel, Switzerland, is suing the Anne Frank Foundation, claiming commercial exploitation of Anne Frank's name.

A district judge in Zurich decided that the two parties must try to settle the suit out of court.

Kielce Pogrom

NEW YORK — The president of Poland has given his support to a Jewish commemoration of the 1946 Kielce pogrom and to the return of property once owned by Jews and the Jewish community.

President Aleksander Kwasniewski made the pledges when he met with World Jewish Congress vice-president Kalman Sultanik.

Kwasnieski wants to create a new chapter of ties between Poland and Jewish communities around the world.

Polish Jew's Bequest

LOS ANGELES — A Polish-born Jewish woman who worked as a librarian for 32 years has left an unexpected bequest of $592,000 to the University of California at Los Angeles for Holocaust and Jewish studies.

Antonina Babb, who died in 1994 at the age of 75, designated UCLA's chair in Holocaust Studies as the beneficiary of her estate, consisting largely of her house in Santa Monica, Calif.

Essay Contest

NEW YORK — The University Student Department of the World Zionist Organization and the Aliya Program Centre are sponsoring an essay contest where the first prize is a free round-trip ticket to Israel.

The contest is open to university students only. All entries must be received by March 1.

For more information call 1-800-27-ISRAEL.

Russian Talmud

NEW YORK — Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz recently presented the first Russian translation of the Talmud in this century.

Zundel Blocked

NEW YORK — The University of Massachusetts has taken steps to deny a prominent Holocaust denier access to its World Wide Web site, according to the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

Ernst Zundel, 57, a German-born resident of Toronto, succeeded in circumventing a German government effort to block access to Internet sites promoting racial hatred.

The Wiesenthal Centre commended the University of Massachusetts for ordering the graduate student who posted the messages for Zundel on the university's Web site to remove them.

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PQ minister urges young Jews to stay in Quebec

'We must respect the minorities,' says Menard

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Montreal's bilingualism and multicultural character are assets that should be promoted, as long as French remains "a living presence and not just a tourist attraction," Serge Menard, Quebec's new minister of state for metropolitan Montreal, told an audience of Jewish young adults.

"We know we must respect the minorities as we would have wanted to be" in Canada, he said. Moreover, Quebec can benefit from making Montreal "an international city."

He urged young Jews to stay because their education and entrepreneurial spirit is needed, but CJC youth co-chair Robert Presser added: "If partition is becoming a popular rallying cry, it is to fill the void created by the lack" of new ideas from the federalist camp.

Menard faced persistent questions from the audience on what exactly he would do to attract nervous investors and good jobs back to Montreal.

"I would tell them the truth, what the mayor of Westmount [Peter Trent] told me: that it is possible to live in Montreal in English if they want to ... Their kids have the right to go to English schools for six years at least."

He admitted, he could not name "off hand" one company that offered no concessions on Bill 101 or easing of the political tension that many in the overflow crowd believe would reverse the decline in Montreal's economy.

Menard insisted that the majority of French Quebecers do not want separation, but sovereignty and "partnership" with Canada. "Separation and sovereignty are not the same ... the majority of francophones, and probably anglophones, want some change in Canada."

'Sense of uncertainty'

The government's priority now is gaining control over the public finances and stimulating the economy, Menard said.

The panel discussion, entitled After the Vote: What does the future hold for Quebec's young adults? was sponsored by FEDERATION CJA's Young Adult Division (YAD) and Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) youth committee.

YAD chair Barry Pascal said the Jewish community feels "a powerful sense of uncertainty ... A lot of people are asking will my kids be here in five or 10 years?"

However, his comments about the status of English and the legality of a unilateral declaration of independence drew skeptical noises, including one shouted expletive.

The most applause went to John Parisella, former Robert Bourassa chief of staff and now a vice-president of BCP, who blamed the prospect of another referendum for the city's economic woes.

"As long as the threat of sovereignty is there ... and the PQ government refuses to consider the possibility of making Canada work, we will have a problem in Quebec," he said.

Easing some of the restrictions on English schooling would help bring business back and serve as a "concrete gesture" to anglophones that they belong here, he said.

Notre-Dame-de-Grace Liberal MNA Russell Copeman suggested that, if there is fear among anglophones, it is due to the "exclusionary nationalism" of the sovereigntists.

Law on desecration urged by study

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A study on hate crimes suggests the Criminal Code ought to be amended to create a new offence that would refer specifically to the desecration of religiously-significant property.

"These offences would replace the application of mischief as a charge in cases of hate crimes directed at synagogues and other places of religious worship," the report suggests.

The report, titled *Disproportionate Harm: Hate Crime in Canada*, argues desecrations of synagogues and cemeteries are much more serious than simple vandalism.

"The desecration of a tomb is not the same criminal act as the spray-painting of a subway train. Attempting to respond to the former act by classifying it in the same Criminal Code section as the latter is inevitably going to lead to a trivializing of what is a serious crime. Nor can this additional element of harm be adequately recognized at the time of sentencing."

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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From the editor's desk

A chat with Peres

The notes on my desk are still open to the events of the first day of the Sixth International Conference of the Jewish Media in Jerusalem. At 8:30 in the evening, Prime Minister Shimon Peres held a press conference with us. Security arrangements were very strict. We were warned: No cameras or electronic equipment were permitted.

The prime minister strode into the room, smiling, obviously relaxed. He was upbeat, confident, self-assured. At times he even seemed bemused, delighted by the "softer" questions from this visiting press corps which behaved undoubtedly more deferentially and less aggressively than the local one to which he is accustomed.

I reproduce my notes of the questions and his answers.

Q: Mr. Prime Minister you have said that "the peace train will stop" if Yasser Arafat does not rescind the Palestine National Council [PNC] covenant. Will they do what is necessary?

A: If the PNC is unwilling, he [Arafat] can dismantle it. It is inconceivable that he will belong to two organizations, one of which seeks peace and the other of which calls for our destruction. He has made a commitment to peace with Israel before the entire world. It is inconceivable that he will not honor that commitment.

Q: Were you aware of the policy by the Magen David Adom regarding the blood donated by the Ethiopians?

A: I am very sorry for the injury we committed to them. I ask them to accept my apology. What happened [regarding the discarded blood] was not so much a result of policy as it was a result of bad judgment and mistake. I'm sure nothing was done intentionally; but a hurt is a hurt. By the same token I want to say, that throwing stones at the police was a terrible mistake on their part.

Q: Is there anything more which Israel can do to obtain Jonathan Pollard's release?

A: Our relations with the United States are not based on mutual pressure, but on mutual understanding. I sent a letter to President [Bill] Clinton about Mr. Pollard. The president is aware of our position.

Q: The protest by the Ethiopians was not only about their blood. It was also about the treatment they have received regarding housing, jobs and education. Why have they been treated so poorly?

A: I am not sure you have the whole story. Some of the leaders with whom I met today praised the way their absorption has been handled. Any new wave of immigrants feels discriminated against. The government has made supreme efforts and in the process, unfortunately, some mistakes too. But they are dear to our hearts. Their feelings are our feelings. They are brothers.

Q: What parts of this country belong to the Jews unequivocally?

A: Historically, all parts of the country belong to the Jewish people. But demographically, Jews do not live in all parts of the country. In practical terms, Gaza belongs to the people who reside there. Expelling them from their homes is not the Jewish way.

Q: How do you react to the hypocrisy of Yasser Arafat when he praises Yehiya Ayash, or when he talks of 'jihad"?

A: Should we judge him on his words or on his deeds? I have asked him about his use of the word "jihad." But we must look at the results. The PLO has stopped terror and it is actively fighting terror. The past can be praised because it cannot be changed.

Q: Do the Palestinians really want peace? I saw a map in Orient House on which the name Israel does not appear. In its place is the word Palestine.

A: There is a difference between asking and receiving. I can't ask them to stop dreaming. I am not saying that the Palestinians do not want more. But we have signed an agreement with them.

Q: Will there be a referendum on a Syrian peace treaty?

A: Yes.

Q: What final arrangements is Israel prepared to accept regarding Jerusalem?

A: Jerusalem is the united capital of Israel. We do not intend to divide it. It will be only the capital of Israel, politically closed, but religiously open.

Q: How will Israel deal with the possibility of a huge Jewish immigration from Russia if Zhirinovsky comes to power?

A: We are ready to receive all of them.

Q: What are your pragmatic hopes for the next four years?

A: We must proceed along a number of visionary approaches. The first is to strive to complete peace across the Middle East. Our hope is to have peaceful relations with the 21 or 22 Arab nations. To date we have relations with seven.

I see two convoys. A convoy full of dangers, and a convoy carrying hope. The dangers are the Islamic fundamentalists; the hopes are the peoples' hopes for peace. I hope that the convoy of hope will be first.

The second is to raise the standard of living across the Middle East. A higher standard of living for more people will diminish the level of violence.

The third is to build Israel as a country of science, technology and education, as a state, par excellence, which makes its living on its brains.

The fourth is to achieve the full development of the Negev. From Haifa to Ashdod, the coastal area is so densely populated. We must try to settle the south better.

The fifth is to set a new agenda for the next 100 years of Zionism. Next year marks the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Conference in Basel. The legend looks pale compared to the reality that has been achieved here. We, Israel, and the Jewish people have surpassed Herzl's dream.

I plan to call a conference next year bringing together all walks of Jewish life. I see an agenda covering the following matters:

- How to enable Israel to become an attraction to the Jews of the world and not only a haven for them.
- How to send forth a new Jewish message. Trust not only in the Lord but also in mankind. One of the reasons Israel is so much admired is because we have done the impossible.
- How Israel can become the spiritual centre of Jewish life.
- How our relationship with the Diaspora must be redefined; we must be partners in development not merely recipients.
- How we must plan to keep our children Jewish.

Q: Do you think Arafat was transformed by the Palestinian elections?

A: I prefer the problems of democracy rather than the perfections of other political systems. Palestinian democracy is important for Israel and for peace.

Q: Can you tell us about the informal talks being held behind the scenes about Jerusalem?

A: No one from the government side has taken part in any behind the scenes talks. There is not much substance to the headlines you are reading.

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Campuses to join in Jewish Awareness Month

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — At least three Canadian campuses are joining counterparts elsewhere in North America by holding a Jewish Awareness Month (JAM) from mid-February to mid-March.

The program, now in its second year, is a project of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, the international umbrella body for Jewish campus organizations which is based in Washington, D.C.

Toronto campuses in particular have had a much closer connection with Hillel since the arrival of Zac Kaye last year as director of Hillel-Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto.

Even the names of some of the Jewish student groups on campus reflect the change. At the University of Toronto, the Jewish Student Union (JSU) has been renamed Hillel-JSU; the Jewish Student Council (JSC) at Ryerson Polytechnic University is now known as Hillel at Ryerson; and the JSC at Seneca College has become Hillel at Seneca.

By running JAM, "what we're trying to do is provide programming of the sort we don't typically provide, [to] attract the uninvolved to socialize with other Jews, learn about Jewish culture and religion and be exposed to tzedakah or social action in a Jewish context," said Michael Sidlofsky, Toronto's JAM co-ordinator.

Sidlofsky is serving an "engagement" internship at U of T's Jewish Student Union. (Engagement is the Hillel term for outreach.)

Sidlofsky sees JAM as a way of increasing the number of students who are involved Jewishly, thereby promoting Jewish continuity.

The Toronto JAM program kicked off with a city-wide Shabbaton at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, followed by a havdalah and skating evening, aptly called Fire and Ice.

Other city-wide programs include a party on Feb. 24 at 9 p.m. to raise funds for Tay-Sachs research, a pre-Purim masquerade dance on March 2, a social action project for students of Zareinu (a Jewish school for mentally and physically challenged children), a volleyball tournament and an AIDS information evening with sex counsellor Sue Johanson.

Programs slated for York, U of T, Ryerson, Seneca

There will also be programs held at each of the York, U of T, Ryerson and Seneca campuses.

In Ottawa, JAM activities include Israel-related speakers and booths at the University of Ottawa on March 7 and Carleton University on March 9. Also on March 9, after *mota'zei Shabbat*, there will be a ski trip to a nearby resort, followed by a pub night.

A highlight of Ottawa's JAM will be a fashion show fundraiser on behalf of UJA, to be held March 23 and 24. Tickets will be available at a reduced rate for students.

In Vancouver, JAM activities will include challah- and hamantaschen-baking classes (Feb. 29 and March 12), a Purim costume party and a visual and performing arts benefit for the Canadian Cancer Society and Jewish Family Services agency.

For further information about JAM activities in Toronto, contact Michael Sidlofsky at 416-978-0422 or call 416-512-0814.

In Ottawa, call 613-236-8914, and in Vancouver, 604-224-4748.

Temple celebrates 25 years

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Temple Har Zion, the first Reform synagogue in Thornhill, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year with a number of special events.

The lively temple, with a membership of 550 families, is putting out a yearbook to observe the event. It will include an account of how its common parking lot with a neighboring Mosque came about.

The temple's innovations in social matters won a recent award for it at the biennial meeting in Atlanta of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC). Har Zion won the Irving J. Fain Award for its social action program, Breaking the Circle of Hate, which began as a one-day meeting for congregants of all ages to focus on combatting racism and neo-Nazism. The success of the day led to numerous spinoff activities, including interfaith youth workshops and intergenerational dialogues.

A fundraiser on Feb. 25 at the Ford Centre in North York features *Les Miserables* star Michael Burgess, a wine and cheese reception and a silent auction.

A number of events at the temple June 13 to 16 will include a dinner honoring Rabbi Michael S. Stroh on June 13, at which the guest speaker will be Rabbi Eric Yoffie, newly elected president of the UAHC.

Yearbook editor Val Strawczynski is looking for stories and photos from all temple members about celebrations in their families. Publication is scheduled for September.

For information on any of these events, call Temple Har Zion at 905-889-2252.

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Professor says social issues must get onto Israel's agenda

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If and when the current Middle East peace process comes to some sort of final arrangement, there will be a number of social issues previously pushed aside, that Israel will have to deal with head-on says a professor at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

"The number 1 issue will be to redefine the relationship between religious and secular Israel," Prof. David Newman said at a recent lecture co-sponsored by the Canada-Israel Committee and the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Newman said that in light of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, tensions between the religious and secular world in Israel have increased immensely.

"We should not delude ourselves that there is unity and that tension is minimal. The only time there is unity is when a foreign army is invading our country," he said.

Over the years, religious Zionism has moved politically from a central to a right of central position, he said.

"The centre means compromise and until 1977, the National Religious party was an important bridge between different factions. The costs involved in moving to the right are that social dialogue is lost. The cost is far greater than the party's gains from defining its stance. After the assassination, everyone said that there must be dialogue, but on their own terms. That is not dialogue — if ideological compromise is not accepted, then there is no dialogue.

"For us to recreate some sort of unity, meaningful dialogue needs to take place and to do that, there are several preconditions. The precondition for the secular left is that it must recognize that Israel, in some form, has Jewish identity. If that is negated, there will be no dialogue.

"On the other hand, the religious world must accept that in the framework of a civil society, rules are democratic and not halachic. Halachic arguments are meaningless to 75 percent of Israeli society and they cannot be used in a political debate. Without these preconditions, there will be no meaningful dialogue and the two sides will continue to grow apart rather than together," Newman said.

Each side feels ideologically threatened by the other side, he said, and he finds it "odd that two strong groups should feel threatened. Neither side is prepared to compromise and political leaders are using these fears to create a lobby for their particular points of view."

Newman said schools are paying the price of the polarized points of views. "Within the state system, there are general and religious schools ... and there are costs to pay for the separation. Secular Israel is remote from religious traditions and values, and due to the separation of schools, the general education system has turned away from any type of religion — even traditions."

Grade 6 Eitz Chaim students Ilana Weesman and Miriam Zohin, both 11, admire a Grade 4 Torah Fair project in which a chupah scene floats above the restored Jerusalem. The inscription over the picture is from the verse from Psalms, "If I forget thee O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning...If I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy." [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Torah Fair draws over 900

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Over 900 children, parents and friends crammed the Spring Farm campus of Eitz Chaim Schools recently for this year's Torah Fair.

The fair, which is held every two years, is designed to supplement the school's religious curriculum.

Esther Weinstock, vice-principal in charge of the Spring Farm branch, said the projects, which are done either by individual students, small groups or classes, are "a representation or display in visual form of curriculum based topics," such as *midrashim* (stories that illustrate biblical or ethical themes), halachot, Jewish history, fast days or blessings.

One exhibit compared the waxing and waning of the moon to the history of the Jewish people, which alternated between tragedy and joy.

One series of exhibits showed the history of Jerusalem since the Akedah, the attempted sacrifice of Isaac.

A Jewish marriage is considered a step on the road to the rebuilding of the Temple and thus the restoration of the city to its former glory; so children combined pictures or figures of wedding scenes with visualizations of Jerusalem.

"It is a team effort of all the students and their teachers," Weinstock said. "They are all very involved and excited."

After the Torah Fair, the exhibits are displayed around the school, and many teachers use them to illustrate class topics.

This year, Weinstock said proudly, the art department of Baycrest Centre is taking six exhibits about dreams in the book of Genesis, and three about Jerusalem for permanent display at the Centre.

School projects such as the Torah Fair "encourage our students to learn and to develop as individuals," Weinstock said.

"Together with a strong academic program, [Eitz Chaim offers] alternate learning experiences. Learning is enriched and becomes multidimensional."

Greater Toronto Area

Participants set tone of mini-Moriah conference

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although keynote speakers Eugene Weiner and Shira Herzog set the tone at the recent mini-Moriah conference, Windows 5756: You Show Me Your Israel ... I'll Show You Mine!, it was the 70 participants representing a broad cross-section of the Jewish community who showed "exactly what these Moriah conferences are really all about," said Loretta Helman, the driving force behind the event.

The mini-Moriah was held recently at Baycrest Terrace, under the auspices of the Canada-Israel Forum, the organization established by Helman as the local affiliate of the Israeli Forum. The latter group, based in Tel Aviv, fosters ties between Israeli and Diaspora Jews through programs such as its Moriah conference, on which the mini-Moriah was based.

Eugene Weiner

Shira Herzog

At the one-day Toronto program, three workshops, of which participants could attend two, provided a forum for exchange of ideas and brought together diverse segments of the community.

One workshop, entitled Roots and Routes, focused on young Canadians and Israelis. The participants, Israeli- and Canadian-born, discussed the importance of the Israel experience to Diaspora youth and the varied sources from which Diaspora youth and Israeli Jews derive their identity.

"For some of [the participants], they saw there was an entry point to work together. I was very pleased," said Zac Kaye, director of Hillel Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, who co-led the session with Rina Cohen, an Israeli-born York University professor.

The two other workshops were Flanken, Falafel, Fajitas (changing ideologies and perceptions of Israel over the decades), led by Baruch Gur, Jewish Agency *shaliach*, and Allan Reitzes, executive director, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto; and Almighty Shekel (With Israel's economy booming, what forces will hold us together?), with economists Eliakim Katz and Jack Mintz.

"At the end of the day, we're bound together despite our differences," said Herzog, Israeli-born vice-president of the Kahanoff Foundation, a private Canadian foundation that works in Canada and Israel, and its related investment companies.

Herzog first came to Canada over two decades ago when her father Yakov was the Israeli ambassador to Canada.

Mutual understanding of Israeli and Diaspora Jews is limited, Herzog indicated, partly by the dearth of opportunities for Israelis to associate with their Diaspora counterparts.

Weiner's background and relationship to Israel differ markedly from Herzog's. An American-born sociologist and ordained rabbi, who served three years at Hamilton's Beth Jacob Congregation, he made aliyah in the late 1960s and is a faculty member at Haifa University.

While in Hamilton, he organized and led two educational contingents of young people on summer trips to Israel in an idealistic realization of his recognition that Israel was "the ultimate resource. I saw the electricity of the impact of Israel on young people."

"Those who are lucky in life are those who leave something behind. You were such a man, my friend."

— King Hussein of Jordan at the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin

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in the Jerusalem Corridor

The Jewish National Fund has traditionally dedicated a park or forest in memory of former Prime Ministers of Israel. The area of the Jerusalem Corridor is closely associated with Yitzhak Rabin. During Israel's War of Independence, he commanded a brave Palmach Brigade in that area and always felt a close attachment.

Last July, 2 million trees were burnt during a terrible forest fire in this same area.

Therefore, the Jewish National Fund will replant, rename and rededicate the Jerusalem Corridor area as the Yitzhak Rabin Forest in memory and in honour of Israel's slain Prime Minister.

Some dream about changing the world. Yitzhak Rabin tried to turn dreams into reality — to end decades of blood and tears. You now have the opportunity to honour the memory and the vision of Yitzhak Rabin by participating in the development of the Yitzhak Rabin Forest.

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The political oxymoron

Michel Gauthier is the new leader of the Bloc Québécois. True to the script he inherited from his predecessor, immediately after his election last week as party leader, he chose to insult the prime minister in reference to the latter's scuffle in Hull with a bothersome separatist heckler.

But Gauthier's brimstone is less pungent and his fire casts far less heat than that of Bouchard. Now that the spotlight of the separatists' drama falls on their main star in Quebec City, Gauthier will be hard pressed to hold the stage in Ottawa. His speeches and questions in the Commons will be overshadowed constantly by Premier Bouchard's soliloquies to the cameras downstream on the banks of the St. Lawrence.

In addition to the lesser spotlight, Gauthier will also suffer a serious gap in credibility. His inaugural statement as party leader amply demonstrates this.

As reported in the media, upon his election, Gauthier spoke in English twice "to assure [Canadians] the Bloc will, at times, still speak on their behalf. The Bloc will continue to be a real official opposition, ready to fight for equity and social justice, coast to coast in Canada."

Canadians know better than to be persuaded by such empty rhetoric. The Bloc has a single purpose and a single interest: the dismantling of Canada. It has no interest whatsoever in fighting any battles for Canadians "coast to coast", save the battle that would forever destroy for Canadians the country we cherish and love from coast to coast.

In a pitch to Quebecers for their votes in the upcoming by-elections, the new leader said that "the Bloc remains for them all the only true representatives on the federal scene."

In these remarks, Gauthier was more revealing, even if unintentionally. There is nothing federalist about the Bloc. The former Bloc leader and current premier of Quebec has said he will never sit at a constitutional table to discuss renewed federalism. The Bloc is the antithesis of federalism.

When used in the same sentence, the terms "the Bloc" and "the federal scene" are a political oxymoron. Canadians will not be fooled.

By his company

Nittai of Arbel, one of our wise mishnaic sages, said it best. "Keep far away from a bad neighbor and do not consort with a wicked person." He understood that associating with the wicked leads one ultimately to adopt wicked ways.

Louis Farrakhan, on the other hand, doesn't seem to care much about the company he keeps. He has just completed the third leg of a bizarre, middle eastern tour. He stopped in Iraq long enough to call a press conference and to gibe at the Jews. This was after he visited Iran, where he was reported to have said, "God will destroy America by the hands of Muslims," and after he visited Libya, where he reportedly secured a $1-billion investment from his colleague Muammar Khaddafi.

The American Congress will undoubtedly be interested in inquiring into the details of Farrakhan's deal with the man who has staunchly refused to hand over the suspects from the Lockerbie air massacre. It may even ask him to explain his Teheran comments. Americans tend not to look kindly on anyone who calls for their society's destruction.

Farrakhan, one of America's boldest anti-Semites, seems to have become even bolder, invigorated, if that is possible, by his whirlwind tour of the middle east tyrants, dictators, despots and oppressors, the kingpins of the sordid, craven world of terrorists and murderers.

All decent people will know him by the company he keeps.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

Even in laughter, the heart can ache.

JORDAN'S KING IS LIKE A DREAM COME TRUE!
THE HANDSOME ISLAMIC MONARCH IN HIS MILITARY UNIFORM MAKES PEACE WITH THE JEWISH STATE! WOW!
IT WOULD ALL BE SO PERFECT ...IF ONLY HE DIDN'T REMIND ME SO MUCH OF...
...THE SHAH OF IRAN.
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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Feb. 20, 1807, Ezekiel Hart, elected member for the riding of Three Rivers in the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada, was refused the right to take his seat because he refused to be sworn in "on the true faith of a Christian." (*Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995*)

Yasser Arafat and the bomb maker

Re: Letter by Bert Raphael "Adulation of Yehya Ayyash frightening" (Feb. 3)

The PLO's Yasser Arafat did not merely fail to "condemn the atrocious deeds of the bomb maker" (Ayyash). Arafat has, for at least a year now, been inciting to war and more suicide bombings while praising those "martyrs" who already died; all of which is openly broadcast on "Palestinian" TV.

Are we all really that ignorant of the facts or are we once again practising wilful blindness?

Sabina Citron
Toronto

Girls on Jewish school teams

The article entitled "Jewish Schools Prepare for Hockey Tourney" (*CJN*, Feb. 8) states that four Jewish day schools have added *boys* hockey to their extra curriculum activities. In fact, the hockey teams are co-ed and there is at least one girl on each of the four day school teams.

Sharon Shapiro
Toronto

Martin Lockshin and Peace Now

Subsequent to Prof. Martin Lockshin's article (*CJN*, Jan. 18), in which he rightfully criticized certain elements in right-wing Orthodoxy for not condemning extremist rhetoric or violence in their ranks, your paper carried two letters, one by Leonard Warner, the other by Joseph Winter.

Rather than trying to counter Lockshin's arguments, they both sought to muddy the waters by accusing him of supporting Peace Now. One of your correspondents wrote that Lockshin is an active member of the above organization. As a board member of Peace Now, I categorically state that this is a falsehood.

Jay Jacobs
Toronto

'Put our own house in order'

The fact that a small portion of the Jewish community was outraged enough to send letters to *The CJN* criticising Prof. Martin Lockshin's balanced and cogent analysis of the divisions in the Jewish community caused by the fanaticism of some of the West Bank settlers proves Lockshin's point. Put succinctly, the problem is to put our own house in order — the problem for our Jewish community is not in Hebron but in Hebronto.

Eric Mendelsohn
Toronto

Lazarus sparked historic debate

Shira Herzog (*CJN*, Jan. 25) states that Yacov Herzog, Israel's ambassador to Canada in 1961, was called by a journalist asking for a reaction to remarks made by British historian Arnold Toynbee at a lecture at McGill University.

For the record, the journalist who was the catalyst for the historic debate between Herzog and Toynbee and the subsequent events was the late Charles Lazarus of the *Montreal Star*.

Ruth Lazarus
Montreal

Newcomer shocked by lack of Kashrut

I have recently moved to Toronto from Philadelphia, where a ruling exists stating that any Jewish event, if sponsored by an organization that reaches out to the community at large, must respect dietary laws. This serves to unify all segments of the Jewish community.

Several weeks ago in Toronto, I attended an event and only discovered, after I had partaken of the meal, that in fact it was not kosher. It hadn't even occured to me to ask, as certainly this was a given that I took for granted. I learned, rather shockingly, that the Philadelphia paradigm does not apply in Toronto. In fact, Jewish organizations who do not fall under the umbrella of your Jewish federation, are free to decide for themselves whether or not kashrut should be observed. The issue, as I see it, is not about my personal level of observance, but rather about how a community might benefit by being sensitive to and thereby serving the needs of all of its members.

Ritasue Fisher
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Yiddish folksongs present snapshot of Jewish life

By NAOMI BELL

A picture is worth a thousand words and Yiddish folksongs are like pictures — tiny snapshots of Jewish life. Every aspect of society is reflected: work and struggle, love and marriage, family life and customs, communal values and personal feelings.

For East European Jews in the 19th century, Yiddish folksongs provided a remarkable emotional outlet and mirrored every aspect of their lives. For women especially, they provided a means of self-expression and the texts of countless lullabies and love songs retell the stories of their lives.

From the lullabies a mother crooned to her babies, we learn much about the expectations of society. To her son, mother would extol the value of Torah learning and in song after song, she urged him to become a pious scholar. But what message did she give to her daughter?

Sleep, my pretty little girl.
When you'll be 12 years old I'll marry you off to a fine young man.
Your father, that heretic (*apikoires*) says you shouldn't marry
Till you're 18 years old! Did you ever hear anything so ridiculous?

The theme of *Rozhinkes Mit Mandeln* (Raisins and Almonds), appears in several lullabies for boys. The little white goat will bring the baby gifts if he will study Torah, because knowledge of "*Toireh* is the best *schroireh* (merchandise)." There are variants of this theme directed at girls, but with a subtle difference in the message:

Under Soreleh's cradle stands a clear white goat.
The goat will go to market to buy raisins and almonds.
What is the best merchandise (*schroireh*)?
Sorele's *chosn* (bridegroom) will study Torah. (but not Soreleh herself!)

From earliest childhood, a girl was taught that to marry a scholar should be her highest aspiration. There is a large group of riddle songs in which the daughter is asked "Whom do you want to marry?" After several verses of rejecting humble artisans (tailors and cobblers), she finally chooses a *lamdan* (a scholar) as her husband, obviously with mother's approval.

If the ideal husband was a Torah scholar, what did a girl have to learn to make her a good wife?

To pray and write and read Yiddish,
To sew and embroider headbands,
One must learn when one is young, so as not to aggravate the parents,
So that the matchmakers may flock to see her.

In the traditional hierarchal society of the *shtetl* parents arranged matches for their children, often without consulting them. Many songs reflect the feelings of the young woman forced into a loveless marriage.

O, we poor girls, what good is our dowry if we're forced to marry fools?
Our parents arrange marriages without consulting us,
And they make our lives miserable.

This scene from *Fiddler on the Roof* portrays one of Yiddish literature's classic depictions of the loving but "colorful" relationship between husband and wife in poor, Eastern European *shtetl* life. [Photo by Betty Lee Hunt Associates extracted from *The Jewish Calendar*, Seigel and Strassfield]

Even worse than an unhappy marriage was not to be married at all, because a spinster lacked status in *shtetl* society:

Oy oy oy, it's bitter as death to be old maid (*alteh moid*)

In the latter half of the 19th century, young men and women from poor families flocked to the cities to work in the primitive factories and sweatshops. They hoped not only to improve their economic conditions, but also to be able to find romance without parental supervision and veto. But if young women had dreamed of a better life, they were doomed to disappointment.

Exploited by ruthless employers, seduced and abandoned by young men intoxicated with their new freedom, the seamstresses gave vent to their feelings in song after song. With remarkable eloquence they poured out their longing and frustration: the hardship of working at the machine for endless hours, their yearning for romance and longing for deliverance from their hard lot. The following examples can merely hint at the range of these songs:

Huddled over the machine I sit, mother, I, your only child.
Every bone in my body aches, and the work is making me blind.

Or this one:

Before I lie down it's already time to get up and drag my sick and aching bones to work. If I come a minute late they dock me half a day's pay, and it's such a long way! Needles break at the rate of 15 a minute, and my fingers stream blood. I'm constantly hungry, and I don't have money to buy food. But if I ask the boss for my pay he says to forget it. I cry out to God with a great cry: Why was I born to be a seamstress?

Marriage was the seamstresses' only hope for deliverance, but the recently liberated young men were not eager to make a commitment to only one woman. After the restrictive rules of the *shtetl*, they revelled in their new-found freedom and flitted from one woman to another. Naturally, there are many songs of spinsters pleading for marriage and of abandoned women giving vent to their grief. One woman says,

I no longer have strength to toil in the factory.
I plead with you to marry me, and release me from this burden.

and the man replies:
I cannot do so now because I have an older sister. After she finds a husband,
With the help of the Almighty, I promise to become your husband.

(In subsequent verses it becomes obvious that he doesn't really mean it!)

In a well-known folksong the woman declares:

Ich bin shoin a meidl in de yor'n (I'm getting on in years!)
Why have you kept me dangling for so long?
I would have married long ago if you hadn't kept me waiting for so long.

She promises that her mother will sell the house to raise a dowry, and ends with a threat:

Just in case you have another woman who is prettier and better than I,
I wish her just four years of love and then a fate like mine!

Many songs tell of seduction and abandonment:

Listen to my story, dear mother.
Once I had a precious vineyard which I should have kept locked.
Without asking my permission, he came into my vineyard,
And stole the most precious fruit from the tree.
Now I am left with only his picture, but he himself has disappeared.

Not all lovesongs are sad. Many are flirtatious and lively, with a mischievous sense of fun, and reflect the new, free spirit of boy-girl relationships in the cities.

Oy, Avrom, I can't live without you!
Do you remember how you used to whisper secrets to me at the gate?
Do you remember my pretty red dress, and what a sweet girl I was?

Or, with a slight hint of desperation underlying the lilting melody:

I've told you again and again that I have no dowry and no *yichus* (status).
If wealth is what you want, go elsewhere.
But if you want a real *mentsh*, then you've come to the right place.

The mass migration to America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries brought forth a large body of songs of parting: wives and sweethearts saying goodby to their men, and mothers parting with their sons.

You are leaving me, my dearest one.
How can I live without you?
Don't forget to write to me. O, I am dying, I am perishing of grief!

The fear that her man would find another woman in the new world is expressed in many songs:

My heart weeps within me as we say goodbye. Parting is so painful!
Be sure to write to me from the first town and if you meet another woman, please, please don't forget me!

Once arrived in America, women as well as men discovered that there was no "golden land" awaiting them, and that it required back-breaking toil in miserable conditions to eke out a meagre living. A popular theatre song tells the story of *di grine kuzine*, a pretty, fresh-faced young immigrant who came to America full of hope and optimism, but quickly became worn out and embittered by her hard life.

Most labor and protest songs don't address themselves specifically to women. Rather, they speak of oppressed workers toiling in the sweatshops. But in the late 19th century, the labor poet David Edleshtat wrote a stirring song directed specifically to women:

Working women, suffering women, you who languish at home and in the factory,
Why don't you help to build a temple of freedom, of human happiness? ...
Through the bitterest storms, women have shown that they can be trusted ... with the ho. banner of freedom, equality and ideals!

In this brief survey of Yiddish folksong an essential is, of course, missing — the music! Many of these songs are set to beautiful melodies that are a joy to hear and a pleasure to sing. Ideally a Yiddish folksong should be studied for its text and enjoyed for its music. But the texts themselves can convey a world of information and feeling about individual lives and about changing cultural values and traditions.

Reading the texts of these simple songs is like listening to the voices of the people themselves, as they poured out their intimate feelings and thoughts. Yiddish folksong is, indeed, a "mirror of Jewish life."

Naomi Bell is a writer and teacher of Yiddish living in Toronto.

Opinions

Ski trip helps unite Jewish students

One chairlift. Seven runs open. And 30 Jewish students from universities in Halifax, Saint John, Fredericton and Wolfville ready to hit the slopes meant one thing: Crabbe Mountain in Fredericton, N.B. was about to be surprised.

By Viva Press

The Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation (APJSF) hosted its second annual ski weekend from Feb. 1 to 4.

Since when is skiing Jewish? Since we took over the hill.

In freezing temperatures of minus 25 C, we layered up and set out for the slopes. We made up more than half of the skiers on the hill.

The ski weekend is one of many events APJSF organizes for Jewish university students. Other programs the APJSF has hosted this year include bi-monthly Shabbat dinners, holiday celebrations on Sukkot and Tu b'Shvat (Purim still to come) and two other weekend retreats, the Back to our Roots retreat in Wolfville, N.S., and a summer camping trip to Musquodoboit, N.S.

The APJSF is responsible for reaching Jewish students throughout the Maritimes. At Ontario universities, the Jewish students federation serve mainly as organizers for Jewish events, whereas the APJSF has an even more significant mandate: It is a "centralizing" body for Jewish students who are in very small minorities at the dozen or so universities in the Atlantic provinces.

Of course, Jews are in the minority in Ontario too, but there is an appreciably larger Jewish network already established. Jewish youth organizations are already in place and Jewish students have often known one another since high school.

In contrast in the Maritimes, the APJSF, the only Jewish organization, plays a crucial role in keeping Jewish students in touch with one another, in making sure that communication takes place.

The retreats it organizes enable students from different universities to get together for a weekend where they can discuss Jewish issues. For the six or seven Jewish university students in Wolfville, it is nice to know that there are other Jewish students out here with whom they can affiliate.

The APJSF has done more than just programming for us; it has helped us meet new friends with whom we can share our Jewishness. The bi-monthly Shabbat dinners that the APJSF hosts in Halifax do not mean that on the intervening Fridays we forget about Shabbat. Rather, now that we have made a group of friends, it is with these friends that we celebrate Shabbat and other Jewish holidays.

Recently a pot-luck vegetarian Shabbat dinner was held at my apartment. The Shabbat candles were waiting to be lit. The challah looked perfect on my new challah board and the table was set for eight. All that was missing were the guests. And then they came. Jewish time, of course — everyone was late!

In attendance were Dalhousie students Erin Sperling, Jasmine Oore, Jane Shkolnik; King's students Ian Epstein, Ros Allen, my two roommates Leslie and Jenn (previously introduced in my Sukkot article) and me. After kiddush and the Hamotzi we dug into our meal.

If it wasn't for the APJSF, we might have never met one another. Yet, here we were sharing a Shabbat meal. The main topic of our Shabbat discussion was, of course, our most recent event together, the ski trip. We relived the events of the whole weekend.

It was a great feeling to be able to share that Shabbat meal with other students in my situation. Jewish students without the backup of a larger community have to work hard to sustain their connection with Judaism.

At the ski weekend retreat, Acadia University student Shayna Allen, who is doing a research project on how religion affects one's leisure activities, asked us to fill out a survey. One of the items on the survey posed the question: "Does religion interrupt your leisure time?"

No, I answered. I actively choose to participate in Jewish traditions. I do not view these holidays and celebrations as interruptions. My leisure time revolves around my school work and my Jewish commitments. One cannot single out my Jewishness as an interruption. It is instead an integral part of being a student in Halifax.

And I'm not the only one who feels how important it is to maintain contact with my Jewish counterparts scattered around the Maritimes. The pot-luck was not the first Shabbat dinner I have shared with my Jewish friends, nor will it be the last.

Community's future found on campuses

More years ago than I care to remember, I used to write a regular column in our local Jewish newspaper in Manchester, England. As a national Jewish student leader I also had a column in our Jewish student newspaper.

By Zac Kaye

Essentially I wrote articles about what today would be called Jewish continuity issues, as well as articles on the dream of the time, a non-existent peace process. Most of my friends and colleagues thought me too pessimistic about the former and too optimistic on the latter.

At this time, I do not have much to say about the peace process, other than I am sure that many of my old friends will be scratching their balding patches, wondering how things I used to write about — and drive them mad with — have now come true.

Reading press clippings this week about a new demographic study on British Jewry that describes the depressing rise in the intermarriage rate, the decline in synagogue affiliation and other indices of affiliation has confirmed my long held view about my native country. The cup is certainly not half full, when one of the great communities of the Diaspora is in serious trouble, and I am not sure it has the tools to rectify the situation.

I grew up in a working-class Jewish area of Manchester called Hightown, adjacent to Cheetham Hill, an area rich in Jewish traditions and people, where the synagogues, the shops and the *chedarim* were found. Zionism and Judaism were a constant part of our lives growing up in this ghetto.

We felt a unique pride in growing up as Jews in an area that, despite being heavily Jewish, was still anti-Semitic. Anti-Jewish riots had broken out before the war, when Mosley's blackshirts had attempted to march, and even more so after the war during the dying days of the mandate in Palestine and later when the state of Israel was declared.

Against this background, I decided to become an educator and more importantly, a Jewish community professional, with a passion that becomes stretched and perhaps even weaker as each day goes by.

The acculturation and assimilation that have wreaked havoc with the western Diaspora have destroyed our collective memory and have given rise to an age of *kiruv* (religious outreach). Judaism has now to be brought to the people; it is not a part of the natural environment.

My role models gave me true Jewish values, believing in community and building on the cherished values of the *kehillah*. There was no fancy advertising.

We live today in a disconnected age. Nowhere is this more evident than on the campus, my chosen area of professional endeavor for the last 15 years.

The future of the community is to be found on our campuses, but the Jewish experiences of many of our Jewish students are limited by the few professional role models available to interrelate with them, and by the limited funds which inhibit the quality of programs offered. The staff at the Hillel-Jewish Campus Services in Toronto struggle heroically against tremendous odds to build a Jewish atmosphere on our campuses.

It would seem to me and many others I have talked to that the Jews of Toronto do not take the campus experience seriously, that it is not a significant part of their lives. It is, however, time that a sense of sharing in the future of the community emerged, that says if Jewish continuity is important, then nowhere is it more important to engage young Jews in some kind of Jewish experience than on the campus.

The memories of many growing up in Toronto and Montreal and reading this article are probably similar to mine. Different times call for different remedies. As we develop a Jewish Campus Service here that mirrors the tremendous strides being made by Hillel in the United States, we need the support of parents and the community at large to make it happen.

The '50s are no more. Nowhere is this more true than on the "Jewish wastelands of the campus," as Irving Abella referred to many of our universities.

If you are interested in taking up the challenge, give me a call at 416-512-0814.

We can still create the dream of *kehillah*. We just have to work harder at it.

Arguing before Supreme Court

Ontario is a province in which the government supplies Catholic day school education out of tax funds, while all non-Catholic denominations are denied that privilege and have to fund their own schools. Quebec, on the other hand, treats all denominations equally in this respect, despite its overwhelming Catholic majority.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Why does Ontario abide by a policy which, to all effects and purposes, is discriminatory and grossly unfair to half the population? It should be pointed out that this is not the invention of the Harris government but is the inheritance of previous regimes, from NDP to Liberal to earlier Conservative administrations.

Perhaps there was a time when matters might have been different, but the Jewish community itself was divided on the matter. There were many who believed that funding for day schools meant criticism of the public school system and, therefore, would not support an all-out effort to persuade the government to act even-handedly. Since then, political efforts having led nowhere, the leadership of the community — now united in its efforts to establish that equality — has taken recourse to the judicial system. But so far, the legal challenge too has failed and the lower courts have turned down the constitutional challenge. Now the matter is before the Supreme Court of Canada and in late January, the case was argued before the justices.

The main points raised by legal counsel, Ed Morgan, are the following:

The Jewish schools do not want full funding. They only want it for that portion of the curriculum which teaches the subjects taught in the public schools.

A survey of public opinion has regularly established the fact that the majority of Ontarians think that funding for independent schools is fair.

Such funding would not erode the public school system. In Quebec, the government covers 80 percent of the independent school operating cost and the public education system has suffered no damage. Nor is this the case in some 60 countries where public funding is the rule.

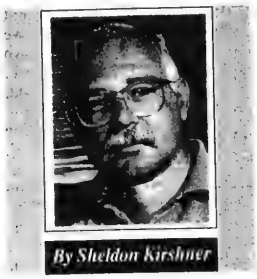
It is often claimed that, dollar for dollar, private schools are more expensive, when in fact they are one-third less expensive than the public system. The reason is simple: the salaries for teachers are less and a smaller range of programs is available to independent school students.

The Jewish brief does not advocate the abrogation of the Roman Catholic privilege, because it supports the concept of pluralism and multiculturalism. It does however believe that viable school systems of other faith communities are deserving of equal funding.

The bottom line is that most Jews believe that parents should have a choice to send their children either to the public school system or wherever they wish. I hope that the Supreme Court will feel that fairness must have its say and must remain the over-riding principle of any constitutional argument.

The Kirshner File

Child of Holocaust survivors designs Berlin museum



On a site close to what had been the headquarters of the Gestapo during the Third Reich, Berlin's Jewish Museum is rising phoenix-like. The exterior of the $80-million (US) building is virtually completed and all that remains to be finished are the interiors.

Scheduled to be opened in May 1997, the museum — an extension of the Berlin Museum — was designed by a child of Polish Holocaust survivors.

Daniel Libeskind, an architect with an international reputation, beat 170 competitors in a 1988 design contest to win the commission.

Constructed of steel and concrete, and clad in zinc, the museum is crowned by a distorted Star of David and linked by a series of tunnels symbolizing the emigration under duress of Berlin Jews, the Holocaust and the formation of the state of Israel and a new Jewish community in post-war Berlin.

In Toronto recently to deliver a lecture on memory and the Holocaust, Libeskind told me that the overriding purpose of the museum is to bring together the elements of Jewish and German history in the city under one roof.

Before the accession to power of the Nazis, Berlin was home to about 200,000 Jews, the most prominent of whom included Albert Einstein, Walter Benjamin, Max Reinhardt and Arnold Schoenberg.

Today, five decades after the collapse of the Nazi regime, Berlin's Jewish population has grown to approximately 10,000.

Libeskind, 49, acknowledged that the museum project has not been an easy one in political, cultural or spiritual terms.

Some Germans, he said in an interview at the Design Exchange, believe that closure should be imposed on the Nazi era. Still others believe that the museum should be smaller and more discreet. Not surprisingly, then, Libeskind has received hate mail and abusive telephone calls. And an early pamphlet about the museum, which was sabotaged by a printer, referred to him in the past tense, as if he had died.

Such incidents, of course, have upset Libeskind, who has an architectural practice in Berlin and Los Angeles. But they haven't deterred him.

Libeskind, who was born in Lodz, is working on two additional commissions in Germany — a massive housing project around Sachsenhausen, the site of a former concentration camp, and on an art museum in Osnabruk dedicated to Felix Nussbaum, the painter who perished in Auschwitz.

Given these assignments, Libeskind spends the bulk of his time in Berlin, in a neighborhood where Christopher Isherwood wrote his *Berlin Stories*. Libeskind's spouse and helpmate, Nina, is the daughter of the late leader of the federal New Democratic Party, David Lewis. They have three children.

Libeskind, who is also a tenured professor at the University of California, made his first trip to Germany in 1983 for an exhibition. He had previously avoided Germany. The visit so angered some of his relatives that they broke off all relations with him, and ostracize him to this day.

Libeskind is greatly concerned by the physical deterioration of former concentration camps-cum-museums like Sachsenhausen and Ravensbruck. Their operating budgets have been slashed and they are literally falling apart, he said.

"They are in danger of truly disappearing," he warned.

In his view, scarce public funds should be spent on preserving such sites rather than erecting huge Holocaust monuments.

Libeskind, for example, is dubious about the memorial that the central government planned to build near the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. He has several objections. The site has no historic connection with the Jewish past and is thus "completely artificial." It is physically too big, while the idea of inscribing some five million names on it is "absurd."

The Central Council of Jews in Germany, as well as the German government, broadly concur with Libekind's critique. The project has been put on hold, pending further decisions.

A sad and bizarre tale

Stella Goldschlag, a German Jew, was a *greifer*, or a catcher. She hunted down Jews for the Gestapo in wartime Berlin.

By all accounts, she was responsible for the deaths of at least several dozen Jews. She was the ultimate traitor, but given the circumstances, she was also a deeply tragic figure.

Her pre-war classmate, Peter Wyden, has written a searching account about Goldschlag, who was brought to trial after Nazi Germany's defeat and found guilty of aiding and abetting multiple murders.

Wyden's book, *Stella* (Doubleday, $12), is hobbled by annoying digressions. Better organization and tighter editing would have helped. These faults notwithstanding, *Stella* is fairly absorbing.

And why shouldn't it be? The story of a Jewish woman "turned" by the Nazis to betray her own people is unusual.

As Wyden remembers her, Goldschlag was tall, slim and leggy, with light blue eyes, pale satin skin and glowing blond hair. She was stereotypically Germanic and, he adds, she detested being Jewish.

Did she imbibe this self-hatred from her assimilated parents? Wyden doesn't offer the slightest clue. What he does tell us is that they were reluctant to leave Germany, even in the face of increasing official anti-Semitism.

The Jews who remained in Berlin after 1940 were not only dogged by cruel restrictions, but could be rounded up at any time and be deported to concentration camps. Goldschlag was acutely aware of the danger, and in order to save herself and her parents, she agreed to work for the Gestapo. Wyden claims that 20 young Jewish men and women were part of her network, known as the Jewish Scouting Service.

Catchers, he writes, were decently fed and paid. They did not have to wear a Jewish star. And they carried special identification papers. Goldsclag was an asset to the Nazis, having an excellent memory for names, dates and addresses.

She frequently appeared at funerals for Christian spouses in mixed marriages. When such gentiles died, their Jewish partners automatically lost their immunity from deportation. Goldschlag arrested them at the cemetery or nabbed them on the way home. She was ruthless.

Her treachery, though, did not save her parents from the fate suffered by so many Jews. They were shipped to Theresienstadt, thence to Auschwitz.

After the war, as a resident of East Germany, she claimed she had been a "victim of fascism." Her alibi didn't hold. She was arrested and, after a summary trial, was sentenced to serve 10 years at hard labor in a series of camps, including Sachsenhausen. Freed after several years, she was rearrested, then finally released.

After settling down, Goldschlag converted to Christianity and became, in Wyden's words, "outspokenly anti-Semitic." Her third husband, he claims, was a Nazi.

Goldschlag did not get along well with her sole child, Yvonne, who had been raised by a guardian. A public health nurse, Yvonne immigrated to Israel before the Six Day War. She has no contact with her mother, having severed her ties long ago.

It's a sad, bizarre tale, and Wyden tells it reasonably well.

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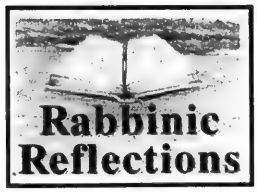

Building blocks

By RABBI STEVEN GARTEN

Building things, reading blueprints, fixing leaky faucets are not highlighted in my resume. In fact, I confess to being the only graduate of my high school with four post-BA degrees to have flunked industrial arts (shop), not once, but twice.

You can understand my consternation, then, upon being asked to reflect on this week's Torah portion which begins, "build me a sanctuary."

You can also imagine my utter delight when I chanced upon these words by the biblical commentator Abravanel: "Does not every detail of the Tabernacle and its furnishings have symbolic meaning? It is difficult to imagine that the two cherubim in the form of babes crowning the ark or the seven-branched candlestick with its elaborate carvings of almonds, cups and flowers have no symbolic significance." I did not have to deal with construction, only allegory.

Modern scholars have taught us to appreciate correspondences between similar phraseology and key words recurring in different places in sacred text. The number seven has a special significance in the Torah. In six days God created the heavens and earth. On the seventh, God gave us Shabbat. According to the Torah, while humankind is to make the tabernacle, God made its design in six days and on the seventh day, God called to Moses and showed him the design.

In the creation story, the Hebrew verb *asah* (to make) appears seven times. The same verb reoccurs almost 200 times in the story of the tabernacle. If these examples did not convince us of a relationship between God's creation and the building of the tabernacle, there is one more. When the creation was finished, the Torah tells us that, "God blessed the seventh day." When the work that begins in our portion is completed 25 chapters later, the text reads: "Moses blessed them."

God creates a world for humankind to dwell in. The parallel would appear to be that people create a tabernacle to provide a place on earth for the divine presence. Yet that seemed too simplistic for our rabbinic commentators. Could we really build a structure that would be a home for God? Could God really be limited by bricks and mortar? A literal reading of the text might confirm that interpretation.

However, the Malbim reads our portion somewhat differently: "God creates a world for humankind to dwell in and care for. Each human is required to create a tabernacle for God in his or her own heart."

We build a temple to God within our hearts when we open our hearts to the needs of others. In the parlance of psychology that is called empathy. In the language of Judaism it is called tzedakah and *gemilut chasadim.* Tzedakah is giving of money to individuals or institutions, *gemilut chasadim* is giving of our time, skills, energies. Together these two mitzvot form the foundation of God's tabernacle.

There is an ancient Jewish saying which states, "Give a man a fish, he eats for a day; teach a man to fish and he eats for a lifetime." That's the difference between tzedakah and *gemilut chasadim.*

We can and must donate to the Jewish federations, United Way, Red Cross or any number of hospitals or charities. Yet we must also look for ways to teach a man to fish, with literacy programs, Jewish Big Brothers, even coaching children for the Special Olympics.

I am told that a building requires a level foundation. It we are to build a tabernacle for God in our hearts that complements God's creation, we must build it upon a foundation of tzedakah and *gemilut chasadim.*

Rabbi Garten is the spiritual leader of Temple Israel in Ottawa.

Levinas a leading philosopher

By LAWRENCE KAPLAN
Special to The CJN

On Dec. 25, 1995, Emmanuel Levinas, one of this century's pre-eminent philosophers and Jewish thinkers, died in Paris at the age of 90.

Guest Voices

Born in Kovno, Lithuania, into an Orthodox family steeped in both Jewish and Russian culture, Levinas grew up studying at one and the same time the Bible and other classic Jewish texts, and Tolstoy and Dostoevsky.

He went to France in 1923 to pursue a degree in philosophy, and in 1928 and '29 studied at the University of Freiburg under Edmund Husserl and Martin Heidegger, the two greatest philosophers of the day, whose writings he later introduced to a French audience.

Levinas' major philosophic work, *Totality and Infinity* (1961), established his reputation as one of Europe's leading philosophers, a reputation consolidated by many other works which followed in swift succession. By the last quarter century, Levinas, together with Jacques Derrida and Michel Foucalt, were widely viewed as France's intellectual superstars.

Paralleling his "Greek" philosophic works, were his important "Hebrew" writings. For many years, Levinas delivered a talmudic lecture at an annual conference of French intellectuals, an event which soon became a highlight of French Jewish intellectual life. Many of these lectures, collected in three volumes, have been translated into English as *Nine Talmudic Readings.* Several more of these lectures appeared, together with other essays of Levinas on Jewish thought, in the important anthology *Difficle Liberté.* (The English version of this work, *Difficult Liberty*, is unfortunately extremely poor.)

While Levinas made a strenuous

[Cont'd. on page 13]

Emmanuel Levinas
[photo by Bracha Lichtenberg Ettinger from the *Jerusalem Report*]

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Jews and the afterlife

Jewish Views Of The Afterlife by Simcha Paull Raphael Jason-Aaronson

The author of this informative volume relates the following incident. A rabbi lecturing to a group of nurses was asked, "Does Judaism believe in an afterlife?" He replied, "Judaism celebrates life and the living. It dwells on life here rather than on the hereafter as other faiths do. Life is precious, the here and the now."

This customary response disturbs Raphael. He asserts, "It is simply not true." *Jewish Views of the Afterlife* demonstrates his contention that Jews have always believed in the "next world" and that there exists an extensive legacy of Jewish writings and teachings on the subject.

The author skillfully guides the reader through beliefs and views on the afterlife that are found in the Bible, rabbinic literature, Kabbalah, and Chassidism. Especially noteworthy is his presentation of little-known texts from medieval Midrash, some of which were discovered in the 19th century in the famous Cairo Geniza. Some of this material is as lurid and grotesque as anything found in Dante's *Inferno*.

The Torah contains very few references to the afterlife, other than to a shadowy realm of disembodied spirits called *Sheol*. Unique is the sentiment in the Book of Daniel: "And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame."

In the centuries following the Babylonian Exile (586 to 536 BCE), Persian and Greek influences stimulated Jewish thinking in new directions. Apocryphal literature written during the period (200 BCE to 200 CE) contained elaborate descriptions of *Gehenna* and Paradise, as well as the doctrines of individual immortality, divine judgement and the resurrection of the dead.

Rabbinic teachings about the afterlife are numerous, but they are ambiguous and contradictory. The Ethics of the Fathers, a portion of the Mishnah, teaches that this world is like a vestibule before the world to come: "Prepare yourself in the vestibule so that you may enter into the hall of a palace." Yet there is the opposing teaching from the same text: "Better is one hour of repentance and good deeds in this world than a whole life of the world to come."

The sage Rav (third century CE) conjured up this vision of the hereafter: "There is no eating, nor drinking, nor propagation, nor business, nor jealousy, nor hatred, nor competition, but the righteous sit with crowns on their heads feasting on the brightness of the *Shechinah*." Yet this sage who presents so spiritual a view also teaches that in the world to come a person will be obliged to give an account of every legitimate pleasure he denied himself in this world.

Understandably, medieval Jewish philosophers held diverse opinions on this complex subject. The author lucidly summarizes the views of Saadia Gaon, Maimonides, Gersonides and Nachmanides.

Chapters on the Kabbalah and chassidic tales offer provocative insights into such concepts as the levels of the soul, reincarnation and an understanding of illness and the dying process.

What will surprise most readers is the author's contention that the actions of the living can influence the dead, that between the living and world of the dead there is a window and not a wall. "Jewish tradition suggests that the living can functionally influence the fate of the soul in the realms of the afterlife. Perhaps through the processes of burial, shivah, Kaddish, *yahrzeit* and Yizkor bereaved friends and family, and appropriate 'soul guiding' professionals, can consciously attune to the inner worlds and help the disembodied soul to progress through the various phases of the postmortem journey."

The author, a bereavement psychologist, influenced by recent developments in trans-personal psychology and consciousness research, insists that we need to reach rabbis, educators, helping professionals and others about Judaism's afterlife teachings as well as recent psychological perspectives on dying and bereavement.

This scholarly work — 15 years in the making — is also a deeply felt personal statement that merits a wide readership. It seeks to bring Jews back to necessary teachings about life and death that have been largely forgotten or neglected.

Explored idea of infinity

[Cont'd. from page 12]

effort to keep his "Greek" and "Hebrew" writings separate, studiously avoiding Jewish references and texts in his philosophical writings and technical philosophical discussions or terminology in his talmudic lectures, a common spirit animates the two bodies of work.

His philosophic thought constitutes a fundamental critique of Western philosophy, which as he sees it, has been devoted to the idea of "totality," viewing man, society, and the world as an ordered whole, subject to both comprehension and control.

He counterposes to the idea of totality that of "infinity," wherein the "face," the unique personality of the other in all of his or her otherness, breaks through that totality, is subject to neither my comprehension nor my control, but on the contrary, subjects me to its moral claims.

But it is precisely this idea of infinity that Levinas sees as the fundamental teaching of Judaism. While Levinas was a traditional Jew, who accepted the authority of Jewish law in its entirety, for him the revelation of the law signified, first and foremost, the absolutely binding and transcendent nature of the moral imperative.

In this week's *parshah*, which recounts the giving of the Torah, we read that the Israelites stood "at the foot of the mountain" (literally, "underneath the mountain"). The rabbis comment that God overturned the mountain upon the Israelites and threatened them: "If you accept the Torah, all is well; but if not, here will be your grave."

For Levinas, this rabbinic statement means two things. First, the moral imperative is imposed upon me; that is, it originates not with me but with the claim the other makes upon me. I am free either to accept, ignore or even deny that claim. But the exercise of free will *follows upon* the moral imperative; it is not — contra Kant — that imperative's source.

Second, the only alternative to the acceptance of the Torah, to accepting the claim the other makes upon me, to looking at the face of the other in its infinity, is that violence whereby I seek to subject the other to my control, my plans, my goals, to forcibly make him or her part of a totality subject to my domination.

In a word, for Levinas, the only alternative to the "difficult liberty," the stern justice, the infinite responsibility for the face of the other demanded of us by the Torah, is the violence of totality, ultimately resulting in war and death.

It is striking that while scores and scores of studies about Levinas' "Greek" writings, his strictly philosophical works, have appeared, his "Hebrew" writings, his talmudic lectures and various essays on Jewish thought, have only just begun to attract attention. Fortunately, that is beginning to change. For one thing is certain: The alternative of infinity or totality, of Torah and life or violence and death, has never been as stark and clear and compelling as it is today.

Lawrence Kaplan teaches in the Department of Jewish Studies at McGill University.

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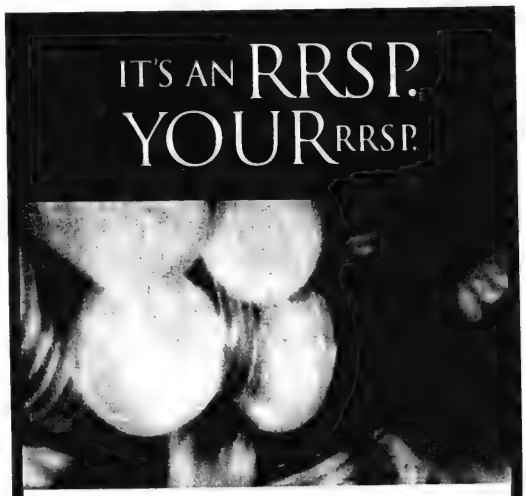

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Frida's a true master in Lipa Green's kitchen

Communities cannot function and prosper without the commitment, care and tireless efforts, mostly unrecognized, of countless hard-working individuals. They are the "unsung heroes" of the community. Spotlight *will appear occasionally in these pages to shine a light on some of these heroes. If you would like* The CJN *to cast a spotlight on the unsung heroes you know, please contact Carolyn Blackman at* The CJN *any Friday before 3 p.m.*

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Next time you attend a meeting at the Lipa Green Building, chances are you'll run into Frida Sloboder, food supervisor for the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Sloboder, who began at the old Beverley Street building as a cook in 1977, now runs the kosher kitchen at the Lipa Green Building. Her duties include planning meals, training and supervising staff, and ordering all the supplies.

Sloboder, who left Russia with her husband and daughter in 1976, said her training as a teacher helped when it became her job to organize the new kitchen at Lipa Green.

"It was an empty kitchen and I had to organize everything, from hiring staff to buying all the supplies. My teaching experience helped because I had learned the importance of organization as well as as how to teach people their tasks. We serve dairy for breakfast and lunch and meat for dinner; so creating a kosher kitchen was a big part of my job. When we started, my staff had no experience, but under my guidance, they learned, one step at a time. Every hour was like a lesson at school."

Because her job is connected with the schedule of meetings or meals, Sloboder can work as many as 10 hours a day.

"Some days are long, with 100 people arriving for breakfast and then others arriving all day. On the days when nothing is planned, I have things cooked and frozen for future use. Again, my organizational skills come in handy."

She says that although she may plan the menu with the person in charge of the meeting, "it is often left up to me. I have a feeling for what people like. Dinner could be chicken and rice, cabbage rolls, meat balls or stews, and lunch may be some kind of pasta or kugel — anything with a Jewish flavor. I go through cookbooks or use my own recipes. Everything served comes from my heart.

Frida Sloboder

"Holidays are an important time of year and I make sure I give a holiday feeling to meetings and meals. A meeting set for Purim will find hamantaschen on the table; and during Chanukah, people are served potato latkes. Even though food is the main part of my job, I also make sure every meal has a special touch. Everything is sparkling clean, flowers may be on the table and food is arranged artistically. Touches like that can make the meeting."

Sloboder said she feels very loyal to the Jewish community who has been good to her throughout her career.

"I love working here. I meet good people and I've learned how to talk to everyone. In return, I watch every cent because I know money goes to Israel and to the Jewish community. I try not to overcharge and I throw nothing out. Leftovers are recycled into another dish and served again. There is no waste in my kitchen. I even try to serve home-baked goods if possible because it is less expensive to bake in my kitchen than to buy cake. I sleep well at night because I know I've done a good job."

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MARCH FOR ISRAEL

For the first time, the Canadian Zionist Federation is getting together with United Jewish Appeal for festivities surrounding the annual Community March for Israel, on Sunday, May 26. This year's March, called Journey to Jerusalem, and the festival that follows, are dedicated to Jerusalem 3000. Seen here from last year's March are this year's co-chairs Maura Cooperberg and Jeff Cohen. This year's festival will be at the North York Centennial Centre on Finch Avenue.

Greater Toronto Area

So, you want your child to be a mentsh?

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Parents of preschoolers and toddlers take heart. Your child may be strong-willed, self-centred and non-compliant, but with proper parental guidance, he or she can learn to become a mentsh, according to two child development experts.

Psychologist Sarah Landy and social worker Barbara Miller, who are with Early Pathways Developmental Consultants, recently spoke about the challenge of raising a mentsh, to some 30 women from Young Women's Outreach, a division of United Jewish Appeal for women age 28 to 40.

Sandra Brown, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto also spoke, encouraging the women to get involved and consider positions of responsibility in the community.

Brown also told the group. "I like to think of myself as a mentsh because I was raised by mentshen."

Her comment underscored a key theme expressed by Landy and Miller: mentshlechkeit begins in the home.

Children who feel secure in their relationships with their parents tend to be considerate and caring of others, Landy said. A sound self-esteem is the basis for developing caring relationships, she added. "Unless you care for yourself, you can't care for others."

Parents also need to model caring behavior and establish rules and limits that reflect important values such as non-violence and generosity, she said.

Make more effort

Parents of only children may have "to make more of an effort" to help their son or daughter learn to share, because children with siblings "have to learn to live together and share," she said. "You have to work at it. Sharing doesn't take place naturally."

Having children pretend to be other people — puppets are a useful play tool — enables them to put themselves in other people's shoes; and encouraging them to talk about their feelings helps them develop a sense of empathy, Landy said.

Showing children how to negotiate disputes with siblings and friends also helps them learn to consider the other person's point of view, while explaining the reasons they are not allowed to do something helps them build a sense of conscience, she said.

Miller gave some practical ways of instilling Jewish social values in children. She said teaching about tzedakah begins in the home; family discussions about tzedakah and mitzvah projects will help children develop a sense of social responsibility and learn about the plight of others.

She suggested reinforcing mentsh-like behavior with small rewards such as stickers.

Sending get-well cards or calling people who are sick helps children develop a sensitivity to other's needs, she said. And inviting people to the home to celebrate Shabbat fosters the concept of hospitality, community and inclusiveness.

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Beth Tikvah A team members Warren Cass, Adam Silver and Leah Schwebel won the local Bible contest. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Supplementary school students match wits in Bible contest

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Teams of students from supplementary schools in the Greater Toronto Area match wits in the local Bible contest, an event sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) every February.

This year, eight teams with a total of 30 students from five schools — Beth Tikva, Orah, Temple Kol Ami, Bet Sefer Solel and the Downtown Jewish Community School (DJCS) competed. Holy Blossom Temple hosted the event.

Participants in the local contest do not compete for a grand prize — there's no trip to Israel as in the national contest.

They are basically motivated by "a love of learning Torah," says Yael Seliger, BJE's director of teacher development and personnel practices.

The board's coordinator of school services, Joyce Levine, agrees. "These students are most often learning on their own time," she says. "Year after year, the judges are most impressed with the level of knowledge of the students."

Levine, the contest organizer, says she spent two weeks preparing the questions, all of which were on Genesis this year.

The two winning teams were the Beth Tikva A team and the DJCS, with Beth Tikva in first place edging out the DJCS by five points, the equivalent of one question. Both teams had begun preparing for the contest in mid-December, doing most of the learning at home.

The contest was divided into three parts: two rounds of oral questions with two teams pitted against each other, and a Torah trivia round which involved all the teams at once.

CHAT vice-principal Richard Stall ran the trivia. The judges were Dr. Uri Korin, principal of Bialik; York University professor of Jewish Studies Martin Lockshin; Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, senior rabbi of the Beth Tzedec Congregation; and Zvi Stanislavsky, the Israeli emissary to the BJE from the Torah Education Department of the World Zionist Organization.

The local Bible contest was held on the same day as the written exams for the regional Bible contest. More than 300 children across Canada took the written test to qualify for the national contest which takes place in April.

The Downtown Jewish Community School team (from left) Alex Snukel, Ethan Orwin, Ben Strauss, Coach Sigal Tuch and Katherine Mitchell, came in second in the local Bible contest this year. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Eggleton chats up unity message

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Students at Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) were recently urged by MP Art Eggleton to engage in dialogue with other students across the country, in order to promote national unity.

Eggleton, the minister of international trade and MP for York Centre, the riding in which the school is located, told the students, "We must talk to each other in order to get a sense of what our country is all about. We all own a part of this country and it is necessary to find out what is going on. Oct. 30 was definitely a wake-up call and students are important in forging the links that bring our country together.

"Although we won the referendum, it was a lot closer than we had anticipated and we cannot take the results for granted. Canada has always been inclusive of people of different races and religions and we must keep working to keep it together."

A student who had attended the Montreal rally that took place just prior to the referendum said he had spoken to several Quebecers and he gathered from them that they did not really know what to expect if Quebec separated.

"We must tell Quebec what they gain from being part of our country," Eggleton answered. "On the other hand, people in Ontario must understand why Quebec feels as it does. After the referendum, we went back to the drawing board and we intend to change our method of communication. We need to understand that they also have a point of view."

He said that the federal government misread what would happen during the referendum. "It was not a straight question and I think a lot of people voted Yes — not to separate, but rather, for a better deal. [Lucien] Bouchard attracted many voters and by the time we saw what was happening, we only had time to get stabilized."

Shlomo Keder, 10, and his sister Lee, 8, plant a symbolic tree for Tu b'Shvat. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Tu b'Shvat celebration attracts young people

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jerusalem Hall at the Zionist Centre overflowed with children and youth who came to celebrate Tu b'Shvat.

Event organizers had expected 60 to 70 people, but twice as many turned up to take part in the games and songs.

Co-sponsored by eight Zionist organizations, including four youth movements, this was the first time they had "made a concerted effort" to organize an event together, Risa Epstein, executive director of Young Judaea told *The CJN*.

She praised the efforts of the volunteer youth leaders from the various movements, who had planned the entire program.

Retired brigadier-general Doron Kadmiel, the Jewish National Fund shaliach, told the audience that three million trees had been planted in Israel for Tu b'Shvat this year. He said a new park named in memory of the late Yitzhak Rabin, was created along the Jerusalem highway to replace the trees destroyed by last July's forest fire — the biggest in Israel's history.

He noted that the park was appropriately named for Rabin, because the late prime minister had been among those who opened up that road in 1948. The trees also commemorate the 3000th anniversary of Jerusalem.

More than 200 million trees have been planted in Israel since 1897, he said.

Canadian Young Judaea, Habonim Dror, Hashomer Hatzair, Betar/Tagar, Israel Youth Program Centre, Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Canadian Zionist Federation, Tzabar and JNF were the event co-sponsors.

Funding was provided by Federation through the action committee for Jewish continuity. Funding has also been made available for two more events to be organized by the same group of co-sponsors: an ecology day in April and a Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration in May.

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Scenario #2

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פון זײַן פריסטער יוגנט איז עגיט געווען אקטיוו אויפֿן קולטורעלן אוּן פֿאָליטישן געביט אין זײַן געבוירן־שטאָט, באַריסלאָוּ, אין פֿאָר־מלחמה־דיקן פוילן. אָלס יונגער בחור האָט ער זיך אַקטיוויזירט אין די ריינן פון די לינקע פּועלי ציון. במשך פון אַ לענגערער צײַט איז ער געווען דער רעדאַקטאָר פון אַ ייִדישער צײַטונג. פֿאַר זײַנע טעטיקייטן צווישן די אַרבעטער אין די פֿאַטס־פעל- דער אין באַריסלאָוּ, איז ער פֿאַרפֿאָלגט געוואָרן פון דער פוילישער פֿאַשיסטי- שער פֿאָליצי אוּן פֿאַר אים אַריינגעזעצט געוואָרן אין טורמע.

וועז די דיסטשן זײַנען אַריין אין באַריסלאָוּ, איז ענטפֿל געלונגען צו אַנ- לויפן פון שטאָט אוּן פֿאַר אַ צײַט־לאַנג אין דאַמאָלסדיקן סאָוועטן־פֿאַרבאַנד.

נאָכן זיג איבער היטלער־דיסטשלאַנד איז ער צוריקגעקומען קיין פוילן אוּן זיך באַוועגט אין ריכטאָן, נידערשלעזיען, וואוּ האָט פֿאַר דער מלחמה געהערט צו דיסטשלאַנד אוּן איז דורך דער זיגרײַכער רויטער אַרמי צוגעטיילט געוואָרן צו דער טעריטאָריע פון אַפֿרײַען פוילן. יעקב עגיט איז באַשטימט געוואָרן אלס פֿאַרוויצער פון קאָמיטעט פון פוילישע ייִדן אין נידערשלעזיען, וואוּ ניצול־געוואָ- רענע ייִדן פון דער שואה האָבן געפֿרוווט וועגן וויידער אויסבויען א ייִדיש לעבן.

מעכטפֿון די ניצול־געוואָרענע ייִדן פון נידערשלעזיען, וואָס זײַנען גע- בליבן לעבן, זײַנען דורך די היטלעריסטן פֿגנצט געוואָרן אלס שקלאפֿן־ אַרבעטער אין די אָרומיקע קוילן־גרובן, אַמוניציע־פאַבריקן אוּן אַנדערע דייטשע אינדוסטריעלע אונטערנעמונגן. א דאָנק דעם שנעלן פֿאָראויסמאַרש פון דער רויטער אַרמי, האָבן די דייטשע מערדער נישט באַוויזן אומצוברענגן די לעצן- געבליבענע שקלאָפֿן־אַרבעטער. ס'איז געווען צו באַוואונדערן די איבערגעבליב- קייט, מיט וועלכער עגיט אוּן דער גאַנצער קאָמיטעט האָבן געטאָן זײַער אַרבעט פון אײַנאָדעמען די שארית הפליטה, העלפן די רעפּאַטריאירטע ייִדן פון דאַמאָלסדיקן סאָוועטן־פֿאַרבאַנד אוּן אויפֿבויען ייִדישע געזעלשאַפֿטלעכע אוּן קולטורעלע אינסטיטוציעס.

אַבער זײַער טרוים וועגן וויידער אויפֿבויען א ייִדיש לעבן אין נאָך־מלחמה־ דיקן פוילן איז צוגעשטיגן געוואָרן צוליב דעם אַנטי־ייִדישן קורס פון דעם קאָמוניס- טישן רעזשים, וואָס האָט געהערשט אין פוילן. עגיט אליין האָט סײַער באַצאָלט פֿאַר זײַן ייִדישער געזעלשאַפֿטלעכער טעטיקייט. אויף דער פֿאַלשער קלאָגע פון נאַציאָנאַליזם איז ער פֿאַרשיקט געוואָרן אין טורמע, וואוּ ער איז געזעסן בין נאָכן טויט פון סטאַלינען.

אין 1957 איז עגיט אוּן זײַן פֿאַמיליע בעלונגען צו פֿאַרלאָזן פוילן אוּן נאָך א קורצער צײַט אין אַנגעקומען קיין קאַנאַדע אין יאָנואַר, 1958. עס האָט נישט לאַנג גדויערט אוּן עגיט'ס באַרײַטקייט סאָלאָנט אוּן געזעלשאַפט- לעכער חוש זײַנען גשטעלט געוואָרן צום דינסט פון ייִדישן יישוב אין שטאָט.

נאָך עסלעכע חדשים איז לאַגד איז עגיט באַשטימט געוואָרן אלס געהילף־ דירעקטאָר פון הסתדרות קאַמפּיין, באַזונדערס צווישן די מאַסיוּס און פֿאַלקס־ אַרבאַניזאַציע — אַן אמט, וואָס ער האָט אונגעהאַלטן עסלעכע דרײַסיק יאָר מיט גרויס דערפֿאָלג. אונטער זײַן פּידערשאַפט האָבן די פֿאַראײַניקטע אַרבאַנ- זאַציעס בײַ דער הסתדרות געשאַפֿן הונדערטער טויזנטער דאָלאָרן פֿאַר א רײַ פּראָיעקטן אין ישראל. איך אַנערקענע פֿאַר זײַנע פֿאַרדינסטן, איז צו דער גע- לעגנהײט פון זײַן 70-טן געבוירנטאָג, געשאַפֿן געוואָרן די יעקב און קלאָרא עגיט פונדאציע אין ישראל.

די פֿאַראײַניקטע אַרבאַניזאַציעס האָבן, אויף עגיט'ס איניציאַטיוו, אונטערפֿיד אַן אונטשאַפֿנעם קאַמף קעגן די נאַא־נאַציס אין סאָוועטן אוּן קעגן נאַציזם אוּן אַנטיסעמיטיזם בכלל. דער גרעסטער נישט זײַ דערפֿאָלגרײַכע אקציע קעגן באַזוך פון דעם נאַציסטן גענעראַל האָן־טאָדטן, אַדער די גרויסע דעמאָנסטראַציעס קעגן די היגע פֿאַשיסטן, די ביימיס, זונדעלס און אַנדערע. עגיט'ס ראָל אין אַרגא־ ניזירן די אקציעס איז אומפֿאַשטענדיק.

ער האָט פֿאַרנומען אונטערגעגע פֿאויציעס אין קאָנגרעס, אין דער ייִדישער קולטור־געזעלשאַפֿט, וואוּ ער איז געווען אַן אונטערגע- מיטגליד פֿאַר 38 יאָר אוּן וואוּ ער האָט א סך בײַגעטראָגן צו דער ייִדישער קולטור־טעטיקייט. ער וועט אונדז אויספעלן. ער איז אויך געווען אַן אקטיוויסט מיטגליד פון באַראַאַן ברענטש 124 פון באַציאָנאַלן אַרבעטער־פֿאַרבאַנד.

אין עגיט'ס טויט האָט דער ייִדישער ישוב אין פֿאַראַנטאָ פֿאַרלוירן א וויכ- טיקן און אקטיוון טוער, וואָס האָט געמאַכט א באַדײַטנדיקן בײַטראָג צו אונדזער געזעלשאַפֿטלעכן לעבן. ערע זײַן אנדענק! — ש.ל.

From coast to coast

Uniform definition of hate crimes urged

[Cont'd. from page 3]

The report, written by Julian Roberts, a professor in the department of criminology at the University of Ottawa, is an analysis of recent hate crime statistics, followed by 20 recommendations for action.

Prepared for the federal Justice Department, the report collected statistics on hate crimes from various Canadian police forces, from B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights and from gay and lesbian groups in Toronto and Montreal.

Government should listen: page 30

Referring to the situation in Toronto, Roberts found that racial minorities account for half of all hate crime incidents reported to Metro Toronto police, followed by religious groups (35 percent), groups defined by their sexual orientation (10 percent) and groups based on ethnicity or nationality (five percent).

"Not surprisingly...the vast majority of religious hate crimes (89 percent) were anti-Semitic in nature."

The report went on to find that "religious groups were more likely to be the victims of property crimes: almost a third of mischief offences were directed at religious groups but only seven percent of assaults were directed against this target category."

Roberts calls for the adoption of a uniform definition of hate crimes so police forces across the country would use the same criteria when recording incidents. He suggests "hate crimes should be defined as crimes in which hatred or bias was in whole or in part responsible for the commission of the offence."

Other recommendations include:

- creation of specialized police hate crime units across the country.
- closer contact between police and communities most at risk for hate crimes.
- more public education on the topic.
- better contact with gay and lesbian communities "in light of the extremely low reporting rate and the disproportionately high rate of violence in hate crimes directed at gays and lesbians."

Roberts speculated that as many as 60,000 hate crimes are committed annually in nine major Canadian cities — a figure that came as no surprise to Jewish community organizations that study the issue.

"I'm not shocked" by the figure, said lawyer Marvin Kurz, a spokesperson for B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights. The annual League audit on crimes committed against Jews speculates that only one in 10 such crimes is ever reported. While it is difficult to quantify such crimes, "we've had the view that hate crimes are underreported," he said.

The study shows that "it's not just the bleating of a few minority groups but that hate crimes are much more common in society and must be taken more seriously," Kurz said.

Steven Shulman, a spokesperson on community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, said there were no definitive figures for the number of hate crimes, but "we agree it's certainly under-reported.

Kurz called for legislative change that would *require* judges to consider hate-motivation as an aggravating factor in sentencing. Under current law, it is simply another factor that *may* be considered by judges, he said.

Kurz and Shulman both called for creation of a centralized statistical registry to collect data on hate crimes.

Tackling Internet hate

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — Internet providers must take the responsibility for keeping hate messages off the Net, said Sol Littman, Canadian director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Canada.

Speaking at a community meeting at the Jewish Community Centre, Littman said that through the Canadian Council of Internet Providers, which operates across the country, the contents of Internet messages can be controlled, and the government doesn't have to be involved.

This is not censorship, he maintained, but merely Internet providers exercising their right to keep distasteful material off the Net. Canadian media editors, he said, do this all the time.

For example, he said, the *Toronto Star*, for which he used to work, edits, rewrites or omits material it is not satisfied with. There is no reason why Internet providers can't do the same thing.

The trouble is that the people who services the Internet "don't want to get involved" in regulations respecting Canada's existing hate laws, he added.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 22, is deadline for March 7 issue, and Thursday, Feb. 29, is deadline for March 14 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331; fax 424-1886.

Thursday, Feb. 22

FOUNDATION LAUNCHED

Jewish Russian Community Centre launches its Jewish-Russian Education Foundation at Paradise Banquet Hall and Convention Centre, City of Vaughan. Guest of honor is **Al Palladini**, minister of transportation. Dinner committee chair is City of Vaughan councillor **Bernie Green**. Foundation enables children of needy Russian-Jewish families to attend educational programs.

HEARTS OF HATE

North York Board of Education and generation to generation subcommittee of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, present *Hearts of Hate*, a documentary about racist groups in Canada by award-winning filmmaker **Peter Raymont**, plus former Heritage Front member **Elizabeth Moore** and panel discussion, 7 p.m., North York Board of Education, 5050 Yonge St. 635-2883, ext. 153.

Sunday, Feb. 25

DEMOCRACY IN ISRAEL

Professors **Arieh Rattner** and **Uri Levitan** discuss Is Democracy in Israel at Risk? 7:30 p.m, Barbara Frum Library. Presented by Tzavta. **Mintzy Clement** 905-764-1186 or **Yehuda Marie** 736-1339.

BRUNCH AND LEARN

Shaar Shalom sisterhood features **Corrine Spiegel**, financial advisor, Midland Walwyn, speaking on How to Take Full Advantage of Your Investment Retirement, Strategies for RRSPs and Understanding Mutual Funds, 10 a.m., synagogue, 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill. RSVP **Arna Cappe** 905-881-8631.

MUSICAL FUN

An afternoon of musical fun for the whole family with **Judy** and **David** and their All Together Now Band, 4 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. $8. A portion of proceeds go to Mazon Canada. **Leslie Lewis** 789-3291, ext. 233.

BOOK SALE

Jewish, Hebrew, Hungarian and English books on sale 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. Proceeds to centre's Lipa and Fanny Green Library. **Kelly Mann** 785-2500, ext. 2273.

CHOICE VS OBLIGATION

At Temple Sinai, **Rabbi Michael Dolgin** discusses Choice versus Obligation, the Meaning of Being a Reform Jew. Services 9:30 a.m., breakfast following, program at 10. $3.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate branch, Royal Canadian Legion 256, general members meeting 10:30 a.m.

PURIM PARTY

West Toronto Jewish Community Association Purim Party, 11 a.m., Swansea Community Centre, 15 Waller Ave. **Sharon** 236-2054.

Monday, Feb. 26

AISH HATORAH

The Purim Primer, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Women's Institute of Torah Study public lecture, Esther: The Ultimate Sacrifice, with **Chana Weisberg**, dean, plus music by The Dynamic Duo starring **Chavi Rappaport** and **Ruth Coodin**, 8 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. $6. 905-881-2012.

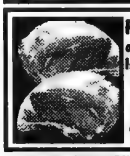
[Cont'd. on page 21]

food city Brings The Cost Of Keeping Kosher Down

Sun. 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., MON. - WED. 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., THURS. 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., FRI. 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., SAT., 8:00 A.M. - 10 P.M. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

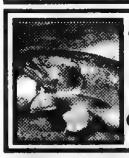
Kosher MEAT

Whole Kosher Fresh Chickens
Canada Grade A
4.34 kg
1.99 lb.



Prime Rib Steaks or Roasts, Glatt Kosher
1st to 6th rib, 13.21 kg
5.99 lb.

Shamir Salads
Assorted Varieties
500 g pkg.
4.69



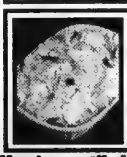
Atlantic Salmon
Fresh Whole
11.00 kg
4.99 lb.

Nescafé Instant Coffee
Rich Blend or Decaffeinated
150 - 200 g jar
3.99

Tradition Noodle Soup
Assorted Varieties, Case of 12 x 70 g cans.
$10.68 or each
.89

Kosher DELI

Veal Pastrami Roll
Per/s 2.20/100 g
9.99 lb.



Potato Salad
Rachel's
.37/100 g
1.69 lb.

Clover Leaf Pink Salmon
213 g tin
.99

Swiss Rolls
Taste Delight
225 g box
1.29

Ceres Fruit Juices
Assorted Varieties
1 L tetra box
1.99

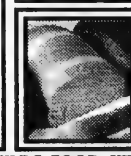
Tradition Pasta
Spaghetti & Tomato Sauce or Pasta & Vegetables, 7.5 oz. tub
.99

Our Compliments™ Frosted Flakes
or Fruity Hoops
375 - 450 g box
3.99

Shredded Cheese
Cheesiever's, Mozzarella or Cheddar, 250 g pkg.
2.99

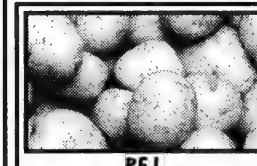
Kosher BAKERY

Layer Cakes
Chocolate Fudge or Lemon, 700 g
5.99

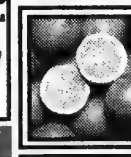


Rye Bread
Plain, Dark or Caraway
450 g loaf
.99

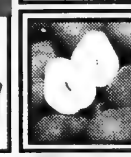
PRODUCE



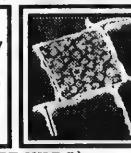
P.E.I. Potatoes
Product of Canada, Canada No. 1
4.54 kg/10 lb. bag
.99



Navel Oranges
Product of U.S.A.,
5.63 kg/5 lb. bag
4.99



Bosc or Anjou Pears
Product of U.S.A.,
Fancy Grade, 2.18 kg
.99 lb.



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Product of Chile
2.99
1/2 pint

Prices effective until closing Saturday, Feb. 24, 1996. at CLARK & HILDA FOOD CITY, 441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

POLICE HONOR YOUTH

At the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada event, Combating Hate-Motivated Crime in Metro: Protection, Prevention and Partnerships, Metro Police Hate Crimes Unit will give an award to the BB Human Rights Youth League for combating racism and anti-Semitism, 7:30 p.m., BB offices, 15 Hove St. Special guest **Chief David Boothby**. 633-6224.

BIKUR CHOLIM LUNCHEON

Bikur Cholim's annual women's luncheon, 1 Viewmount Ave., honors **Dr. Benjamin Massouda** with the Rofeh of the Year award and **Leya Aronson** with the Ahavas Chessed award. Reservations 783-7983.

BOOK REVIEW

Beth Tikvah sisterhood general meeting: **Cathy Tile** reviews *Wartime Lies* by **Louis Begley**, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 28

ME, MYSELF & I

Me, Myself & I, stories about growing up, written by Beth Tzedec Youth Players, directed and produced by **Ruth Rumack** and **Stacey Wintre**, 7 p.m. (doors open 6:45), Beth Tzedec Synagogue. $5 per person, $7 at door, $18 family of four. Proceeds to Jewish Family & Child Service. Youth Hotline 787-0381, ext. 39.

JEWISH ROOTS

Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada features a video *How to Trace Your Jewish Roots* plus Stump the Experts, experienced genealogists answer your questions, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $3.

TEST OF TRUTH

Pride of Israel adult education series continues with Purim and the Test of Truth with **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich**, 7:30 p.m.

SPOUSAL, CHILD SUPPORT

Jewish Family & Child Service presents Spousal and Child Support in the '90s with family law lawyer **Fran Weisberg**, 7 p.m., 4600 Bathurst St. **Elinor Gertner** 905-882-2331.

INSIGHTS FROM TORAH

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda's continuing education lectures, Jewish Literature, Jewish Wisdom, focus on Insights From the Torah, a close look at the Five Books of Moses, **Rabbi Barry Schneider**, 8 p.m.

And What Else Is New...

DANCERS FOR LIFE GALA

State of Israel Bonds Construction and Development Division's Dancers for Life Gala benefiting the AIDS Committee of Toronto, Saturday, March 9, at O'Keefe Centre. Performances by **Veronica Tenant, Michael Sean Marye, Evelyn Hart, Rex Harrington** and the National Ballet Company of Canada. A minimum new Israel Bond purchase of $5,000. **Jacques Vogler** 789-3351.

ACCENT ON YOUTH

At Temple Sinai's Our Musical Legacy program, Friday, March 1, the Religious School Choir under the direction of **Cantor Thomas Schwartz** will provide choral music and cantorial solos for the Sabbath service, 8:15 p.m. An Oneg Shabbat in celebration of the religious school follows, including dancing and art displays.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT

Adath Israel brotherhood annual Las Vegas Night features "British invasion" sounds of musicians **Billy J. Kramer** and **Terry Sylvester**, casino, silent auction. Saturday, March 2, 8 p.m. at synagogue. $10. 635-5340.

CIP SEDER PROJECT

Community Integration Program, a joint program of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and Bathurst Jewish Centre, needs Canadian families to host recently arrived families from the former Soviet Union for either the first or second seder, Wednesday, April 3, or Thursday, April 4. **Russ Glick**, 636-1880, ext. 380.

SJA HAPPENINGS

Secular Jewish Association:

Sunday, Feb. 25, 10 a.m. — Intertalk, support group for intercultural couples, 10 a.m., Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. $8 non-members. RSVP **Eva** 905-889-7450.

Monday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. — membership meeting for new and prospective members, 21 Greengate Rd. Bring refreshments to share. RSVP **Naomi** 364-7002.

SINGLE PARENTS

Adath Israel singles committee and Jewish Family & Child Service are co-sponsoring a workshop, Single Parents: Coping with the Holidays and Special Events, Wednesday, March 6, Adath Israel Synagogue 7 p.m. To reserve, **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

For Reform university students, a Shabbaton with students visiting from Syracuse University, March 1-2, Temple Sinai, in cooperation with Kesher. Information/registration, Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, 512-0814.

ANGER MANAGEMENT

Jewish Family & Child Service will sponsor an educational workshop for men who have trouble managing anger. Begins Tuesday, March 5, 7:30-9 p.m., five sessions $60. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

at the JCC/BJC

At Bloor JCC, prepare for the Purim Carnival at an open workshop led by **Anne Barber**, one of the artistic directors of 1995 Ashkenaz Parade, Sunday, Feb. 25, 10 a.m. to noon.

Bloor JCC Purim Carnival Sunday, March 3, featuring storyteller **Justin Lewis** and actor **Alon Nashman** at noon and 1:30 p.m., and parade at 1 p.m.

Bloor JCC March Break Camps, March 11-15 and/or March 18-22 — Fun Days, ages 4½-10; Half-day Computer and Internet Workshop, 9 years and up; Circus Camp, ages 8-14; Half-day Teen Acting Workshop, ages 12-15. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Good Age Club presents **Rabbi Barry Schneider** of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue speaking on Purim: Who Were the Heroes and Who Were the Villains? Thursday, Feb. 29, 2-4 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

BJC Purim Extravaganza, Sunday, March 3, 1-3 p.m. Purim Hotline 636-1880, ext. 284.

At BJC, free tax preparation assistance for seniors in cooperation with The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, Tuesdays, March 5-April 2, 1:30-3:30 p.m. and 6-8:30 p.m. Income guidelines $15,000 no dependents, $22,500 with dependents. Reserve. **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364.

For Seniors

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m., Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). On Feb. 29 **Yitzhak Gilber** lectures on Views and Nature in Israel. Also, a Purim party Sunday, March 3, 7:30 p.m. Members $8, non-members $10. **Aaron Dahari**, 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Tulip Time Festival, Ottawa, May 14-16, filling up quickly; Catskills Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Applications being accepted for Catskills Raleigh Resort Hotel Aug. 6-12. Co-sponsored by **Senior Adult Services, Bathurst Jewish Centre** and **Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364 or **Barbara Zigler** 225-2112.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Purim party Tuesday, March 5; dance to live band, Sunday, March 10; *Beauty and the Beast*, Thursday, May 16, tickets available; Ottawa, June 18-20; Catskills Raleigh Hotel, July 22-28, book now. Bingo and movies recommence first week in March. 395-7881.

Forest Hill Seniors Group art class Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Draw and paint at your own pace and level. Beginners and experienced welcomed. Sponsored by Toronto Board of Education. Bathurst-Eglinton area. 781-8855.

Lifestyle Retirement Communities Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., **Doug Haddow** lectures on current events Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2 p.m. Reserve, **Marlene White** 785-1511.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre program, A Healthy Heart is a Happy Heart, about exercise programs for people over 50, with **Denise Oakes**, Wagman Centre fitness and health promoter, Thursday, Feb. 29, 1:30 p.m.

Healthy Cooking, with dietitian/nutritionist **Sharon Zeiler**, Tuesday, Feb. 27, 1:30 p.m. Register with **Sandra** at Wellness Desk.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets with occupational therapist **Joan Turner**, Tuesday, Feb. 27, 1:30 p.m. **Sandra** or **Sharon.**

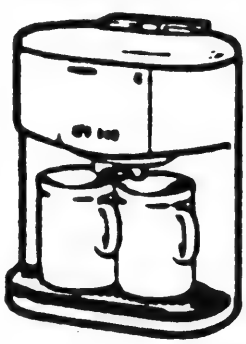
Israeli cultural club Etrog Purim party featuring **Morris** and **Rachel Kastoryano** accompanied by **Michael Khinks**, Wednesday March 6, 7 p.m.

Movie *High Society*, Sunday, Feb. 25, 2:30 p.m.

Entertainment by **Andrey Furs** Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1:30 p.m.

ASSOCIATED PRESENTS

Mary Poppins **debuts on stage at Associated Hebrew Schools Kamin Education Centre, Saturday, Feb. 24, 8:30 p.m. with performances also Sunday, Feb. 25, 2 p.m., and Monday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. The Junior High will then take the show on the road for a benefit performance at Bloorview Children's Hospital. Pictured above (from left): Daniel Held, Jordana Talsky and director Sharon Stein-Hurwitz prepare for the play. For tickets, Linda 494-7280. [Randy E. Spiegel photo].**



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Quebec federalist group draws significant support

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The envelopes with cheques ranging from $12 to $1,000 began arriving at the office of the Quebec Committee for Canada (QCC) the day after it placed full-page ads in the *Gazette* and *Le Devoir* asking support for its campaign to have the Canadian government immediately begin the process of establishing a new province of Quebec made up of those areas where federalists predominate.

"One fellow from the building walked in and signed up all his staff," says Allen Nutik, co-chair with Gary Shapiro, of the latest, and probably most aggressive, partitionist group.

The response — over 500 pieces of mail (most with money) within a week — to an unknown entity that advertised without even providing the names of those behind it, is a testament to the willingness of many who fear separation to grasp at any seeming life-saver.

The QCC, located in a small Decarie Square office, has the goal of becoming a broad-based federalist movement, not confined to anglophone Montrealers. It intends to form a board reflecting that image.

Set up as a not-for-profit corporation, the QCC's start-up costs mainly came out of the pockets of Nutik, 51, and Shapiro, 40, both small businessmen. There's no tax receipt for contributors.

A "significant" number of respondents have been francophones, said Nutik, pointing to one from the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi. Not everyone's friendly; one envelope contains a drawing of a bomb with a lit fuse, the word Boum! and signed FLQ.

But Nutik is not intimidated. On the contrary, he appears as if he would enjoy nothing more than a verbal dust-up with every dogmatic sovereigntist from Lucien Bouchard down.

"I'm angry, they can't do this to us," he asserts. "I refuse to be a hostage in my own country."

Shapiro says the QCC is different from the other partition groups because it is more proactive. "We don't want to just talk about it in the media ... We want to have tens or hundreds of thousands of members so that we will have the clout to force the federal government to resolve the political situation which is devastating this city and province."

Political uncertainty killing Montreal's economy, says QCC

The QCC's next step will be distributing 250,000 brochures.

Nutik, who is president of the Congregation Shaar Hashomayim Men's Club, has a reputation for asking pointed questions and irritating the establishment. Shapiro, who has a lower profile, is YM-YWHA president.

The QCC position is that the longstanding constitutional stalemate and political uncertainty are killing Montreal economically and have put the lives of Quebecers who want to remain Canadian on hold.

Its concern is not the when and if of another referendum. Rather the QCC wants the federal government to right now determine which areas of Quebec should remain under Canadian jurisdiction in the event of sovereignty. The rest of Quebec can form its own nation.

Nutik and Shapiro feel that for too long Ottawa has allowed sovereigntists to dictate the terms of the country's breakup and not done enough to protect loyal Canadians in Quebec. As in a divorce, they say, both parties should realize before negotiations begin "that nobody gets it all."

The logistics of partition is not the QCC's worry. "The people will have spoken. It's up to the federal government to find the formula," Nutik said.

Dr. Isadore M. Cass F.R.C.P.(C.)

Passed away January 24 at 79 after a short illness.

PHYSICIAN - SCHOLAR - TEACHER - MOHEL
BENEFACTOR - particularly of Machanaim in Kiryat Gan, Israel

During a visit to Israel in 1971, Dr. Cass was impressed by the efforts of a young rabbi, Sholom Dov Wolpo, who obtained a few prefab huts where pre-school immigrant children were given lunch and received religious instruction, while their parents worked. The older children, out of secular school at 1 p.m. roamed the streets and were becoming delinquents. Dr. Cass initiated and continued for the rest of his life, a massive fundraising effort that helped establish one of the most unique and highly regarded educational institutions in the country, for secular and religious studies which today has an enrollment of over 3,000 students. This includes a yeshiva built in memory of his brother, Rabbi Samuel Cass, who, with his family (wife Annabelle Goldfine and son Ely Michael) were killed in a traffic accident in 1979. Many graduates of this yeshiva have now become prominent rabbis throughout Israel. His family hopes to continue carying on his important work.

Dr. Cass was the first Jewish physician to perform ritual circumcisions and later trained a number of doctors to do the same. According to his records, and most of them still exist, he performed since 1945 over 40,000 brisen throughout Canada and the eastern United States.

Numerous friends and former patients have been relating how Dr. Cass touched their lives by helping and influencing them. His family has been taping these "Dr. Cass" stories and intends to print them into an archival book. Anyone having a story to tell, please phone Miriam Cass (416) 483-6154.

Dr. Cass is survived by his wife Miriam; children Sharon and Meyer Toole, Dr. Hyla Cass, of California, Judy and Earl Saltzman and Elaine Cass of California; 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren; brothers and sisters Harry, Betty Heller, Al, Miriam Cass, Zelda Fink and Dr. Eli. He was predeceased by brothers Ben, Rabbi Samuel and Julius.

Memorial donations may be sent to: Dr. Isadore Cass Memorial Fund, c/o Benjamin Foundation, 2401 Steeles Ave. W., Downsview, Ont. M3J 2P1. Canadian tax-deductible receipts will be issued and all money will be sent to Machanaim in Kiryat Gat.

ScotiaMcLeod salutes

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MEMBER CIPF

David Goldstein selected to chair 1997 UJA Campaign

David Goldstein

UJA's successful 1996 campaign might be a tough act to follow...but if leadership has anything to do with it, things look good for 1997. That's because UJA has chosen not one, not two, but three of the community's finest to be at the helm.

David Goldstein, UJA's 1997 campaign Chairman will be working closely with campaign Vice-Chairs David Engel and Michael Daren. Among Goldstein's goals are "finding ways to digest government budget cuts, deciding what Jewish services should be all about and how UJA can support them."

Goldstein, 57, began his professional life in his family's lumber company before branching out into other businesses. After spending time in New York, Goldstein returned to Toronto, married Bonnie Chapnik and established his own independent chain of gas stations. He then went on to build a successful portfolio of investments which has included Speedy Muffler King, Dominion Propane Corporation and Fifth Wheel Truck Stops.

Goldstein's career in community service is equally diverse and impressive. He has been active in UJA for decades and has held many other voluntary positions, including President of the Canada Israel Chamber of Commerce, Governor of Beth Tzedec synagogue, Director of JNF and Chairman of Baycrest Foundation. Last year, Goldstein received Baycrest's Men's Service Group Man of the Year Award.

"Now," he said, "is a critical time for the community and for Israel. However, the 1997 campaign is already off to a terrific start because of the Three Year Vision and we're confident of maintaining the community spirit that was reflected in Campaign '96."

Last year's Three Year Vision Campaign is approaching $35 million in pledges for 1996 and an equal combined total for 1997 and 1998.

Michael Daren

David Engel

New Campaign Vice-Chairs value people

UJA's 1997 campaign Vice-Chairs Michael Daren and David Engel have big plans for 1997 which include building an effective management team and developing leadership within the community.

Determined to capitalize on the success of last year's campaign and the popularity of the Three Year Vision, Daren has wasted little time recruiting members for this year's campaign management crew. "We're getting a dynamic team together," says Daren. "Everyone we've asked to join so far has accepted."

Daren, has been active with UJA for 6 years. As 1995 Co-Chair of UJA's Major Gifts Division, he helped to raise more than $11 million.

Daren feels strongly about continuing on the path set by 1996 Campaign Co-chairs Carol Kassel and Charles Gold. "We have a duty to fulfill the commitments made by Carol and Chuck to all those who supported the Campaign and believed in the Three Year Vision."

For the last ten years, David Engel has rarely said "no" when UJA came calling. He has chaired UJA's Marketing Division as well as the Young Leadership Network and changed the way canvassers relate to donors as 1995 Chairman of UJA's Delta Force.

Known affectionately as "Delta Dave." Engel came up with several innovative ideas to improve donor/canvasser relations including personalized thank you letters from canvassers.

As Vice-Chair of the 1997 Campaign, Engel plans to focus on people. "Aside from addressing the ever-growing needs of the community," says Engel, "we really need to spend more time on individual volunteers in order to develop and utilize their potential leadership skills."

Minister meets with Jewish communal leaders

Ontario's Community and Social Services Minister, David Tsubouchi, toured Jewish Vocational Service facilities last week. He also talked to JVS staff and clients. Jewish Vocational Service is one of the Federation's beneficiary agencies.

JVS Executive Director, Ed Segalowitz, presented to Tsubouchi proposals for future cooperative ventures between the agency, the ministry and private enterprise.

Tsubouchi agreed to ongoing dialogue at a meeting with senior representatives of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, the Federation and Jewish Vocational Service.

During the meeting, Alan Sandler, the Federation's Chairman of Community Planning and Allocations, stressed to Tsubouchi the importance of maintaining services supplied by ethno-cultural and religious communities. Tsubouchi, who applauded the Jewish community for being "well-organized," expressed sensitivity toward the ethnic, cultural and religious needs of community service recipients, and agreed to arrange further meetings between agencies and ministry staff.

Federation President Sandy Brown and CJC Ontario Region Chair Moshe Ronen were impressed with what Brown called the minister's "genuine interest" in the community's concerns and looked forward to a constructive dialogue.

CJC Ontario Region Executive Director Manuel Prutschi briefed the minister on discussions between the Jewish community and others concerning the impact of government budget cuts. Prutschi also stressed that "communities and government should work together constructively as partners," and asked that communities not be treated as special interests but as "representatives of the public interest."

(left to right) Peter Shenfield, President, Jewish Vocational Service, David Tsubouchi, Federation President Sandra Brown and Moshe Ronen, Chair, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region.

Other participants at the meeting were JVS President Peter Shenfield, together with Vice-Presidents Igor Korenzvit and Michael Miller, Marlene Sklar, Vice-Chair of CJC's Political Liaison Committee, Federation Executive Vice-President Allan Reitzes, Associate Federation Director Morris Zbar and the Federation's Senior Fund Executive, Paul Marcus.

Historic session for youth leaders

For the first time in many years, leaders of Toronto's Jewish youth organizations met to discuss common causes.

The Federation and the Board of Jewish Education inivited youth representatives from all religious and ideological backgrounds to discuss the possibility of creating a unified body for youth services.

The highly energized group spent the day sharing ideas and learning about programs offered by different organizations. Career consultant Loretta Helman led participants through an exercise to explore new directions in career development.

BBYO Canada Director Elizabeth Sokolsky was excited about being able to interact with her professional colleagues and looks forward to "agencies working together to provide better service."

Gary Levine, Director of Student Activities at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, hopes leaders will opt for working together. "A unified Council of Directors could serve as a resource of experience and vision that could enrich the future of Toronto's Jewish community," Levine said. "For years, if not decades, the committed, dedicated professionals who work for Jewish youth groups have been molding our children and building generation after generation of Jewish commitment."

Conference participants decided to form a steering committee for further action. Susan Jackson, one of the coordinators of the conference, was pleased with the outcome and is confident that another meeting on specific issues will be held in the spring.

Youth organizations like BBYO provide programming for thousands of Jewish youngsters. L to R: BBYO'ers Sherri Rotstein, Ruth Grossman, Miriam Hambourg and Michael Altman during Earth Day clean up at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

Federation races toward the web

There's less than two weeks to go before the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto launches into cyberspace with its new web site.

Countdown to the web. Federation internet volunteers Bob Cherniak, Jonathan Grossman and Jennifer Cohen make last minute adjustments to the Federation site which opens on March 5.

On the evening of March 5, millions of internet users will be able to access Jewish Toronto at http://www.feduja.org, the Federation's home page.

Jewish Toronto will include a community calendar and directory, a youth section, recent news releases, Federation publications and links to other sites.

"It's going to be a very busy place," predicts Art Benjamin, who chairs the Federation's internet steering committee.

Jonathan Grossman, responsible for the site's content and development sees Jewish Toronto as an extension of Jewish tradition. "The site fulfills a fundamental premise of Judaism, which is to exchange ideas and ask questions," he notes. "There is no better technology to facilitate community building."

A team of 75 volunteers, led by Dr. Jay Brodbar, the Federation's Assistant Director of Community Planning & Allocations, has been working on Jewish Toronto for seven months.

Brodbar calls the site an "evolving" one, designed to connect the community. However, Bob Cherniak, the project's technical services specialist, expects it to do much more than that.

"It will change the way people live," he forecasts. "It will offer a link to many who only have a tenuous link right now."

COMMUNITY VIGIL FOR AGUNOT

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SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 1996

- EREV TA'ANIT ESTHER -

3P.M. TO 4P.M.

We will begin promptly!

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Lobby
4588 Bathurst Street

Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get:
Emunah Women, Hadassah-Wizo,
Jewish Women's Federation,
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Na'amat Canada,
National Council of Jewish Women,
Toronto Women's ORT

Bathurst Jewish Centre & United Jewish Appeal

Invite children of all ages to

Queen Esther's Extravaganza

Sunday March 3, 1996

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Bathurst Jewish Centre

4588 Bathurst Street

• Children: $3.00 • Adults Free

Bathurst Jewish Centre

Call the Purim Hotline: 416-636-1880 Ext. 284

Special Report

Jews in the city centre: Proud, diverse and alive

From Davenport to Dundas. From Dufferin to the Don Valley. The signs of revival are everywhere.

An increasing number of young Jewish singles and families are attracted to Toronto's downtown Jewish community. They're looking for alternative ways of being Jewish and they're finding them in the most unexpected places.

The Danforth Orthodox Minyan is held in a Greek restaurant on Danforth Avenue. The 40 or so members gather every week for Shabbat services. The Jewish Film Festival, the Downtown Jewish Learning Council and the Jewish Feminist Conference are just some of many Jewish programs and events in the city core.

The Bloor Jewish Community Centre houses everything from Shabbat services to lunchtime learning programs to rooftop Israeli dancing. BJCC Director Bill Emery is confident that offering a wide variety of choices is the best way to guarantee the community's future. York University sociology professor Stuart Schoenfeld says "variety adds strength to the community."

Toronto's downtown Jewish community, numbering approximately 15,000, is unique. No other North American city, except for New York, boasts such vibrant urban Jewish life.

In this issue, Adi Waksman takes a detailed look at the past, present and future of Jewish life in the city.

60 years ago, this house at Major and Ulster was Mr. Day's Cheder.

Yesterday's downtown Jewish life: Community meant everything

By the 1930's, Toronto's Jewish community had become a thriving centre of Jewish life right in the heart of the city. Jewish owned businesses, shuls and schools dotted the area from Spadina Avenue to Shaw Street and from Dundas to Bloor. Today, one can still see evidence of the past in the synagogues and shops that remain part of an everchanging downtown landscape.

Community Matters contributing editor Adi Waksman recently strolled down the streets of old Jewish Toronto with David Greenberg reminiscing about his childhood days at 98 Major Street.

What was life like for the son of a shochet who lived with his parents, four brothers and sisters and a boarder in a house with only one bathroom? It was typical of life for most young Jewish boys growing up in Toronto during the 1930s.

Butter, cheese, cream and eggs, fresh every day! That's what the sign says. David Greenberg stands in front of what used to be Mandel's Creamery on Baldwin St.

"My two brothers and I slept in one bed," recalled Greenberg, brother of the legendary "Dr. Joe," whose practice is still located around the corner from where he grew up. "Like most families at the time, we didn't have very much, but we had a lot."

Greenberg remembers with fondness a close knit community where on Yom Tov "you would see everyone walking along College Street exchanging greetings." And when Yom Tov was over, who could resist stopping by Harbord Bakery for a bagel or something sweet; half a dozen for a nickel or one for a penny?

On Friday afternoons, neighbourhood women would bring their cholent pots to the bakery to cook over shabbos and reclaim them the following day for lunch. "Chaim would open the door for us in the laneway," explained Greenberg, "and he never mixed any of the pots up."

Many Jewish kids, including Phil Givens, Johnny Wayne and Frank Shuster, attended Harbord Collegiate. Some went to Brunswick Talmud Torah, Darcy Street Talmud Torah or Mr. Day's Cheder for their Jewish studies. "People walking down the street," said Greenberg, "could hear us reciting the Shma Israel from the 2nd floor of Mr. Day's school."

For fun, there were baseball games at Landsdowne playground or basketball at Central Tech, College United Church and Jarvis Collegiate.

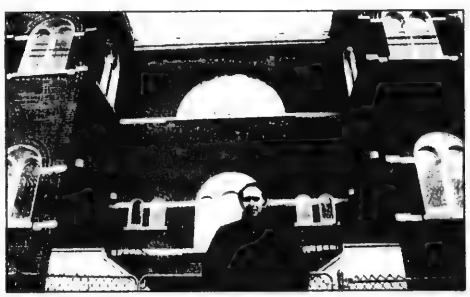
Many evenings and weekends were also spent watching movies at neighbourhood theatres. The Garden Theatre, the Playhouse and the Bellevue were favorite cinema spots before moving on to the Chicken Palace or Bassels for something to nosh. "Daisy's on College," Greenberg confided, "was where I used to take some of my dates after dancing at the Top Hat or Palais Royale."

Greenberg also remembers his many odd jobs; delivering pharmaceuticals for 10 cents an hour and recently cleaned clothes for $10 a week. For lunch, there was always a tough choice between Welts Deli at Major St. and Brunswick Avenue, where a sandwich cost 5 cents or Beckers Deli with two larger sandwiches for 15 cents.

During World War II, the community's newly arrived prosperity was soured by lost lives in Europe. "On three short blocks on Major Street between Ulster and College, three of my friends died," Greenberg said.

Synagogues were popping up on every corner as more and more Jews moved into the area. "At one time," according to Greenberg, "there were probably 60 shuls and shtetls in the area." Some, including the Kiever Shul, Shaarei Tzedec and Anshei Minsk, still maintain their original structures today.

"It was a time," Greenberg reminisced, "when you knew almost everyone who crossed your path and Jewish life was everywhere because we were everywhere."



David Pinkus, President of the Kiever Shul, in front of the building which has withstood decades of history.

A confident future for Toronto's downtown Jewry

If the last 10 years are any indication of what's happening in the city core's Jewish community, the future looks brighter than ever.

York University sociology professor Stuart Schoenfeld says the downtown Jewish community "has never been stronger." During the late 1960's and early 70's, he notes, a reverse migration began, with many single young professionals, families and older couples moving downtown. "A high percentage of Jews living downtown are from outside the province or outside Canada," he adds.

In the last two years alone, two new congregations have sprung up. So have several other community and neighbourhood based groups and organizations. A seniors residence, Habayit Shelanu, opened last year at Spadina and Davenport.

The Bloor Jewish Community Council, an umbrella body representing dowtown Jewish organizations, has grown from 9 to 17 members in 5 years.

According to Bloor Jewish Community Centre (BJCC) Director Bill Emery, "the JCC is wide open for business."

"The traffic at the BJCC on Sunday morning," said Schoenfeld, "is really something to see. Every available inch is being used."

Simon Kalkstein, the downtown supervisor for Jewish Family and Child Service, based at the BJCC, expects the community to continue growing as it becomes more pluralistic. "I can't get over how many young families and singles are moving in."

Your guide to downtown Jewish living

Recreation/Culture/Education
Beach Hebrew Institute
Bloor Jewish Community Centre

Synagogues
Congregation Anshei Minsk
Congregation Keshet Shalom
Congregation Shaarei Tzedec
Downtown Reform Minyan
Danforth Orthodox Minyan
First Narayever Congregation
Kiever Congregation
Beach Hebrew Institute

Schools
Downtown Jewish Community School
Hillel Children's Workshop

Kosher Food
Honest Eds
Shoppers Drug Mart (Bloor & Spadina)
Rachel's Cafe (Bloor JCC)

Publications
Book City (Bloor & Brunswick Ave)

Jewish faces in the city centre

Downtown Jews are an eclectic bunch - young, old, observant, non-observant, affiliated and non-affiliated - all expressing their Jewish identity in their own way. Their common thread is community pride and their appreciation of a dynamic urban lifestyle.

Peter and Elaine Gold have been downtowners for 15 years and currently live on Walmer Rd., in the annex, with their 4 children. They've been attending Shabbat services at the First Narayever Congregation on Brunswick Ave for 9 years and take part in many of the shul's activities.

Their children, Leah, 12 and 8 year old Naomi are both students at Bialik Hebrew Day School on Viewmount Ave, but Elaine says the distance is not troublesome. "We used to rely on carpools from neigbours on our street but now the kids go easily by subway."

Kosher food isn't much of an issue either. The Golds can now find a selection at the Shoppers Drug Mart on Bloor Street near Spadina Ave. or at Honest Ed's.

Karen Loomer, who lives in the Bathurst and Dupont area with her husband, Martin, and two daughters, moved to the city centre over five years ago because the community was becoming so vital. "We're able to walk to shul," says Karen, "it's as if we're living in a village."

Sidonie Loomer, 4, attends United Synagogue Day School on Bathurst just south of Eglinton. "We had already made the commitment to Jewish education," Karen explains, "and USDS isn't very far away."

The Golds have always enjoyed living downtown. Back row: Peter, Danny and Aaron. Bottom: Leah , Naomi and Elaine.

Yosefa (left) and Sidonie Loomer are happy bakers as they prepare challas for Shabbat.

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Greater Toronto Area

Architect creates 'docuportrait' of grandfather's heroics

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

David Fleishman

TORONTO — Most of us have to settle for simply telling a few people what great guys our grandfathers were. David Fleishman plans to tell millions about his.

The CBC has already committed to airing on its *Canadian Reflections* program a 23-minute "docuportrait" about Morris Saxe, Fleishman's larger-than-life grandfather. Vision TV also plans to broadcast the film.

Fleishman, a 39-year-old architect turned writer, wants to get inside his grandfather's head and figure out what motivated him to rescue some 79 Jewish orphans from Poland before World War II. But more, Fleishman plans a complete sketch of Saxe, who, apart from having been a hero, was a true Canadian Jewish pioneer. The project's working title, *A Man of Conscience*, pretty well sums it up.

Saxe was born in an agricultural colony near Kiev in 1878 and studied farming. After a stint in the Russian cavalry, he came to Canada in 1902 and became the first Jewish student at the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph. He went on to open the first creamery in Acton, Ont, where he also owned a tannery and several other businesses.

A proponent of the back-to-the-land movement, Saxe bought his first farm in 1907 and later founded the Federated Jewish Farmers of Ontario, which eventually had 150 members.

By 1917, the creamery was flourishing, so Saxe opened a second in Georgetown, where he moved his growing family. Because he spoke several languages, he served as a translator for the federal government during World War I, making important contacts along the way.

On one of his farms in Georgetown, Saxe set up an agricultural school where new immigrants could learn farming. More federal contacts were picked up through the Federated Jewish Farmers, which assisted Jewish agricultural immigrants to Canada.

By 1926, the agricultural classes had become the Canadian Jewish Farm School, which provides much of the focus for *A Man of Conscience*. For it was about this time Saxe was approached by an Eli Greenblatt of Detroit, who helped run a Jewish orphanage in the Polish town of Mezhirech.

Greenblatt had heard of Saxe's federal contacts and experience with immigration and Jewish communal matters. Greenblatt complained he could not bring the Polish orphans into the United States because of restrictive quotas. Could Saxe help?

Saxe began pulling strings, eventually using every ounce of *shlep* he had ever acquired. Letters began flowing from the farm school, of which Saxe was president, to the Department of Immigration and Colonization, as it was then known, pleading the case for bringing the orphans to Canada as farm trainees.

Saxe even struck up a cordial correspondence with the immigration department's assistant deputy minister Frederick Charles Blair — the same Frederick Charles Blair who emerges as the anti-Semitic villain in Irving Abella and Harold Troper's *None is Too Many*, which chronicles Canada's dismal record in admitting Jewish refugees before and after World War II.

Finally, success, in spite of the tight quotas of the day. In June, 1927, the first group of 38 orphans arrived, along with a teacher and two domestics. In October, 1929, the second group came, with a music teacher. They were aged 13 to 20.

Saxe put all his own money into the undertaking, while his wife and the two domestics cooked for the children.

Saxe and Greenblatt surely would have brought over more orphans but sadly, the effort fell apart, partly because of the Depression but also because officials discovered that not all the children were orphans, not all stayed on the farm and several used Canada to springboard to the States.

Saxe's heroism, his grandson points out, is best seen in the fact that the town of Mezhirech was wiped off the map during the Holocaust. His efforts plainly saved 79 lives.

Morris Saxe

The film plans interviews with several surviving orphans, now in their 80s (two are in Toronto), as well as archival footage, home movies and re-enactments using actors in period dress. Fleishman will be writer and co-producer, while Cayle Chernin, who several years ago made *In the Shadows*, a shocking film about Syrian Jewry, has signed on as director.

As for Blair, whose contempt for Jews is described as "boundless" in *None is Too Many*, Fleishman says the whole operation couldn't have happened without him. "He and my grandfather had a very good relationship," he says, adding, though, that the project's souring may have contributed to Blair's future attitude toward Jewish immigration to Canada.

Fleishman was spurred to the project after seeing *Schindler's List*. "That was the spark. I want to convey that one man can make a difference." Saxe died in 1965, when Fleishman was just nine. "I remember him," says the grandson, "as this great big man." Bigger, it seems, in more ways than one.

So far, Fleishman has raised just a fraction of the funds needed for the project. Contact him at 416-515-1670.

Calling all "model" dads & daughters!

Hazelton Lanes is inviting fathers and daughters to be a part of our first Father/Daughter Fashion Show to be held on Thursday, March 28th at 6:30 p.m.

Any father and daughter(s) combination is eligible to participate in this event. Twenty-five pairs will be chosen to model alongside local Toronto celebrity pairs of fathers and daughters.

To enter, simply write a letter expressing why you and your father/daughter are runway material. All entries must be received by February 29th at 5:00 p.m. Please mail/deliver letters to:

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CALL FOR ENTRY

Jewish Immigrant Aid Services is planning a juried exhibition called "Our Jewish Roots". It will be held in the lobby of the Leah Posluns Theatre from 26 May to 7 June 1996, and is being planned in cooperation with the Koffler Gallery. All Jewish artists who came to Canada as immigrants are eligible to participate.

Call for Entry application forms may be picked up at the JIAS office, 4600 Bathurst Street, #325.

All Call for Entry forms must be submitted to the JIAS by April 30, 1996.

For more information please contact:
Rachel Kahane, Committee Chair
at (905) 737-6409.

REENA COTTAGE PROGRAM '96

Reena is a Toronto-based Jewish social services agency providing support to individuals who are developmentally handicapped, and to their families. This support includes residential, day and recreational programming.

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The cottages, in Collingwood, are located in the heart of the Georgian Bay tourist area.

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Michelle Cole (416) 787-0131
Deadline for application is March 4, 1996

Federal government should heed the advice of hate crimes report

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA — When I was a newly arrived reporter in Winnipeg back in 1981, I received an anonymous telephone call one morning that a synagogue in the north end of the city had been attacked by "vandals" during the night. Swastikas had been spray painted on the outside walls.

I rushed over to get the details just as workers were finished cleaning up. Neither the rabbi nor local B'nai Brith officials wanted anything written about it.

I couldn't understand.

"If we publicized it every time a swastika is painted on a synagogue, the papers would carry nothing else," one official told me. "Besides, it only encourages them if they read about it. It's best to ignore it."

I was stunned. I couldn't believe there were crimes in my country that victims felt should go unreported. It went against everything I believed as a journalist about the need for an informed public to be able to react with outrage against hate crimes.

I was subsequently disabused of my naiveté three years later, when the Franco-Manitoban society leaders took the same "please, no press" attitude after their community centre was fire-bombed by bigots and plate-glass windows smashed one night at the height of the French-language crisis.

Much has changed since then. For the past 13 years, the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith has collected accurate and comprehensive statistics on hate crimes and "incidents" of anti-Semitic activity across Canada, and publishes them annually in an *Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents*, which is a valuable source of information for journalists and academic researchers.

One of those researchers is Prof. Julian Roberts of the Criminology Department of the University of Ottawa, who has just finished a report on a statistical analysis of hate crimes in Canada. It took him the better part of a year and cost about $15,000. It's possibly the best investment the Justice Department made last year.

The report reveals a lot about hate crimes and makes about a dozen good recommendations that wouldn't cost the government very much to implement.

The professor discovered there is no standard definition of "hate crime" reporting among police forces across Canada. As a result, there are incredible discrepancies between the number of hate crimes reported in one city compared to another. In fact, police statistics don't mean very much, he concludes.

In Toronto, for instance, an offence is classified as a "hate crime" when it is based "solely" upon a victim's race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender or disability.

In Ottawa, the offence needs only to be "motivated" (in the investigating officer's opinion) by the offender's hate or bias (as perceived by the police officer) to be called a hate crime.

That's why huge Toronto ends up reporting only 155 hate crimes in 1993, while sleepy Ottawa ends up leading the country with 176 reported hate crimes for the same period, even though Ottawa has much smaller visible minority and Jewish communities and an overall crime rate only a fifth of Toronto's.

Roberts says the Toronto definition of a hate crime is too narrow. Since when is any crime motivated only by one reason?

Wait — it gets better. The RCMP doesn't even bother collecting hate crime statistics. The Sûreté du Québec and the Ontario Provincial Police both say that hate crimes are things that happen only in big cities, so they don't keep stats either.

We need a standard definition of a hate crime and we need police forces that keep statistics, Roberts says.

Hate crime is far more common in Canada than people generally believe, he says. About 1,000 hate crimes were reported by police across Canada last year, but anywhere between 25,000 and 60,000 more were committed and never reported, he says.

And that's what makes B'nai Brith's annual audit such a "vital resource" he says. It catches incidents missed by police. People have a right to know the extent of hate crimes so they can deal with the problem. Roberts says he wishes the gay community and the black, Asian and East Indian communities kept statistics as B'nai Brith does, because police alone can't be expecting to keep track of the extent of the problem, no matter how good their definitions or their record-keeping becomes.

That's because so few hate crimes (like sexual assaults) are ever reported to police. Many visible minority people in Canada don't trust police, for a variety of reasons. Many people don't want to make a big thing out of what they consider a small incident. Many people fear reprisal or don't believe the police can solve the case.

Right now, desecrating Jewish cemeteries, spray painting swastikas on synagogues and similar hate crimes are prosecuted under the "mischief" section of the Criminal Code. It makes a hate crime sound so innocuous, Roberts says, like something no worse than spray painting your initials on a school.

Judges sentencing recidivist bigots for more serious hate crimes have no way of telling from current police computer printouts the nature of the "mischief" previously committed.

Roberts says a separate criminal code offence entitled "desecrating religious symbols, properties or institutions" should be put into the Criminal Code to separate hate criminals from ordinary mischief makers.

The government could do worse than take his advice.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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From coast to coast

CJC-P outlines Jewish issues for B.C. candidates

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — As British Columbia prepares for a provincial election this fall, members of the B.C. Jewish community "have an important role to play in the political process," says Dr. Michael Elterman, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region (CJC-P).

To encourage political activity the CJC-P political liaison committee has produced a 50-page "action document," which outlines issues of concern to the B.C. Jewish community, "to sensitize candidates of all political parties and all levels of government about these issues."

CJC-P offers its support to all levels of government in addressing the problems, says Elterman.

"The ever-present shadow of racism, prejudice and discrimination persists and threatens the integrity of our society," says the action document. Despite efforts of various levels of government and law enforcement agencies, hate propaganda and its outgrowth, bias crime, continue to persist and cyberforce propaganda is growing rapidly.

Congress says the B.C. attorney general should give high priority to monitoring racist groups and ensuring prosecution where appropriate. "The need remains to continually monitor use of the Canadian Human Rights Act and B.C.'s Human Rights Act, as well as the Multiculturalism Act. Congress suggests the B.C. government appoint a commissioner of multiculturalism to report directly to the Legislature.

CJC-P calls for increased trade between B.C. and Israel. In 1994, bilateral trade between Canada and Israel totalled $327 million, less than one percent of each country's international trade.

Under a new free trade deal between the two countries, B.C. exports to Israel will increase. In 1994, B.C. exports totalled $6 million, mainly in wood products, mechanical appliances, electrical machinery and optical equipment. B.C. could supply Israel with raw and processed materials such as sulphur, aluminum and paper, while Israel can step up exports, especially in hi-tech and electronics.

Winnipeg seeking Argentinian Jews

By MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG — The Jewish community here is looking to Argentina to increase the city's Jewish population.

Last November, Larry Hurtig, his son Jack, and Tom Carson, Manitoba deputy minister of culture, heritage and citizenship, travelled to Buenos Aires on behalf of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) and the provincial government, to meet with Jewish organizations and inform them of the benefits of life here. The week-long trip was funded by the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba.

The initiative grew from a meeting on a flight to Buenos Aires between Janice Filmon, wife of Manitoba Premier Garry Filmon, and a Jewish Argentinian. The Argentinian was returning from Canada where he was considering moving his family.

Janice Filmon suggested he consider Winnipeg. He and his wife subsequently visited, liked the city and are making plans to immigrate here. He and another Argentinian couple organized the Hurtigs' visit.

"We were overwhelmed by the welcome we received," says Larry Hurtig of his visit. They met with about 200 people representing 100 families.

Many of Buenos Aires' 175,000-member Jewish community want to leave, he reports. They are concerned about security (especially since the bombing of the Jewish community building in 1994) and the econmomy — there is about 18 percent unemployment in Buenos Aires.

"Many Jewish Argentinians are considering leaving for Israel," Hurtig says. "No one else has come from Canada in an official capacity before and the results have been gratifying. We are still getting faxes. We had two engineers and a computer teacher in an ORT school in Buenos Aires come here recently to look into job opportunities. There is a demand for people in the city's thriving computer industry.

Hurtig praises Winnipeg City Hall and the provincial government for their help and cooperation in the project. He reports that the WJCC is also taking steps to try to help more of our own young people find jobs through contacts with local Jewish business people and professionals that will allow them to stay here.

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From coast to coast

Marx committee holds hearings on CJC plenary

Cont'd from pg. 1

having been plenary chair up till about a month before the event.

Hecht said he was most disturbed by an anonymous envelope sent to Montreal media just before the plenary, that contained, in Hecht's words, "false allegations of unethical business practices ..." Hecht demanded an apology from CJC, and received one of sorts from Marx.

"All right-thinking people find this odious and pernicious ... If I could apologize for the Jewish community I would," Marx said.

While some, including Joffe, found offensive Hecht's paying the registration, transportation and other costs of supporters, Marx commented it was not against the bylaws nor unprecedented in presidential elections.

National credentials committee chair Lawrence Freeman laid the blame squarely on Hecht. "It is my personal belief that this was a deliberate attempt to undermine the system by overloading the application process and making it impossible to perform the necessary checks. This approach to elections was not in keeping with the spirit."

Neither he nor Reisa Teitelbaum, acting chair of the Quebec credentials committee, would estimate how many people were ultimately turned away.

Backing up Hecht were Allen Nutik and Rabbi Reuben Poupko, Hecht campaigners, who called for a nullification of the election. Reached by phone in Florida, Rabbi Poupko said the problem was that accreditation of organizational delegates was far stricter than in the past. It had been assumed, he continued, that most applications would be taken on "good faith and trust."

Marx announced that his committee should table its report by the end of April, and that it would be made public notwithstanding approval by CJC.

Committee members present at the hearing were: Marilyn Blumer, Les Scheininger, Keith Landy, Victor Goldberg, and "participating observers" Myer Bick and Sharon Wolfe. Not present were Renee Switzer Bellas and Rabbi Reuven Bulka.

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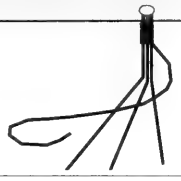

Apnea may be sign of underlying disease

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Snoring is more than a social embarrassment if it is a sign of obstructive sleep interruption (apnea).

Apnea is the cause of five to seven times as many car accidents as people have without apnea, and such patients must lose their driving licenses.

These were among highlights of a review of apnea recently given by Dr. Eliot Phillipson, physician-in-chief at Mount Sinai Hospital.

"We must report to the Ministry of Transportation any cases of serious apnea and they must stop driving," he said.

"Snoring is a cause for concern," he said. "It used to be thought of as a nuisance, but it may be a sign of underlying disease."

He reported that a mechanical device to increase nasal air flow is "very effective" in 80 to 85 per cent of cases, while surgery is effective in only 50 per cent. "I would rather treat the patient non-surgically," Dr. Phillipson said.

The nasal devices, which are not noisy, are particularly popular with spouses who say their partners are snoring, he said.

Apnea is an extremely common problem (one in 10) among the 65 to 80 age group, with excessive daytime sleepiness the most frequent symptom, he said. On the other hand, it occurs in only two to four per cent of those age 30 to 60.

Other symptoms of apnea are recurrent nocturnal awakening, unrefreshing sleep and cognitive impairment.

Apnea is common in fat people, with 75 per cent of sufferers being overweight, and for them alcohol can be a devastating factor, just enough to tip them over the line. "My advice is to tell such patients, if you have to drink, drink at breakfast, not dinner," he said.

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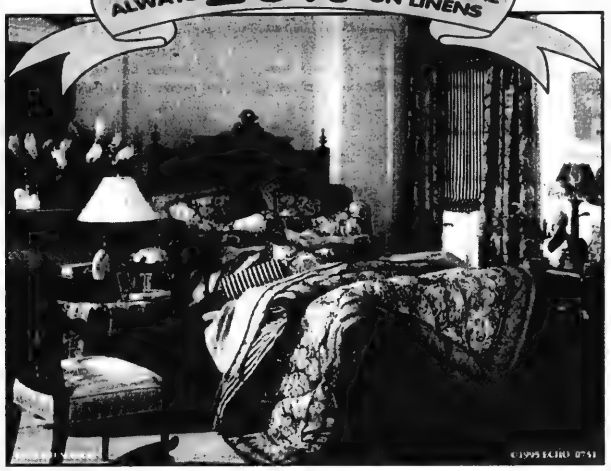

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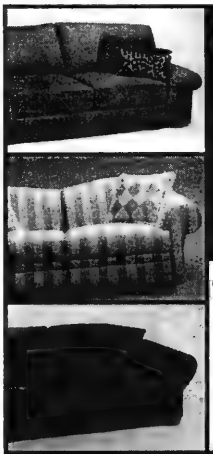

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Thornhill Village Estates: Another chapter in The Vogue Development Group's success story

The life of Morris Greenbaum, founder of The Vogue Development Group, is a true North American success story. Orphaned by the Holocaust, and hidden by a Polish farmer during the last year of the war, Morris came to Halifax as a teenager in 1948. Soon after, he married his wife Helen, with whom he had survived the war, and found work in Toronto's garment industry.

In 1955, he made his first modest investment with a friend in the building industry; and in 1957 he founded Green Construction, and built 7 homes in the Bayview-Sheppard area.

Since then, except for an interlude from 1959 to the mid-'60s, Morris has been a builder and developer. He has ridden out the ups and downs in the industry; and his staying power has been rewarded with success.

His sons Lou and Garry have made the building industry a family tradition. In 1990, with 16 years experience in planning and development, Lou joined his father and brother to found The Vogue Development Group, which builds upscale houses throughout the Greater Toronto Area.

Father and sons work well as partners, each contributing his own special knowledge and decades of experience. "I look after development and administration," says Lou; "my brother Garry looks after residential construction; and my father looks after whatever he wants to look after."

Lou is also a spokesman for his industry. In 1982-83, he was Ontario president of the Urban Development Institute, and in 1984, national president. He is still an active member of the board of directors and the executive committee.

The Greenbaums have worked in Thornhill for 20 years, and know the community well. They also have a long record of participation in the community, and are sensitive to the home needs of observant families (for example, separate meat and dairy kitchen facilities).

Vogue specializes in custom or custom-quality detached homes for the move-up market. "No one we build for," says Lou, "has to have exactly the same home as anyone else." Vogue will customize the outside of your home as well as the inside, to create a unique home environment.

To ensure that Vogue meets the demands of the clients, the Greenbaums work closely with them. If you purchase a home from Vogue, you can meet with the architect, and are consulted at every stage of building and finishing.

Some of the tradespeople the Greenbaums employ have worked with them for over 25 years. They are masters of their trades, who maintain the high standards of workmanship Vogue requires. The ultimate proof of this is that after sales, repairs on a home built by Vogue are kept to a minimum.

"People are more demanding these days," Lou admits; "but with most of our business coming from referrals, from the friends and families of home buyers, we are meeting these demands."

Currently, Vogue Developments is building Thornhill Village Estates, on Vaughan Blvd. in the Wilshire Neighbourhood of Thornhill. This site is surrounded by a well-established existing community. Shopping, schools, buses and parks are within easy access; Centre St. and the Promenade are only minutes away.

Thornhill Village Estates offers 36 homes on lots with 45- to 50-ft. frontages, with depths of up to 167 ft.; some of the lots are adjacent to a park. Home sizes range from 3,200 to 4,400 sq. ft.; prices are from $399,900.00 up.

Every home in Thornhill Village Estates includes: precast sills, arches and detailing with clay brick; casement windows; 9' main floor ceilings; circular oak staircases to basement; gas fireplace; upgraded wood trim and brass hardware on doorways and windows; French door to library; 5/8" tongue-and-groove spruce subfloor; oak strip floors and plaster cornice mould in living and dining rooms; high-efficiency gas furnace; whirlpool tub in master ensuite; and gourmet kitchen with island and breakfast bar.

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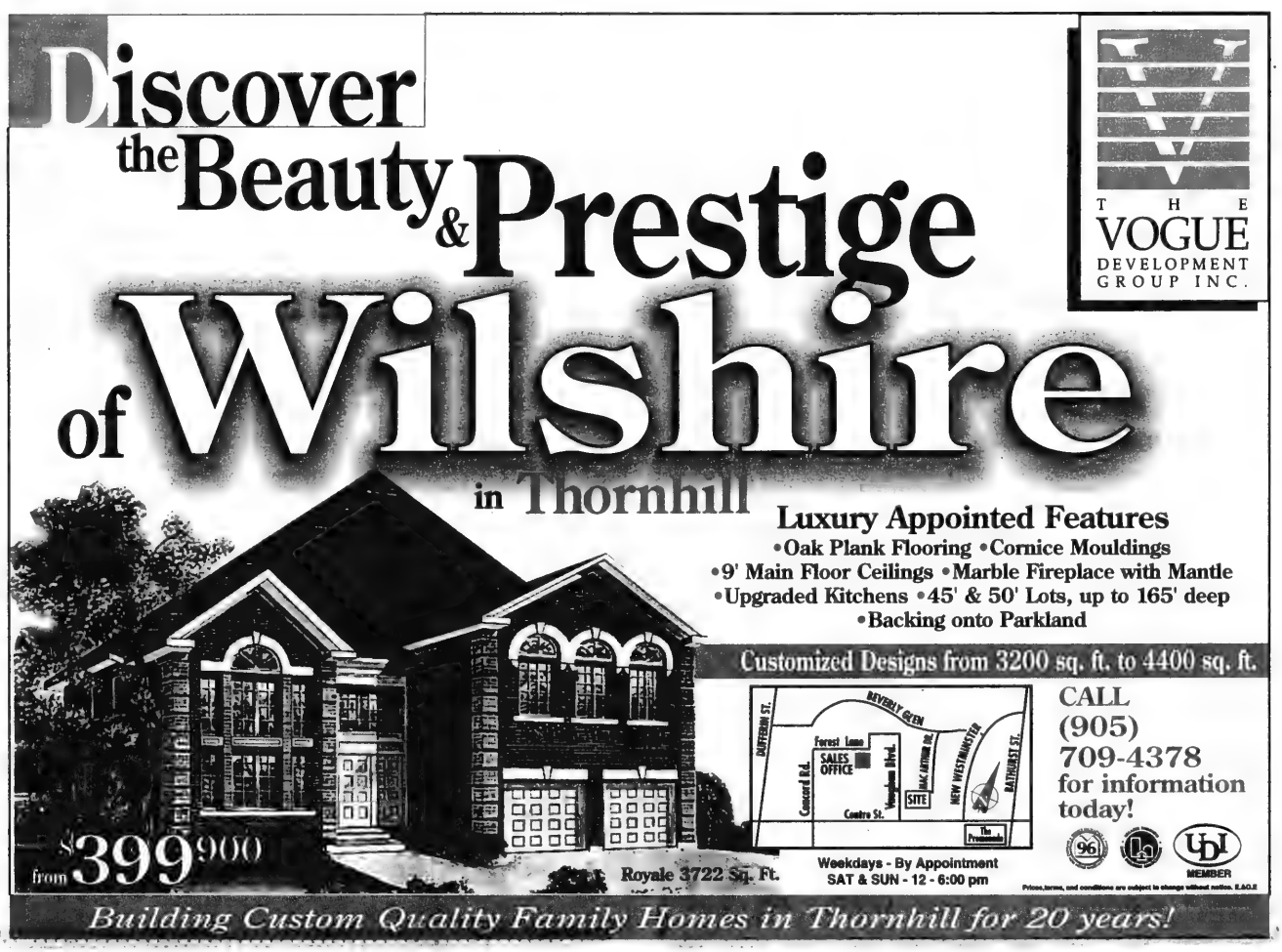
Come and visit The Vogue Development Group's on-site model home, at the Thornhill Village Estates sales office: **Lot 12, Forest Lane Drive.** Take Centre St. west from Bathurst to Concord Rd.; go north on Concord to Forest Lane. The Sales Office is open from 12 noon to 6 p.m. on weekends and by appointment only during the week. For information call **905-709-4378.**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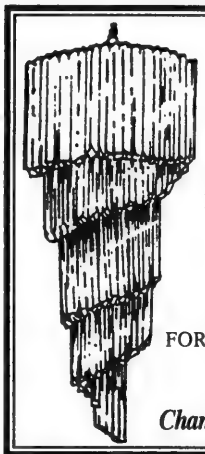

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Recently, Bluemar has secured exclusive Eastern Canada distribution rights for a fine line of glasstiles manufactured by Interstyle of Vancouver — a fully Canadian product. Bluemar has a complete stock, and deliveries from Vancouver arrive twice a month. Glasstiles can be used on their own, or as a striking contrast with ceramic tiles.

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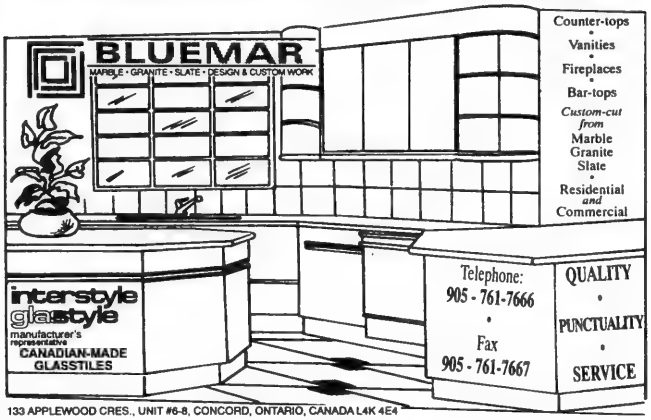

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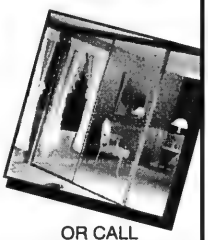

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"Building and restoring heirlooms is an investment," says Joseph. Because it is also an exacting craft, Manny and Joseph make a point of being present at every stage of the work. As everything they make or restore is hand-crafted, they work closely with designers, interior decorators, cabinetmakers and carvers.

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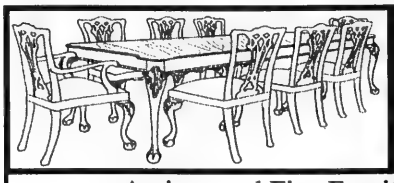

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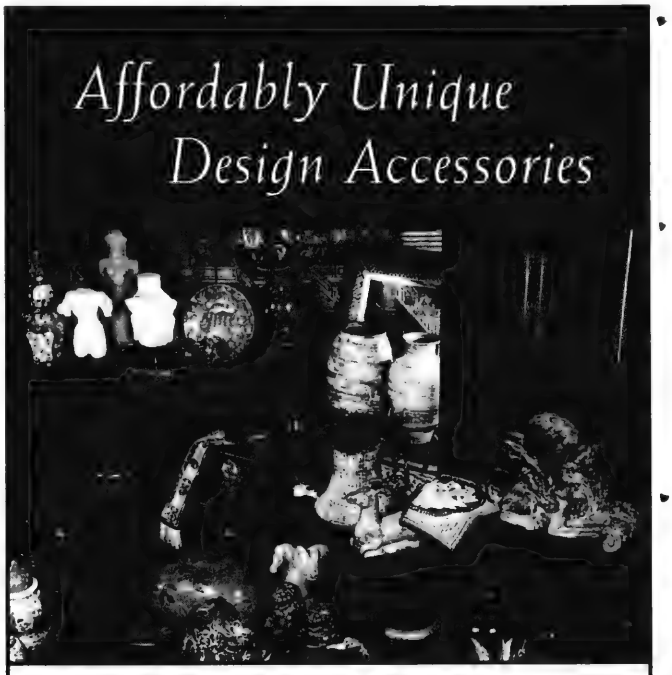

Once a showroom for the design trade only, Dover Imports recently opened its doors to welcome the general public with year-round discounted prices on all merchandise. From floor to ceiling, a vast array of gifts and decorative accessories offer something for every taste and price range. Exotic screens, sculptures, jades, bronzes, chests and tables, new and antique porcelain vases, jars and planters have been selected to provide that touch of classic sophistication to any decor. Custom wrought iron furniture is also available at great prices. Shoppers are encouraged to browse leisurely through Dover's 8,000 sq. ft. warehouse and make use of the friendly and knowledgeable assistance on hand when making their selections.

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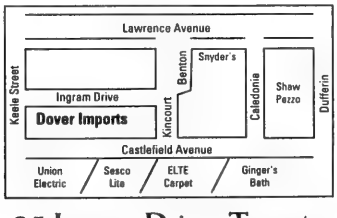

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Health news

Exchange program unites medical experts

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —It started in 1984 as an exchange program between doctors in Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital Department of Otolaryngology and their colleagues in Israel.

CISEPO, the Isabel Silverman Canadian International Scientific Exchange Program, now involves medical experts from Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Norway, Turkey, Brazil and most recently, Jordan. It includes such disciplines as behavioral neurology, public health, dentistry, ophthalmology, cancer research and biomedical computer technology.

It has also expanded in Canada to include the Sir Mortimer B. David Jewish General Hospital in Montreal, Dr. Arnold Noyek, otolaryngologist-in-chief at Mt. Sinai and executive director of CISEPO told *The CJN* in a recent interview.

"The CISEPO vision is to promote advances in health care by fostering excellence in research and education through scientific exchange," Noyek said.

Major symposia have recently included one on nasal surgery, in which physicians from Canada, Israel and New Zealand participated; and one on breathing problems in the upper airway with medical specialists from Canada, Israel and Brazil.

Mt. Sinai's Dr. Jeremy Freeman is doing research on the nasopharynx, the area in the back of the nose. His work will help members of the Chinese community who, Noyek said, often suffer from certain problems there. The research is being done in conjunction with similar work in southern China and the Mediterranean.

These multidisciplinary and multinational efforts are especially valuable because of what Noyek calls "genomic geography," that is, the fact that certain genetic features show up in populations which are spread very far apart yet obviously have a common relationship.

One area of research that is seen to have major implications all over the world is REMSEN, Remote Sensing for Medical Services and Research Projects.

This involves a direct, interactive, multimedia communication link based on teleconferencing software, regular personal computers and phone lines.

Medical examinations and instrumentations are electronically linked to the computer, so that X-ray images, hearing and eye tests, dental assessments or neurological evaluations can be transmitted over long distances.

This is particularly helpful, Noyek noted, in developing countries, where, for instance, the medical facilities are in the big cities, but most of the population live in the hinterlands.

It is even significant in Ontario, where some of the problems of small communities with no doctors could be obviated by REMSEN, with a nurse practitioner wielding the examination instruments.

This month, CISEPO is involved in a conference in Jerusalem on tumors of the base of the skull, organized by Dr. Dan Fliss of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, and another one at the Hadassah Medical Centre, which will discuss research on balance, conducted by Soviet *olim*.

Noyek is especially excited about a third conference in Amman in early March invoving Israel, Canada and Jordan, on the subject of Contemporary Otolaryngology in the Middle East. Dr. Raffi Feinmesser of the Beilinson Medical Centre is organizing that conference and Dr. Sol Frenkiel, of the Sir Mortimer Davis Jewish General Hospital will be taking part.

Other Toronto doctors involved with CISEPO include John Rutka, Edward Kassel, Jerry Chapnik, Ian Witterick, Jeff Hurwitz and David Mock of Mt. Sinai; and Morris Freedman and Allan Gordon of Baycrest Centre.

Funds for CISEPO come from the Saul Silverman Family Foundation, the Temmy Latner/Dynacare Fund, the Shiff Family Fund, Mt. Sinai Hospital, the University of Toronto and individuals and corporations with special interests in medical research, academic exchange and health care development.

Genetic marker discovered

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Hadassah-University Hospital researchers have discovered a genetic marker for hereditary inclusion body myopathy (HIBM), a disease that is most common among Jews of Persian (Iranian) origin.

The finding two weeks ago may lead to the discovery of the actual gene, but it is already a breakthrough because it enables families to determine through genetic counselling who is a possible carrier.

Prof. Zohar Argov, a senior neurologist at the hospital in Ein Kerem, Jerusalem, said the disease occurs in one out of every 1,500 Jews of Persian origin. There are about 80 Israelis who have been diagnosed with the disease, but "we believe others remain undiagnosed, apparently because they are ashamed. We'd like to find them," he said.

Other ethnic groups, both Jewish and non-Jewish, suffer from the same or similar types of inherited muscular dystrophy, but with a lower frequency.

Discovered in late '70s

Argov discovered the disease in the late '70s and has searched for the genetic marker for the past 15 months.

HIBM is characterized by the appearance of progressive weakness when the patient is in his or her 20s; it causes difficulties in walking and using the hands. Patients don't die of it, but some are very disabled due to extensive muscle damage. Until now, the disease was only detectable when the patient became ill.

Molecular genetic research, conducted by Argov with Dr. Stella Rosenbaum of the unit of molecular genetic development at Hadassah-University Hospital on Mt. Scopus, led to the discovery of the genetic marker in all the patients examined. They discovered that the defective gene is located somewhere on Chromosome #9 and now want to find the exact location.

Families with a member who has been diagnosed with the disease are asked to contact Argov at (02) 776938.

Cancer programs combined

TORONTO — The Board of Trustees of the Ontario Cancer Institute/Princess Margaret Hospital and the Toronto Hospital recently agreed to consolidate their oncology programs.

The new joint oncology program will consolidate all the programs at Princess Margaret Hospital with all those at the Toronto Hospital, under single medical leadership and single management leadership.

Each hospital will retain its own governance chaired by Peter A. Crossgrove at Princess Margaret Hospital and Fredrik S. Eaton at the Toronto Hospital.

The consolidation will enable both hospitals to rationalize all of their respective support services with the objectives of: saving millions of dollars that can be reinvested in providing cancer care to Ontario residents; creating a seamless oncology program between the two hospitals; aggregating the resources devoted to cancer care, teaching and research.

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Israelis voice concerns over terms of free trade

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — Prime Minister Shimon Peres is expected to sign a Canada-Israel free trade agreement (FTA) during his visit to Canada in March. But a leading Israeli industrialist has warned that certain provisions in the accord will severely harm Israel's trade relations with the United States.

Dan Propper, president of the Manufacturers Association of Israel, told an Israel-Canada Chamber of Commerce meeting last week that stipulations in the agreement could jeopardize Israel's $10 billion trade with the United States.

Canadian and Israeli trade negotiators concluded the proposed FTA last month, but must resolve several minor issues before the agreement can be signed.

Propper said the widespread expectation that Peres will sign the FTA during his March visit has weakened Israel's bargaining position on these unresolved points. "No one can negotiate successfully when he is told he must finish by a certain date. It is like having a sword of Damocles hanging over his neck," he said.

Propper expressed concern over the customs classification system to be used in the agreement. Israel would like to adopt the same system that is the basis of its FTA with the United States — a demand rejected by Canada. "The change Canada wants could result in profound damage to certain Israeli industries that export to the United States," said Propper. "We will lose the advantage we have in our trade agreement with the United States, which is our largest North American trading partner," he warned. He cited several other unresolved points in the agreement, which he said "could affect entire industries. But it will be very hard to win on these points when there is such pressure to sign."

However, Propper expressed enthusiasm for the principle of a free trade agreement with Canada and urged Israeli industrialists to examine opportunities in Canada. "The Canadian market may be smaller than that of the United States, but it is a less competitive market and one worth investing in," he said.

In 1995 Canada-Israel trade amounted to approximately $330 million. Israel's trade with the United States totals close to $10 billion a year. "Simple arithmetic suggests that Israel should be able to reach a $1 billion balance of trade with Canada once the FTA is signed," said Yehuda Raveh, president of the Israel-Canada Chamber of Commerce.

During the chamber of commerce meeting, Raveh read a letter from Peres to Canadian Ambassador to Israel David Berger in which the prime minister expressed his "hope" that the free trade agreement "will be brought to a positive conclusion" during his upcoming visit to Canada. Peres also praised Canada's decision to drop the embargo on military trade with Israel that has been in effect since the 1967 Six Day War.

Both Raveh and Propper said they hoped the FTA would lead to a more equal trade relationship between the two countries. Canada exports more to Israel than it imports, according to Israeli officials.

Raveh also said that the peace process had created new opportunities for Canadian involvement in mammoth regional development projects, such as construction of railways, pipelines and highways.

Jerusalem partition discounted

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Sensitivity to the idea of informal discussions about Jerusalem has been significantly heightened because of the similar discussions that led to the Oslo agreement.

Regardless of whether talks are now being held, it remains far from certain that Jerusalem, as it has evolved since 1967, can be repartitioned.

Meron Benvenisti, a former deputy mayor and a leading researcher on the city, declared Sunday that partition is no longer feasible.

For Palestinians, Benvenisti said, there is already the start of a "functional division of the city. The Palestinians living in Jerusalem are essentially part of the Palestinian Authority's educational system. I think it is only a matter of time before Palestinians living in the city have Palestinian passports, as their Jordanian passports will be withdrawn."

But Dr. Dore Gold, who just concluded a study on Jerusalem for Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, said he does not believe the Palestinians will be satisfied with the borough arrangements.

Peres, cabinet ministers received death threats

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Shimon Peres and other ministers have received death threats, the cabinet was told last week.

Cabinet sources said threats were made against Peres, Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal, and Environment Minister Yossi Sarid.

According to a security source, there are "hundreds" of people who would like to kill Peres.

In a rare interview with a member of his family, Peres's daughter Zvia Walden, a university lecturer, told Israel Radio Sunday that she had received death threats against her father and herself. "There are threats against the prime minister ... People who oppose him are losing their minds. I think they feel the moment of truth is coming, and the solution he strove for over many years is finally becoming a reality.

"I am also a target for those who find no other outlet but to issue despicable threats," she said.

According to cabinet sources, Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer warned that another assassination is possible, and everyone should be vigilant. It was Ben-Eliezer who warned the cabinet a week before Rabin's assassination that a political killing was a very real possibility.

At that meeting, Ben-Eliezer appealed to Rabin to ban guns at political demonstrations, to minimize the risks of an assassination. Rabin, however, turned the appeal aside, saying it was unworkable.

Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish voiced concern that the likelihood of another killing has only increased now that the Likud has falsely charged that Labor is going to redivide Jerusalem.

Interior Minister Haim Ramon urged that the police act against right-wing activist Avigdor Eskin, who allegedly held up a placard in Jerusalem proclaiming "Yigal Amir is not a murderer."

"If this is not sedition, I do not know what is," he said.

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38 YEARS OF SUCCESS

Israel, Syria at odds over a final border

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

Israel's current peace negotiations with Syria, which are due to resume at the Wye Plantations Conference Centre in Maryland for a third round on Feb. 26, turn on a number of complex issues running the gamut from security arrangements to water resources.

Perhaps the most complicated one is where the permanent border should be fixed in the context of an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Syria's policy is clear. Israel must return to the frontier of June 4, 1967. Israel has rejected this demand, countering it might consider a withdrawal to the 1923 international boundary.

In territorial terms, there is a difference of only about 21 square miles between the international boundary — which was drawn by France and Britain during their heyday as Middle Eastern colonial powers — and the pre-Six Day War line.

The contested area, which Israel captured in the Six Day War, contains the sources of the upper Jordan River — streams such as the Hatzbani, the Banias and the Dan — and the northeastern tip of the Sea of Galilee. In an arid region like the Middle East, this is no trifling matter. As Prime Minister Shimon Peres recently put it: "Water to a country is like weapons to an army."

Syria considers the international border an artificial imperialist creation and thus an affront to Arab nationalism and pride, while Israel views it as perfectly legitimate.

The clash of interpretations stems from fighting which took place during the War of Independence.

Following its declaration of statehood in May 1948, six Arab armies, including Syria's, invaded Israel. In the main, the Israelis repulsed the Syrians. But the Syrians managed to gain ground west of the international boundary.

On July 20, 1949, Syria and Israel signed an armistice agreement. It established demilitarized zones (DMZs) between the international boundary and the ceasefire lines. Israel and Syria were supposed to vacate the DMZs in three stages over a 12-week period.

Since the planned pullouts from the DMZs never happened, tensions flared in the early 1950s.

Syria challenged Israel's decision to drain the Hula swamp and to expel some 600 Arab civilians from DMZ. Israel protested Syria's seizure of territory which, the armistice agreement attested, belonged to the Jewish state.

The Syrian land grab encompassed a strip approximately 10 metres from the northeast shore of the Sea of Galilee, the east bank of the Jordan River from the Sea of Galilee to the Hula Valley, a portion of the northern sector of the DMZ east of Kibbutz Dan and bits on the Golan Heights (notably al-Hamma, Hirbet Tawfiq and Nuqeib.)

The military confrontation over the DMZ temporarily died down in May 1951, when Israel and Syria concluded they had nothing further to gain from further violence, according to Aryeh Shalev in *The Israel-Syria Armistice Regime 1949-1955*, published by the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

In a bid to resolve their differences, Israel and Syria entered into negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations. These talks ran from October 1952 to May 1953.

Syria demanded that a new border be moved westward — through Lake Hula, the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River — at Israel's expense.

Israel's response was negative. Israel was particularly incensed by the fact that Syria continued to occupy that 10-metre strip adjacent to the northern part of the Sea of Galilee, which was internationally recognized as Israeli territory.

As a result of this sharp disagreement, the already tense situation on the Sea of Galilee grew worse.(In December 1951, Syrian gunners on the Golan had killed two Israeli fishermen.)

At the end of 1953, the Syrians launched a systematic campaign of violating the armistice agreement and Israeli sovereignty — fishing extensively on the Sea of Galilee and shelling Israeli boats, especially police patrol vessels.

In 1954, the Israelis decided to confront the Syrians by preventing Syrian fishing and by intensifying patrols near the northeastern shore. By way of retaliation, Syria encouraged fishing by its nationals and fired at Israeli craft in the vicinity of the disputed northeastern extremity of the Sea of Galliee. This, in turn, prompted Israel to strike at Syrian emplacements close to the lake.

From Israel's vantage point, the struggle for the northeast corner of the Sea of Galilee was resolved when the Israeli armed forces captured the Golan Heights during the Six Day War. Israel then declared the 1949 armistice agreement null and void.

Syria, however, maintains that the accord is still valid, and demands the return of land won by Israel in 1967. Damascus' claims are one more reason why the Syrians and the Israelis are so profoundly at odds over the placement of a final border.

The Week in Israel

Feb. 12

• Charges were laid against Moshe Vardi, editor of *Yediot Aharonot* for ordering the placement of wiretaps on the telephone lines of his competitor colleagues Ofer Nimrodi and Dov Yudkovski.

Feb. 13

• The West Bank and Gaza Strip were sealed off "until further notice" in the wake of information showing Islamic terrorists were planning a mass attack to mark the completion of Ramadan and the end of 40 days of mourning for Yehiya Ayash. Israeli civilians were warned to be wary of any suspicious object or person after a state of high alert was declared in and over the Green Line.

Feb. 14

• Responding to a story which appeared in *Ha'aretz* quoting the secretary of the Labor party, Nissim Zvielli, that settlements in the Jordan Valley might have to be dismantled in the context of a peace agreement, Prime Minister Shimon Peres denied having any such intention. Such a suggestion, he stated, was without any foundation. Moreover, Peres emphasized that the Jordan River will remain Israel's security border.

Feb. 15

• *Hatsofeh* reported that Yasser Arafat told a group of Arab diplomats in Sweden that the objective of the peace agreements with Israel was to bring about Israel's ultimate collapse.

Feb. 16

• After the first week of the election campaign, Peres and the Labor party were still ahead of rivals Benjamin Netanyahu and Likud-Tsomet. A Gallup poll in *Ma'ariv* translates present voter support as Labor with 47 seats, Likud-Tsomet 36 or 37, Meretz 6, Shas 3 or 4, Moledet 2, Agudat Yisrael 4, National Religious Party 4, Rakah and the other Arab parties 5, David Levy 3, The Third Way 3, The Immigrants' Party 3, others 3.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• Lorin Maazel last week conducted the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in Jerusalem in a specially dedicated program.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Histradrut paper saved as funding restored

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM - *Davar Rishon*, which was to close last Thursday, was saved at the last moment by what many in the newspaper and the Histadrut called a "miracle."

In a dramatic decision, the Histadrut last Thursday revoked its earlier decision to close the paper and announced that it would resume its financial support, thus enabling publication to continue.

The impetus was provided by the Singer-Barnea group, which undertook to get together some 30 investors for the long-term project of managing *Davar Rishon*.

Editor-in-chief Ron Ben-Yishai said the group "will invest not only money but know-how and commercial ability. The offer comes from the altruistic motive to help the newspaper."

Histadrut chair Amir Peretz said the Histadrut would be a minor partner in the project. "We decided to give this historic newspaper a chance. It's important for us that the social voice, the mouthpiece of the workers, continues to be heard."

The announcement caught *Davar Rishon* editors and journalists by surprise as they were preparing what was to be the final edition.

"We're afraid of getting our hopes up again," one journalist said. "This might all turn out to be too good to be true."

Peretz said the Barnea-Singer company undertook to set up a group of investors who will put $250,000 into *Davar Rishon* within a week, while the Histadrut will match the sum. In addition, the Histadrut will continue giving the paper $1 million a year for the next two years.

Senior *Davar Rishon* sources said contacts with several potential investors, including the Singer-Barnea group, had been under way over the past months, but the Histadrut's decision to cut off the paper's financial pipeline had made it impossible for them to succeed.

"It is more likely that due to public pressure, the Histadrut was searching for a ladder to climb down from the limb and change its decision to close *Davar Rishon*," one source said.

"This way it has a good excuse to resume financial support to the newspaper at least until after election year," he said.

Leading settlement rabbi opposes anti-Peres campaign

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza made a mistake in publicly endorsing Benjamin Netanyahu, and would make an even greater mistake if it launched personal attacks on Shimon Peres, said Rabbi Yoel Bin-Nun, the renegade member of the council's executive, last week.

"I am against negative personal campaigns," Rabbi Bin-Nun said. "I have seen two such campaigns, one against Menachem Begin and one against Yitzhak Rabin, and I am not prepared for this to happen again."

Rabbi Bin-Nun was responding to reports about a document that allegedly details plans for the settlement council to lead a smear campaign against Peres. The council has denied that such a document exists, or that attacking Peres personally is its strategy.

Rabbi Bin-Nun said he doesn't know if such a document exists. He said, however, that the council in the past decided to wage a personal campaign against Rabin. Uri Ariel, head of the council, denied this.

According to Rabbi Bin-Nun, the settlement movement is shooting itself in the foot by publicly and actively supporting Netanyahu.

"What will happen if Peres wins? This is a very irresponsible move," he said.

Rabbi Bin-Nun caused a furor five days after Rabin's assassination when he announced that he knew of rabbis who gave halachic support for the killing. Police investigated a number of rabbis, but nothing came of the accusations.

Ariel rejected Rabbi Bin-Nun's position, saying the council has legitimate criticism of the government's polices.

"What are we supposed to do, say amen to every move the government makes because of a fear that if we don't, they will get back at us later? We will do what we can to ensure the victory of the national camp, and if a Peres government intends to take out its vengeance on us, then that is a scandal," Ariel said.

Amir trial postoned three weeks

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The Tel Aviv District Court agreed to a three-week recess in the trial of Yigal Amir for the murder of Yitzhak Rabin.

The recess was called last week to allow the 25-year-old to undergo additional psychiatric examinations.

Defence attorneys have so far resisted an insanity plea, but Amir did agree to undergo an initial psychiatric evaluation earlier this month at the court's request.

One of Amir's court-appointed attorneys, Shmuel Fleishman, has said that the defence is considering arguing that Amir was not in emotional control of himself during the assassination. Such an argument could reduce the charges against him and bring a shorter sentence.

Under the Israeli criminal code, a defendant convicted of murder can get less than a life sentence if it is proven that he suffered from emotional problems at the time of committing the crime.

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Buchanan's early success concerns Jewish Republicans

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON – Stung by Pat Buchanan's strong early showing in the race for the Republican presidential nomination, Jewish Republicans will continue to distance themselves from the man many consider a borderline anti-Semite.

Boosted by a second-place "victory" in last week's Iowa caucus and by last week's upset in the Louisiana caucus, Buchanan has emerged as the early choice of the religious right for the GOP nomination.

While a Buchanan nomination remains a long shot, his strong showing early in the race has moderate Republicans rushing to loudly denounce him.

"Pat Buchanan has a very strong hate message and message of class warfare and unfortunately, a number of Republican Iowans bought it," said Bud Hockenberg, a Jewish Republican activist in Des Moines. "Pat Buchanan poses a grave danger for the Jewish community."

Matt Brooks, executive director of the National Jewish Coalition, the pre-eminent Jewish Republican organization, said, "Pat Buchanan's views are so far out of the mainstream of the Republican party today that they are practically out of the Republican tent.

"He is a rather large nuisance, like a little dog who is constantly barking at your heels," Brooks said.

Fearing that there will be a repeat of the 1992 convention debacle, when the party appeared intolerant and exclusive, Republicans pledged this year to keep the GOP's far right wing in check.

The candidates begin a five-week sprint through 30 states this week that will likely decide who will represent the GOP in the November elections.

Buchanan has championed a socially conservative platform with an emphasis on policy goals advocated by the religious right. He has promised to propose a constitutional amendment to outlaw all abortions in the United States, to take steps to end immigration and to bring prayer into the nation's public schools. In his current campaign, Buchanan has stayed away from the fiery rhetoric that led American Jewish Committee's Kenneth Stern in a 1991 report to describe him as a man who is "no friend to the Jews and has serious problems with 'Jewish issues.'"

Buchanan has drawn the ire of the Jewish community for criticizing U.S. foreign aid to Israel as "subsidizing a policy that denies to Palestinians that God-given right to a homeland" and accusing Israel and its "amen corner" in the United States of leading the charge for the 1991 Gulf War.

Buchanan has riled the Jewish community in particular for his defence of accused Nazi war criminals and support for views espoused by Holocaust deniers.

He has questioned the number of Jews gassed at Treblinka and accused survivors of having a syndrome of "group fantasies of martyrdom and heroics."

He was particularly active in the defence of John Demjanjuk, an SS guard acquitted by the Israeli Supreme Court of being Ivan the Terrible. Nonetheless, the court found credible evidence that he committed crimes against humanity.

While most of the Jewish community remains on the sidelines watching the Buchanan campaign, at least one group has been actively protesting his candidacy.

"Pat Buchanan is the most dangerous anti-Semite in America today," said Ronn Torrosian, national spokesperson for the Coalition for Jewish Concerns (AMCHA).

'Conspiracy mongering'

By THOMAS O'DWYER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The Anti-Defamation League has protested to presidential hopeful Pat Buchanan about "fantastical and highly offensive anti-Israel conspiracy mongering" in an article on the Buchanan campaign's official Internet site.

The article, in a series titled "Other News You Might Have Missed," blames the Mossad for the death of Vince Foster, a former close aide of President Bill Clinton. The article charges Hillary Clinton with being a Mossad agent.

Attention is being drawn to the article by another Internet site, the Jewish Communications Network (JCN), which is monitoring the U.S. presidential race from a Jewish perspective.

"This will only fuel the American Jewish community's distrust of Buchanan," says editor Larry Yudelson on the JCN site.

The JCN says that while Buchanan cannot be personally held responsible for the unsigned article, it is still on the official campaign site and reflects some of the attitudes of people that ally themselves with Buchanan.

Israeli campaign turns nasty

Cont'd from pg. 1

knowledge whatsoever of any official persons dealing with Jerusalem or conducting negotiations on this issue.

"Reports of this are baseless. The prime minister emphasized that the entire cabinet is united on the principle that Jerusalem should not be divided, and allegations to the contrary should be considered incitement."

Olmert cited two recent meetings between Pundak and Hirschfeld and Palestinian officials in Jerusalem. The first was in November at Orient House and the second at the Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs.

The upcoming elections will be a referendum on Jerusalem, Netanyahu said, launching the Likud-Tsomet campaign with posters and stickers bearing the slogan, "Peres will divide Jerusalem."

"If the prime minister means what he told the cabinet, he should prove it by closing down Orient House by March 1," Olmert said.

According to the government's own evaluations, he added, closing Orient House would not affect the continuation of the peace process.

Both Netanyahu and Olmert rejected a call by Labor Party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli to sign an agreement to keep the Jerusalem issue out of the election campaign.

Netanyahu dismissed the demand as "ridiculous." "Jerusalem is the most important issue in these elections. We won't agree to keep quiet now, so that he can yield later. The elections will determine whether the Jewish dream of a united, rebuilt Jerusalem will continue or disintegrate."

Channel 2 reported that Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal called on Foreign Minister Ehud Barak to prevent foreign dignitaries from visiting Orient House.

Netanyahu gave a long list of reasons for concern about Jerusalem, including the talks on the permanent status; the secret talks in Europe; the existence of more than 10 Palestinian offices operating in Jerusalem; the plans for an Arab shadow municipality; the presence of Rajoub Jibril's Preventive Security Service agents; Yasser Arafat's declarations on the the city; the Palestinian elections in the city; and the government's refusal to support opposition bills calling for a special Knesset majority to endorse changes to Jerusalem's borders and status.

MK Yitzhak Levy (National Religious Party), meanwhile, said he would raise his Jerusalem bill for first reading this week. Under the bill, any changes to the existing Jerusalem Law would require a majority of 80 MKs, two-thirds of the Knesset. "The bill is compatible with the government's statements on the status of Jerusalem and will be a test of the honesty of those statements," Levy said.

A similar bill has been submitted by Likud MK Uzi Landau.

Judaism gets a boost from Internet project

By LESLIE KATZ
Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO - Classes on Maimonides or the application of Halachah to daily life are not exactly easy to find for Jews in, say, Hong Kong or remote areas of the Pacific Northwest.

But in cyberspace, those classes and others of Jewish interest are available to anyone with a modem, a telephone line and an Internet connection.

Rabbi Ya'akov Menken founded and maintains Project Genesis: Torah on the Information Superhighway, a Jewish learning centre on the Internet offering classes on Jewish philosophy and practice as well as Jewish archives, Torah commentaries and general information about happenings in the Jewish world.

The 30-something Orthodox rabbi, who holds an engineering degree from Princeton University, operates Project Genesis from his home office in Spring Valley, N.Y.

Currently, there are more than 10 interpretations of the weekly Torah portion available on the Internet. Four are available through Project Genesis, as is one interpretation of the Haftarah.

The privately funded project started in 1993 with a single class exploring a specific work on Jewish ethics. Since then, it has expanded to become the largest Jewish learning centre in the cyberworld, with more than a dozen classes and about 5,000 students downloading class material. Subscribers come from as far away as Sweden, Norway, Argentina and Brazil.

Last year, Project Genesis expanded further by opening a World Wide Web site – http://www.torah.org – that is a resource for the project's services.

The icon labelled Special Speakers, Seminars and Events, for example, leads to a listing of events, including the International Conference on Jewish Medical Ethics.

Another icon, labelled Other Jewish Learning Programs, offers information on Jewish learning centres around the world, and links visitors to other Internet sites of Jewish interest.

If users click on the icon for Global Learning Network, meanwhile, they can get a description of the various free classes offered through Project Genesis, and can register for them.

In some cases, material covered by a class is available for perusal and downloading.

Rabbis teaching the classes are all Orthodox, but Rabbi Menken insists that the program is non-denominational. Surveys of subscribers, he says, show that they belong to all branches of Judaism.

The point "is not to tell people how to observe or what to do, but to offer them the necessary background," he says. "A well-informed Reform or Conservative Jew also should know these things."

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Outgoing Shin Bet head Karmi Gillon (left) and the new head of Israel's secret service, Admiral Ami Ayalon, reach in front of President Ezer Weizman and his wife Ruama to toast each other at a recent changing of the guard ceremony at the president's residence. [RNS photo]

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Parties discuss union

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Meimad, which decided late last week to register as a political party, was to begin exploratory talks with The Third Way, David Levy's list and Natan Sharansky's Yisrael B'aliya about the possibility of forming a centrist bloc, said Yehuda Ben-Meir, one of the movement's leaders.

The movement also decided at its meeting to call on its supporters to vote for Shimon Peres in the race for prime minister.

Avigdor Kahalani, head of the Third Way, said this decision will "make it more difficult" for his party and Meimad to run together.

Ben-Meir said that despite Kahalani's comment, contacts with The Third Way will continue. "The country doesn't like small parties," he said. "I don't believe there is a future for small parties."

The party's executive decided to register as a party but did not make any formal decision whether Meimad will run alone, with other parties or if it will even run at all. "We want to keep the options open," Ben-Meir said, adding that Meimad would have "no problem" running with other, non-religious parties.

The decision to support Peres, Ben-Meir said, was due in no small part to the support for Benjamin Netanyahu by the National Religious Party and the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

"I do not think we would have come out in favor of Peres had it not been that the National Religious Party and settlement council clearly support Netanyahu" Ben-Meir said. "We don't want the impression to exist that everyone religious is on one side and against the other half of the country. The whole religious community is not on one side."

Ben-Meir said that Meimad backed Peres because "he supports the peace process and Oslo. The prime minister race is a clear cut decision between two different approaches. Netanyahu said he has to accept reality, but we see it [the Oslo accords] as more than that. We see it as an opportunity, but with a heavy price."

At the same time, Ben-Meir said, Meimad has differences with the Labor party's left which preclude it from supporting that party.

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Playwright's Retreat *sure to stir up lots of controversy*

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rachel, a young Hebrew school teacher in Toronto who faces suspension because she compared Israeli settlers to terrorists, is one of four Jewish characters in *Retreat* by controversial playwright Jason Sherman.

Before *Retreat* ends, and before Rachel decides to quit or apologize, she goes to a writers' retreat in the Rockies and has an affair with David, a film producer. David disagrees with Rachel's ideas for a screenplay contending that Israel has lost its idealism.

Retreat opens at Tarragon Theatre's mainstage Feb. 20 and runs to March 17. Previews began Feb. 14 (531-1827).

"This is not a play driven by politics. It's driven by two people having an affair," Sherman says. "It's not meant to offend anyone who has particular ideas about Israel and I have no idea whether it will. If it's disturbing, that wouldn't be bad. I want people to question their own assumptions.

"It's commenting on larger issues. For example, can you understand the complicated situation in Israel if you can't understand the person sitting across the table from you?"

Rachel's screenplay is about Shabbetai Zevi, the 17th century mystic who announced that he was the Messiah and then confounded his fervent followers by converting to Islam in the face of a death threat by the Sultan of Constantinople. Rachel sees Zevi's life as an allegory for the history of State of Israel.

Sherman, 33, who won the Governor General's drama award in 1995 for *Three in the Back, Two in the Head* has now written four plays in which Israeli politics figure. He is working on a CBC drama about a Palestinian arrested in Canada as a suspected terrorist, and the battle over his extradition.

One of Sherman's earlier plays, *League of Nathans* is now on stage in Winnipeg (Winnipeg Jewish Theatre) and earning good reviews. His stage adaptation of *None is Too Many* by Irving Abella and Harold Troper is set to be co-produced by the Winnipeg troupe in May 1997. *Reading Hebron*, about Baruch Goldstein's killing of Arabs praying in a mosque is to be developed at Playwrights Workshop, Montreal.

Calmon Shemi sits before some of his art. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Lithos warm up wintery day

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Outside it is winter, but inside the Circle Gallery on Hazelton Avenue, Calman Shemi's laser wall sculptures, soft paintings and limited edition lithographs in hot pinks, reds, yellows, clear blues, greens and purples, bring warmth.

The comprehensive exhibition, which was opened by Jehudi Kinar, Israel's consul general to Toronto and Western Canada, continues through Feb. 29.

Born in Mendoza, "a beautiful place in Argentina's Atlas Mountains," Shemi skipped high school and at 13, entered the School of Sculpture and Ceramics, which was affiliated with the city's university. With singular purpose, he convinced the institute's director that it would be a waste of time to delay his study of art. The youngest pupil ever, he remained at the school four years.

Later, in Buenos Aires, he was equally persuasive when the country's foremost sculptor, who never gave lessons, agreed that Shemi could work on his own and bring in his sculpture for monitoring by the master.

After making aliyah at 21, Shemi lived on Kibbutz Carmia, between Ashkelon and Gaza for 20 years.

"It was an open kibbutz," he says. "They gave me a small room where I could do my work at night. Through the day, I worked in the fields."

In 1977, he developed the process for his soft paintings. Using a threadless 9,000-needle industrial machine, the property of the kibbutz, he fuses fine felt fabric into exhilarating concepts alive with color and form. The method enables him to create textures ranging from diaphanous to opaque.

Though his studio is now in Jerusalem, Shemi returns regularly to Carmia.

Nature is a pervasive influence in his work. In his painting, *Shimmering Sails*, a translucent sailboat is in front of a series of small dots, his vocabulary for an orchard. *Tree of Life* could be any tree — in a field, in a forest, anywhere.

Shemi's laser wall sculptures, which are cut from steel and layered with automobile paint for endurance, appear amazingly buoyant.

Shemi has exhibited in noted galleries worldwide and his works are found in public, corporate and private collections.

In 1977, Israel's president Ephraim Katzir presented a Shemi painting to Egypt's President Anwar al-Sadat. It was representational — a dove against a blue and green background for the Israeli and Egyptian flags — to symbolize peace between the two nations.

The recent lithograph, *Jerusalem 3,000*, commemorates the city's third millenium.

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TAB news

1952 film dramatizes Israel's birth pangs

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Touted as the first Hollywood film to be made on location in Israel, *Faithful City* is a dusty though interesting relic of a bygone age.

Released in 1952 by now-defunct RKO Radio Pictures, Josef Leytes' 86-minute movie is set in 1947, a pivotal year in the modern history of the Middle East.

Faithful City, which will be aired by Vision TV on Feb. 29 at 8 p.m., unfolds against the backdrop of two momentous historic events: the United Nations Palestine partition plan and Britain's decision to give up its mandate there.

But far from being a political film, as these milestones might suggest, *Faithful City* is rather a human drama, turning on a group of newly-arrived young Jewish refugees settling in at a children's village in Jerusalem.

The kids are fresh from Nazi-occupied Europe and "the gutters of the Orient," a local and inexcusably vulgar and condescending expression for Morocco. They are restless, cynical and on edge, all the more so after their bus is stoned by Arabs on a lonely stretch of road from Haifa to Jerusalem.

At the village, a bucolic spot framed by nearly bare mountains, the children come under the tutelage of two idealistic adults — Ezra (John Slater), an Israeli, and Sam (Jamie Smith), an American.

Though they are torn by differences of approach in resettling their charges, their basic mission is clear. As Ezra puts it, "We must give these kids back their childhood and make them believe in something."

It won't be easy. Unnerved by the stoning, and certain that a war is imminent, some of the kids express a wish to return to Europe.

Futhermore, ethnic tension bubbles to the surface. "What do you know, Moroccan?" one boy taunts a fellow refugee. "Nazi," the North African boy counters.

As we quickly learn, the most problematic youngsters in the camp are Max (Israel Hanin) and Anna (Dina Peskin), both of whom are impertinent, cocky and hostile to Sam.

But in time, as they get to know him better, their antagonism fades. Predictably, their ill feeling toward Sam is supplanted by friendship and admiration.

The film reaches its climax after Sam joins the Haganah and the village, besieged by Arab forces, runs dangerously low of water.

Faithful City, emotionally flat until now, recharges itself in the penultimate, somewhat exciting scene in which Sam takes the controls of a disabled water truck and drives it past explosions, much to the relief of the thirsty villagers.

Prefiguring such Israel-centred blockbuster films as *Exodus* and *Cast a Giant Shadow*, *Faithful City* is a modest, albeit sincere, attempt to dramatize the birth pangs of a nation.

And while it doesn't always succeed, it takes its place as the first major American studio film to try to portray this inspirational and often emulated theme.

'A gentle look at two old friends'

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — *In the Time of Old Ages* is a play about two financially challenged 75-year-olds, a Jew and an Irishman, who win $8 million in the 649 lottery.

They outwit a schemer who has devious plans for the money and buy themselves a nursing home in the country where they can retire as benevolent landlords.

Along the way, there are chuckles as both Reuben Ludlow, the Jew, and Mickey Flaherty, the Irishman, decide that children don't always know best.

The play, with Ray Rawlings, who is Jewish, playing Ludlow, is ending its run Feb. 22-24 at the Huron Park Community Theatre in Mississauga.

"It's a play that everyone, especially seniors, can enjoy," said director Ron Ashton. "It's a gentle look at two old friends."

On a visit to his family in Toronto, Flaherty buys a 649 ticket and sends it to Ludlow in New York for his 75th birthday. But the widower fails to open the envelope and it's not until much later that the two friends realize they are the winners.

The theatre is located at 830 Paisley Blvd. W., near the intersection of Mavis Road and Dundas Street. To book tickets, which are $15 ($10 for seniors), call 905-821-0090.

Teenagers write play

TORONTO — The Beth Tzedec Youth Players are presenting *Me, Myself and I* Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Synagogue.

The actors, aged 7 to 14, wrote the play themselves.It is a teenage perspective on a variety of topics illustrating the experiences of childhood and the beginnings of adolescence.

Proceeds of the production will go to Jewish Family & Child Service. Last year the Beth Tzedec Youth Players raised $700 for the Reena Foundation.

Me, Myself and I is produced and directed by Ruth Rumack and Stacey Wintre. Tickets are $5; $7 at the door. Call 787-0381 ext. 39.

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TAB news

MAMA MIA

One international fast food chain after another is beginning to appear in Israel's town centres. The Italian-style fast food group Sbarro is the latest fast food outlet to come to Israel. Established in downtown Jerusalem, it has the distinction of being the branch's first kosher outlet in the world and is offering its special creation Pizza Yerushalmi. The pizza has a topping of labane, olive oil and black olives. Here, two of the staff proudly display the Pizza Yerushalmi. [Israel photo]

Producer Jordan Schwartz breathes life into Toronto variety show

By JUDY SIBLIN-RAKOFF
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It's almost like a party — because of producer Jordan Schwartz.

As the audience files into the studio for the *Camilla Scott Show*, they are greeted by a set that is alive with a burst of color — purples, oranges and yellows, and then this catchy music comes on, and you can't stop singing the theme song. Everyone is dancing in their seats and the show hasn't even begun.

Schwartz stands at the production table, wearing a headset. Other production staff are present during the taping, but at all times Schwartz is quietly in charge, orchestrating the event.

It takes a certain kind of person to be the supervising producer of a network talk show with a staff of 25 people, but to achieve this by the age of 30 is even more impressive.

Not bad for the kid whose first job in television was doing his own comedy show for Rogers Cable 10 at the age of 14. Ever since, Schwartz has been driven to succeed in this business.

So when the opportunity arose to create a new talk show geared towards teens and 20-somethings, Schwartz was ready. He was also instrumental in finding the perfect star for the show, actress/singer Camilla Scott.

When Schwartz first began in showbusiness, he wanted to be on-air. And he was. Besides his comedy show, he hosted a segment on the Life Channel and worked on air at CBC.

"I got to the point where I was sort of too young to do serious stuff and too old to do teen stuff. *The Shirley Show* was coming around, and I was at Ryerson in Radio/ Television. I called Shirley because she was at The Life Channel, and I ended up working on her pilot,"and became an audience researcher for the show.

Within one year he became a story producer. "I just loved it. I loved it more than on-air, and that's when my career changed.

"And it was fun writing scripts and finding the people and the stories."

When the show went on hiatus, he was off to Los Angeles and New York looking for other opportunities. He met the producers of the *Home Show*, Woody Fraser and Marty Tenney. Two weeks later, he got a phone call asking him if he could move to Los Angeles the following day to be a producer on *The Home Show*.

"It was the scariest thing I've ever done in my life. This was an American talk show, dealing with overnight ratings, dealing with a show that was 90 minutes. I had to learn to edit tape. I was petrified, but it was also the greatest experience in the world."

Having worked with different hosts, he was offered a gig right here in Canada, to produce the *Dini Petty Show*.

"I was asked to be part of the existing team to revamp the show and change it from the *Dini Petty Show* to *The Dini Show*."

Schwartz first saw Scott on *The Dini Show*, on a program about losing weight. Richard Simmons was on the show, and Scott made an appearance to discuss her starring role in the musical *Crazy For You*.

"Camilla came out tap dancing. What was so interesting was that she'd had a serious weight problem years ago, and so when she came out tap dancing, now weighing 120 pounds, and told her story, she took the attention away from Richard Simmons."

Schwartz and Morley Nirenberg presented the idea for a show starring Scott to BBS.

Shortly thereafter they did a pilot, and very soon after that the show went into production.

So far the show has been so successful that it's packed every night at the CFTO-TV studios in Scarborough, and on the second day of taping they were already sold out for weeks.

The Camilla Scott Show airs weekdays at 3 p.m. on BBS.

Holocaust films up for Oscars

LOS ANGELES – Two documentaries on Holocaust themes have been nominated for Academy Awards.

Anne Frank Remembered, which throws considerable new light on her life and death, was nominated in the Documentary Features category.

The two-hour film was written, produced and directed by London-based filmmaker Jon Blair. It is being released in North America in late February and early March.

Nominated in the Documentary Short Subjects category is *One Survivor Remembers*, a one-hour film about a Holocaust survivor recollecting her experiences.

The film was shown last May on HBO and won an Emmy.

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TAB news

Judy and David Gershon

Children's entertainers' careers come full circle

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Three years ago, Judy and David Gershon decided to follow their dream to become children's entertainers.

The dynamic, duo along with their All Together Now Band, return to the Holy Blossom Temple on Feb. 25 at 4 p.m., where they presented their first big concert three years ago.

"It is hard to believe," says David. "We always said that we would give it a try for three years and here we are."

Judy and David have produced five albums, they have entertained tens of thousands of children and parents from coast to coast, sold more than five million cassettes from Canada to Singapore, and this month, they will premiere their first national television special titled, *Judy and David's Music Shop* on the Family Channel.

Their All Together Now Band consists of Tom Rasky on drums, his sister Michelle Rasky on keyboard, Michael Witzenhausen on bass guitar and Brandon Scott on a variety of instruments.

Judy and David have also gone online. You can visit them on the Internet and enjoy pictures, lyrics and sound clips. Their address is http://tanglewood.com.

Concert tickets are available at the office of Holy Blossom Temple or at the door. The admission of $8 includes a donation to Mazon Canada. For more information, call 416-789-3291, ext. 233.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Tribute to Ed Mirvish: The Toronto Entertainment District Association invites you to join Honest Ed and 2,000 of his closest friends as some celebrated entertainers gather to sing, dance, roast, honor and entertain in a one-of-a-kind gala evening. Entertainers include Michael Burgess, Rebecca Caine, Dinah Christie, Don Harron, Tom Kneebone, Sheila McCarthy, Sandra O'Neill, Gordon Pinsent and many others.

March 4, 7 p.m., Princess of Wales Theatre, 300 King St. W., Toronto. Entertaining attire or black tie; dinner and party following at Ed's Warehouse. For tickets, please call 416-872-1212 or visit the theatre box office.

* * *

Music & Kosher Wine: The Metro String Quartet performs at the Beit Rayim Synagogue, 9711 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill, March 17 at 7:30 p.m. A wine-tasting of exclusive kosher wines with refreshments is planned for after the concert. Advance tickets $20; $25 at the door; seniors $15. 905-770-7639.

* * *

Jewish Radio in Vancouver: As of several months ago, Zelda Young, producer and host of Toronto's longest running Jewish radio program, can also be heard in the greater Vancouver area on AM 1320 on Sunday from 9 to 10 a.m.

In Toronto, Young's show can be heard on CHIN FM 100.7 each weekday from 10 to 11 a.m., and on Sunday from 8.30 to 10 a.m. on CHIN AM 1540. According to Young, her show "brings together news, music, happenings in the respective communities and topics of general interest within a special niche with a wide range of appeal."

* * *

Film Fest Gift Passes: The Toronto Jewish Film Festival is encouraging patrons to give passes and tickets to the festival as gifts. You may use your Visa card or write a cheque to arrange for a gift certificate, redeemable for passes or tickets, to be sent to your friend or friends. 416-324-8600. This year's festival runs May 2 to 9.

* * *

Israeli Film: A recent Eye On Arts column mentioned the Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in connection with some rare pre-state Israeli film footage shown at the Pordenone Silent Film Festival in Italy.

That item has prompted a letter from reader Sidney Brickman, a Torontonian wintering in Phoenix, Ariz., who notifies us that the deputy director of the Spielberg Archive, Hillel Tryster, is a former movie and theatre critic for the *Jerusalem Post* and Brickman's cousin through marriage.

In conjunction with the Pordenone Festival, Tryster has written a book, *Israel Before Israel: Silent Cinema in the Holy Land.* The book features chapters on cinematic pioneers like Yaacov Ben Dov and Joseph Gal-Ezer, and on the Palestine Foundation Fund, which showed Eretz Israel to the world. It is available through the Spielberg Archive.

* * *

In Brief: Straight From the Heart, a silent auction of art works, opens Feb. 25, 2 to 5 p.m., and continues until March 9 at Creative Spirit Art Centre, 1071 Bathurst St., Toronto 416-588- 8801. Also at La Parete Gallery, 1086 Bathurst St.

Kiss of The Spider Woman: Livent's award-winning production of *Kiss of the Spider Woman –The Musical*, with Chita Rivera, returns to Toronto for 14 performances at the Elgin Theatre, Feb. 22 through March 3. 416-972-2222.

Haman was a drag Purim Ball

The Jewish Feminist Anti-Fascist League and the United Jewish Peoples' Order will present a community Purim celebration on Feb. 25 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The all-ages event will take place at Winchevsky Centre at 585 Cranbrooke Ave. (five blocks north of Lawrence off Bathurst Street in Toronto.)

Performers will sing Sephardi Purim songs, there will be live Klezmer music, a modern day satirical megillah reading, a performance of the Purim shpiel in drag, face paintings and more.

Tickets are $3 to$5. For more information, call 416-789-5502.

Correction

In the Feb. 8 issue of *The CJN* "Mushing with Huskies" story by Vera Gillman, the wrong name for the dog sledding outfit was inadvertently used. The correct name should have been Golden Valley.

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Israeli juniors need help between the pipes

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A remarkably astute remark was once attributed to Gene Ubriaco when the son of the Sault was coaching the Pittsburgh Penguins back in the mid 1980s.

"Goaltending," Ubriaco purportedly stated, "is 80 percent of hockey, unless you don't got none. Then it's 100 percent."

The wisdom behind Ubriaco's dictum is staring organizers of the Israeli junior hockey team squarely in the face as they prepare to ice a competitive team for an upcoming international event.

Not only are they gearing up for the 1996 European Junior Ice Hockey Championships, Pool D tournament, which runs from March 6 to 10 in Sofia, Bulgaria, but they're still beating the bushes searching for a young man with an Israeli passport who can tend the twine tent.

Oded Orgil, co-coach of the junior squad, believes "if we find a goalie, we have a shot" at winning.

Last year's starting goalie is too old now for the competition, which is limited to players born July 1, 1978 or later. A young goalie who served as backup to last year's starter is being groomed in Israel, but he's still pretty green and hasn't faced many tough shots, Orgil said.

Still, the rest of the team is shaping up nicely and figures to be better than the one that finished fifth out of seven at the 1995 event, Orgil said.

Joining Israel in this year's tournament are the Netherlands, Bulgaria and Turkey, which comprise Group A, and Yugoslavia and Greece, which with Israel make up Group B. The winner of the tournament moves up to play in Pool C next year.

Orgil said he'll be taking about 11 players from Canada to Sofia, a number equal to the Israel-based contingent. All players must have Israeli passports or have at least one parent born in the Jewish state.

Although the team wasn't set as of last week, Orgil said he expected three members of last year's eight-man Canadian contingent to return and take leadership roles on the team: centre Yaron Orgil, defenceman Simon Levine and centre Bryan Friedman.

Hockey players (from left) Simon Levine, Eli Oosterhuis and Yaron Orgil were part of the Canadian contingent that joined Israel's national junior team at last year's IIHF championships.

Yaron, Orgil's brother, plays for Hillcrest Midget AA, while Levine skates for Goulding Park Midget AAA and Friedman plays for Don Mills Flyers, a Bantam AAA team.

Most of the skaters who've tried out for the team have AA or AAA credentials and because the organization of the team is still rudimentary, it's likely the Canadian group will come exclusively from the Greater Toronto Area.

Joining Orgil, a member of Israel's senior national hockey team, as co-coach is Sergei Martin, an *oleh* from the former Soviet Union who is Orgil's teammate on the national team. Lev Genin, another former Soviet who's the national team's third-string goalie, is the Israel-based manager of the junior squad.

Although the Israel Ice Hockey Federation will provide airline tickets for the Canadians skaters, the Israeli hockey infrastructure is still run on a shoestring basis. Orgil is trying to round up corporate sponsors to provide team jackets and he's soliciting contributions for blue gloves and helmets, as well as new goalie equipment, to help the team look its best when it competes.

Anyone interested in making a contribution or even trying out for the goalie spot can contact Orgil at 905-881-3597.

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Swimmers hopeful about Olympics

World Zionist Press Service

JERUSALEM — Record-breaking performances in the European Championships, held recently in Vienna, have greatly boosted the hopes of Israel's leading swimmers as they look towards the Atlanta Olympics next summer.

According to the experts, Israeli swimmers should, at the very least, reach three finals — a first for Israeli swimming.

The four-man team in Vienna consisted of two sabras — Yoav Bruck (freestyle) and Eitan Urbach (backstroke), and two new immigrants — Vadim Alexeyev (breaststroke) from the former Soviet Union and Dan Kutler (butterfly) from the United States.

Of the four, Bruck is the most likely to do well in the individual events, having finished sixth in the European Championships in the 50-metre freestyle final with a record Israeli time of 22.79 seconds.

Bruck's achievement came despite the sudden death of his father two months before.

"A week after his death I was due to attend an intensive training camp in France," recalls Bruck. "I considered not going. But my mother insisted that my father would have wanted me to carry on. I inherited my determination and single-mindedness from him."

Bruck, 23, returned to Israel last year after receiving an MA in communications from Auburn University, Utah, where he was on a sports scholarship. During his four-year sojourn, he was coached by American swimming trainer Dave Marsh.

In Israel, Bruck is now doing his compulsory army service. But under the IDF program for sporting excellence, he is in a non-combat job teaching English. This enables him to train everyday at Netanya's Wingate Institute.

Alexeyev, 28, who immigrated to Israel in 1992 from Alma Ata in Kazakhstan, has already succeeded in reaching an Olympic final. In 1988, he finished sixth in the Seoul Olympics while representing the former Soviet Union. In Vienna, representing his new homeland, Alexeyev finished seventh in the 100-m breaststroke with a time of 1.02.54 — a new Israeli record.

"I think Israel will win an Olympic swimming medal in Atlanta," says Alexeyev. "Why not? If we don't think positive, it won't happen. Yoav or I could do it in the individual events or it could happen in the medley relay."

The medley relay team resembles something like the ingathering of the exiles. Kutler, 23, from Santa Clara, Calif., is a graduate of UCLA in Business Administration. Always on the fringe of the U.S. swimming team, he swam for America in the 1991 World Student Games in England. But after participating in the Maccabiah Games in Israel in 1993, winning two gold medals in the 100-m and 200-m butterfly, "I fell in love with Israel," he says. "And it struck me that as a Jew, there could be no greater honor than representing Israel in the Atlanta Olympics."

David Sivor, general secretary of Israel's swimming association, recounts that several days after the Maccabiah, there was a knock on his office door. "And to my surprise, in walked this tall, fair haired, all-American boy telling me that he wanted to make aliyah and swim for Israel," he says. "I was skeptical and told him to go back to America and think seriously about it before committing himself."

Kutler remained determined and came back to Israel several months later. "My returning to Israel does not necessarily mean I'm here for life," Kutler says. "I'll review the situation after Atlanta. But I feel very much at home in Israel."

Kutler has not qualified for the Atlanta Olympics on an individual basis but will be there as part of the relay team. He finished 15th in the 100-m butterfly in the European Championships, but saved his best performance for the medley final where he swam a personal and Israeli record of 54.91.

The fourth member of the relay team, Urbach, 18, also swam a personal best in the Vienna final, completing the 100-m backstroke in 58.40. His best distance is 200 metres, in which he won the 1994 European Youth Championships. Still young by swimming standards, he did not make the final in the European Championships.

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CLARK-NEW WESTMINSTER. 4 bdrm., 3,000 sq. ft., 2 yrs. new, on pool-size lot, close to all. **IRIT or SHELLY, 226-9770**

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BAYVIEW-HWY. 7. Lux. condo, 1,930 sq. ft., marble foyer, whirpl., overlooks terrace, $$$ in upgrades. **IRIT COHEN, 226-9770**

• • •

SHEPPARD-WILMINGTON. Spacious sidesplit, 3 bdrm., 3 bths., fam. rm. w/walk-out, in-law apt., dbl. gar. **B. CYGELFARB, 226-9770**

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BAYVIEW-YORK MILLS. T.H. Reduced to sell! 4 bdrms., 3 bths., fin. bsmt., good value. **M. ESROCK/B. GERCOWSKY, 227-9770**

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BATHURST-CLARK BEAUTY. 2 bdrms. + sol condo, 2 full bths., kit. has walk-in pantry. **M. ESROCK/B. GERCOWSKY, 226-9770**

• • •

THORNHILL EXEC TWNHM. 3 bdrms., ensuite, w/o bsmt., lg. kit, shows well. **M. ESROCK/B GERCOWSKY, 226-9770**

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BATHURST-STEELES. PH. 2 bdrm., appls., 2 car prkg., $145,000, close to all. **VIVION ARON, 226-9770**

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AVENUE RD.-WILSON. Beautiful 1 bdrm. + solarium, ensuite lndry., b/i dishwasher, ceramics. **R. ROSENBAUM, 226-9770**

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BATHURST YORK DOWNS
Ideal for lge family, 4 bdrm, 4 bths, kit w/walk-out to yard, liv & din comb. w/parquet firs, fin. bsmnt, steps to synagogues & shopping.

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Lge split lvl, bdrm + den, 4 bths, 2 fireplaces, mstr bdrm w/3 pce ens, w/out to balc, kit w/ceramic flr & w/out, 2-car gar., lge lot.

• • •

BATHURST WILSON TRI-PLEX
Lge. 2-3 bdrm, bths ensuite, balcs + 1-1 bdrm, garages + pkg.

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3 Bdrm, 3 bths, den, up-dated kit, lge. liv & din, fin. bsmnt, steps to all.

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Lot, 50x120' on 314 Springgate Blvd in Thornhill, Clark/Atkinson, walk to Beth Abraham Joseph synagogue, 905-881-4418

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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BATHURST - STEELES Primrose - 2 bedroom + den, 2 full baths, pat in kitchen with window, 2 parking & locker.

SALLY ROSEN (905) 884-4425 CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bathurst-Lawrence, wheelchair acces., 2 + 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bths, CAC, 4 appl, fin. bsmnt, $1050 + util/mo, 636-0241.

Bathurst/York Downs Luxury 2 bdrm + den, main flr, new appls, pkg & utils incl. $1350. Immed. 905-889-0751

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BATHURST/SHEPPARD 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts. highrise Only 6 apts on each floor **960-3238 - Bus. 631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super**

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Beautiful & maintenance free cottage, 1 1/2 hrs. from Toronto on Georgian Bay, 70' of safe, sandy, shallow water, 3 bdrm, winterized w/bunkie, pine hrdwd flrs & panelling, very desirable area. Asking $369,900. No agents. Call 416-716-2859.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Belle Ewart or Big Bay Pt., waterfront, min. 3 bdrm, priv., dock, July or season, call Benjy Katz, days 416-777-9172.

Resp. young family seeks priv. lakefront cottage nr. Belle Ewart/Barrie area. Must have 3-4 bdrms, indry, bbq & fireplace, July & Aug., 633-5347.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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Bathurst/Antibes, 3 bdrms, 2 full bths, ensuite laundry, parquet, corner, facing ravine, sec, sauna, Shabbos elev. 661-1665

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst, bright, spacious, 2 bdrm + den, 2 bths, sec., prkg, Shabbos elev, no Shabbos calls, 416-635-7814.

Bathurst/Neptune elegant 3 bdrm 2 bth, sauna, pool, TTC, $1275 /mo. 783-6796.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

1430 s.f., Bathurst/Clark, appls, sale $199,500, rent $1450/mo, call 905-669-9868 days or eves. 905-303-1202.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Room in well-equipped townhouse, parking, TTC, Sheppard/Leslie, 756-9965.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath/Lawrence 1 bdrm bsmnt, priv ent & drive. $450: 781-1368

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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

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Jerusalem, luxury 2 bedroom daily serviced penthouse unit in new apt. hotel in heart of city, US$150 per day. Call 61-2-3278493; Fax 61-2-3623320.

Netanya, luxury furnished 2 bdrm apt., avail Mar. 5-19, $650 U.S. 905-731-1919.

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Homelife Kempenfelt/Kelly Realty Ltd.
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225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for $20,000 loan to start new business. Terms negotiable. Offers 416-661-4217 after 6 p.m.

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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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Send resume to:
HR Manager, The Canadian Institute, 1329 Bay St., 3rd fl., Toronto, M5R 2C4.

Canada's largest professional fundraiser is seeking individuals to call businesses Mon. to Fri., 8:30-4:30 p.m. for fundraising projects. Year-round employment, excellent commission package. Experience an asset. Call Rob or Dave to start now! 440-0250.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Female daycamp counsellors needed, grade 9 & up 785-4600

247 DAY CARE

Day care in safe warm home, exp. ECE teacher, all ages, transportation avail. Bathurst-Centre area. 905-771-0500

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Young woman willing to take care of elderly or do housekeeping, days 633-1203, wkends, 651-7139.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Cleaning lady available. Apts & houses, experienced, references. Jean, 667-0819; pager 378-4026.

Cleaning lady, weekdays, exp., refs., reas. rates. 538-3067

Conscientious cleaning of homes, offices, walls, windows, etc. Good hrly rates, refs. avail. Call Lynn at 416-922-3185.

Exp. Polish & Russian speaking teacher will take care of your children, live in. 248-4043.

Exp. Polish cleaning lady with car, is avail. Barbara, 604-1981

Exp., mature, reliable, flexible **Pilipino nannies/housekeepers/companions/cleaners** with excellent references, Call Hi-Q Personnel, 416-763-8861.

Exp., reliable, lady will clean your house or apt., 241-2992

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042.

Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. 4 mature English & Italian-speaking cleaning people, free estimates, please call 416-446-0059 and leave message.

Mature Jewish lady, caring, responsible avail. as companion for elderly, refs. Berta 398-7766

Nanny, housekeeper avail, afts. only. 635-0116.

Need a nanny? No finder's fee! Intern'l Domestics 651-2929.

Polish cleaning lady for houses, apts., exp., 265-7398.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Thornhill, exp. nanny, live-out, legal, 2 children, housekeeping, refs req, 416-512-7321 ext 710.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Registered nurse will do home care & light cooking. Days only, North Toronto area, 787-2248.

RPN for private duty nursing, 8/12 hr shifts. Shaaron, 789-7520

259 SENIORS

Driver with car to take seniors for appts, shopping, etc., 24-hr notice, no wheelchairs, reas. rates, lv msge. 485-7760.

Mature cheerful lady Yiddish speaking, with car, avail to drive to dr. appts, shopping & do housekeeping or be hospital companion. Harriet 665-8674.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

SOULMATES Mazel Tov! to Mark K. & Shereen M. on your marriage! You can be next! Evelyn! 905-709-3868.

Chai Introductions! 1/2 Price Special! Since 1975. 783-7666.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appts. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Singles Registry. Select your own dates by viewing biographies/photos. Over 940 members averaging an engagement every 7½ wks. 398-7068.

270 PERSONALS

Prof. woman, 46, looking for cheerful walking or swimming buddies. Flexible times before 1 pm (no joggers). 905-882-1515

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Lively, outgoing male, 40, with a kind heart and special needs seeks similar female for companionship. 416-512-2994

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Passionately into living, professional, 46, petite, looking for self-motivated, stimulating, occasional dance partner. 416-636-6815.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

SJF, 32, 5'5", very outgoing & down-to earth, varied interests, piano, music, theatre, walks, movies, cooking, baking & much more, n/smoker, seeks SJM, 29-41, for long term relationship. Similar qualities & interests as my own would be nice. Box 6706 CJN.

An OLD FATHER is willing to connect himself with a young, Jewish, healthy, educated lady with a view of planning together how to convince his 36-yr-old son that it is time to build his own family. My son completed high school at age fifteen, did 18 yrs. of universities education and nearly two and a half years ago started working on his own. More information can be obtained by replying to Box 6707 CJN.

Hello, I'm a 55 yr. old professional Jewish woman, with European background, looking to meet someone in a similar age group who's interested in living life to its fullest. I'm slim, extremely attractive & ready to give myself a second chance at romance. Please take your time to include a photo and keep in mind that good things are worth working for. Looking forward to your response. Box 6685 CJN.

American woman, late 50s, enjoys social life, pleasant, still attractive, warm, romantic, wishes to meet gentleman, seriously minded, 60s, who will bring to my life and I to his, complete fulfilment. Must enjoy country driving & be willing to travel to the States occasionally. Box 6133 CJN.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Needed, beaded satin **WEDDING GOWN** w/scalloped ruffle at the bottom, ruffled train, long sleeves, not very open neckline, size 14-18, call Alla, 398-3805.

330 OBITUARIES

ADLER, Jacqueline Tivia - The Adler family is sad to announce the passing of Jackie Adler on February 14, 1996; 24 Shevat 5756, in Netanya, Israel. Dear wife of Arthur; mother of Simon, Mark, Derek and their wives Ruth, Susie and Angela. Devoted Savta to Rachel, Maya, Daniel, Ilan, Talia and Edan. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Association for the Welfare of Israel's Soldiers would be gratefully appreciated and may be sent c/o Arthur Adler, 36/12 Jabotinsky, Netanya, Israel.

Ross, Jack (Jacob) on February 2, 1996, late of 10 Majestic Court
Hersen, Henry on February 3, 1996, late of 65 Spring Garden
Gold, George on February 4, 1996, late of 35 Cedarcroft Blvd. #908
Kaplan, Minnie on February 6, 1996, late of 80 Alexis Blvd.
Sitcovsky, Morris on February 7, 1996
Goldblatt, Ethel on February 7, 1996, late of 92 Whitley Ave.
Rosen, Jack on February 7, 1996, late of 54 Cocksfield Ave.
Oziel, Fortuna on February 8, 1996, late of 4415 Bathurst St. #302
Wolinsky, Ida on February 7, 1996, late of 115 Fairholme Ave.
Belzycki, Adam on February 7, 1996
Cukier, Szymon on February 7, 1996, late of 123 Brighton Ave.
Wortzman, Tovia on February 8, 1996, late of 539 Glengrove Ave. W.
Lyons, Harry on February 8, 1996, late of 130 Clifton Ave.
Sieradzki, Jacob on February 10, 1996, late of 10 Tangreen Crt. #304
Austin, Mildred on February 8, 1996

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Joseph Kreindler on January 29, 1996, late of 36 Tanbark Cres.
Shane Altschul on January 29, 1996, late of 26 Elkhorn Dr. #107
Joyce Glinert on January 30, 1996, late of 11 Wembley Rd.
Samuel Slater on January 31, 1996, late of 4455 Bathurst Street #608
James Russel on January 31, 1996, late of 1 Vernham Crt.
Rasha Vluker on January 31, 1996, late of 6101 Bathurst St. #301
Sidney Silverman on January 31, 1996, late of 15 Canyon Ave. #803
Ida Levy on February 1, 1996, late of 2121 Bathurst St. #911
Zelda Fishman on February 1, 1996, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W. #404
Helen Feldbrill on February 1, 1996, late of 157 Ranee Ave.
Eleanor Freedman on February 1, 1996, late of 18 Lower Village Gate #710
Mendel Greenberg on February 6, 1996, late of 35 Canyon Ave. #1804
Irving Salsberg on February 6, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
Rose Nellicks on February 6, 1996, late of 351 Christie St.
Solly Baer on February 9, 1996, late of 10 Tangreen Court #2603

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Dear Susan,

My 8-year-old daughter has peanut allergies. She wants to go to sleep-over camp, yet she has some reservations. How can I help her?

Dear Reader,

At the age of eight, children are going through a critical stage of development during which they are striving to master tasks and challenges. This involves seeing a task through from beginning to end, and learning to cope with frustrations on the way.

Your daughter is assessing her ability to master a new challenge: going to sleep-over camp. She needs to know that she can consider the question and ultimately gauge her own ability. While you certainly need to be part of the final decision, you must respect her assessment of her own abilities and go from there.

Your daughter's struggle is more complicated as a result of her peanut allergy. You can assist in the decision-making process by assessing the camp's willingness and ability to cope with a child with her problem. You should be able to determine to your own satisfaction the degree to which they will safeguard her diet, and the extent to which foods which will place her at risk will be present at the camp. You must certainly assess the competence of the staff to deal with her allergy. As part of this, you should determine how knowledgeable they are, their ability to administer epi-pens, and the location of the closest hospital.

Your daughter should be part of this assessment and evaluation. You will want to determine what your daughter's expectations are, and whether she will feel safe in that environment. Are the two of you comfortable in her managing her allergy while she is away? You and your daughter should each evaluate the situation individually and then compare notes. In the end, you will have to make the decision that reflects your mutual comfort level, based on your assessment of the facilities and your daughter's maturity. In the final analysis, only you and your daughter can adequately judge

In your situation, a little bit of paranoia is probably healthy. However, you should not let it prevent you from exploring new opportunities. Good luck and happy camping.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN SELLS Amana FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

APRICOT NUT BREAD

2 1/2 cups all purpose flour
3 1/2 tsps baking powder
3 tblsp salad oil
1 egg
4 tsps grated orange peel
3/4 cup orange juice
1 cup sugar
1 tsp salt
1/2 cup milk, or parve creamer
1 cup finely chopped nuts
1 cup chopped apricots

Combine all ingredients. Beat on medium speed for 1/2 min., stirring constantly. Pour into greased and floured 9"x5"x3" loaf pan or two 8½"x4½"x2½" loaf pans. Bake 1 hr. at 350° or until pick in centre comes out clean. Cool thoroughly before slicing.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

TREE OF LIFE

Grade 4 students from Or Haemet Sephardic Schhol are seen with their teacher Mrs. Akierman. They are pointing to the tree of life that they created in an effort to help save endangered wildlife in the rainforest.

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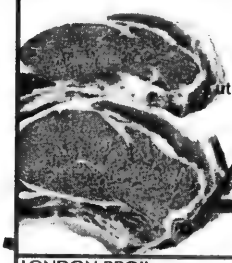

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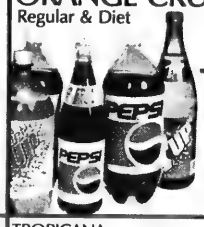

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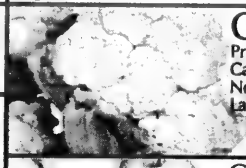

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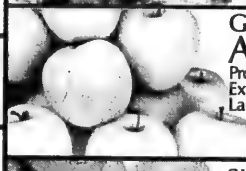

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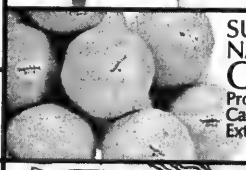

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Israel's ambassador to the U.S. says elections will be a "referendum" on peace policies. ***Page 3***

Holocaust Memorial and Education Centre opens up a resource centre. ***Page 5***

Coast to Coast

London teen, Liat Dobrishman, plays former chess champion Boris Spassky to a draw. ***Page 24***

Multicultural diversity helps make Canada a top-rated country. ***Page 25***

Health news

Leukemia patients to benefit from Toronto doctor's dedicated research. ***Page 26***

Israel, U.S.A. & The World

Ability to prevent attacks called into question by suicide bombings. ***Page 27***

TAB news

Retreat offensive: Jason Sherman's play draws laughs at Jewish expense. ***Page 33***

Sports news

Gideon Lee faces the challenge of raising Canada's Maccabiah hockey team. ***Page 37***

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Shabbat: T'zaveh [Zachor]
Candlelighting 5:48
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Grieving and coping

The face of inexpressible grief as it appears on a man stooped over the site of the early morning explosion in Jerusalem. *[RNS photo]*

By **LEORA FRUCHT**
CJN Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM — Near the mangled wreck of the No. 18 bus, a snack bar was doing brisk business on Sunday afternoon.

The crowd that gathered at the site of the most devastating suicide bus bombing in Israeli history was snatching up soft drinks and sandwiches. Twenty-four people were killed at this Jerusalem bus stop. But such attacks are becoming an almost routine part of Israeli life. And nowhere was that more apparent than at this site, where the macabre and mundane mingled so eerily just hours after the bombing.

Here on Jaffa Road, a block away from Jerusalem's Central Bus Station, hundreds of people congregated, some to pray, some to argue. A makeshift memorial to the victims was promptly erected. Leaflets with political slogans were distributed. A rally was called for the following day.

But there was something reflexive about these responses. When the TV cameras approached, the hotheads began chanting hateful slogans right on cue.

While the crowd sipped soft drinks and traded political cliches, the black-clad volunteers of *Chesed Shel Emet* went about their business: One poked at a pile of rubbish with tweezers; another balanced himself precariously on a slanted rooftop, clutching a plastic bag in one hand. Two years ago, these strange men would have aroused curiosity. Today they are a familiar feature in a familiar scene: the men who collect the fragments of human flesh for burial.

"It's as though we have gotten used to fire and death," wrote a journalist from the Hebrew daily *Yediot Aharanot*.

Continued on page 29

From the Editor

We are not unmindful of the incongruity in the almost surrealistic juxtaposition on this page, and indeed in this issue of the paper, of the painful images of mourning and death alongside sweetly innocent representations of Purim drawn by children from across Canada.

Despite the incongruity, we decided to continue with our Purim presentation, lest the Hamas murderers steal from our children our holidays and our heritage, even as they stole from the people whom they killed the lives that were so precious.

Diana Wolfson, Grade 5, Halifax

Rachel Adler, Grade 6, Waterloo

Sam Minevich, Grade 5, Kitchener

We absolutely delighted in the hundreds of drawings, which we received from children from as far away as St. John's and Calgary. Unfortunately, we could select only 12 as "winners". In truth, we at *The CJN* were the real winners of this contest for having been able to feast on the rich, beautiful colors of Purim sent to us. Featured on this page are three special honorable mentions. Happy Purim.

PURIM ART POSTER

Please see page 22 for the winners of our second annual Purim art contest. We thank all the participants for sending such fabulous art.

Don't miss an issue. Call (416) 422-2331 today to have The Canadian Jewish News delivered to your door every week.

Reactions to the bombings in Israel — please see pages 2 and 28

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

PM condemns "act of cowardice"

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

OTTAWA — Prime Minister Jean Chrétien strongly condemned Sunday's terrorist attack in Israel, which claimed the lives of at least 27 people.

"Canadians are appalled by this senseless act of cowardice," said the prime minister. "There can be no justification for the taking of innocent lives."

In a letter to Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Chrétien offered his deepest sympathy to the families of the victims. On behalf of the Canadian government, he expressed strong support for the government of Israel in its efforts to pursue peace.

* * *

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has condemned the two suicide bombings in Israel that killed at least 27 people and wounded more than 50 others.

"Terrorists are trying to kill the peace process," said CJC president Goldie Hershon. "They cannot be allowed to win. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has condemned the actions of Hamas, but sometimes words are not enough. He must do everything within his power to stop the Islamic fundamentalist group from perpetrating these acts of terrorism."

CJC has extended its sympathies to the people of Israel and the families of the victims.

CIC COMDEMNS TERRORIST BOMBINGS

TORONTO — Stephen Victor, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee, expressed shock over Sunday's two suicide terrorist bombings that left at least 27 Israelis dead and more than 50 others wounded.

Victor remarked: "Canadian Jews are outraged and deeply grieving the loss of life and devastating injuries caused by [Sunday's] attacks. We support the decision of Prime Minister Shimon Peres to seal Israel's boundaries with the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to temporarily suspend negotiations with the Palestinian Council, in response to these attacks.

"While we continue to support Israel's pursuit of peace with its Arab neighbors, Yasser Arafat must be more effective in stopping terrorism, emanating from areas transferred to Palestinian authority.

"We call upon the government of Canada to condemn Hamas' terrorist atrocities, and to continue its active participation in international efforts to halt Islamic terrorist groups which oppose the achievement of peace in the Middle East through rampant violence."

* * *

B'NAI BRITH CANADA

TORONTO — B'nai Brith Canada strongly condemns the brutal and cowardly bus attacks in Jerusalem and Ashkelon.

Frank Dimant, executive vice-president, of B'nai Brith Canada issued the following statement:

First, our hearts and our sympathies go out to the families of all those who were killed or injured in the bus attacks. Second, we urge the government of Israel to use all measures at its disposal to fight this new wave of terrorism. Finally, we call upon Yasser Arafat, who has condemned these bombings, to send a clear message, by whatever means, to Islamic Jihad and Hamas that these activities will not be tolerated. Furthermore, Arafat should turn over to Israeli authorities, as mandated by the Oslo accords, those individuals wanted by Israeli officials who are residing in Palestinian controlled areas.

* * *

Prayer in the midst of the carnage. [RNS photo]

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Purim aphorisms

In this week's issue we have interspersed throughout our pages, a collection of Purim aphorisms. They are extracted from *A Treasury of Jewish Humour*, ed. Nathan Ausubel, Doubleday & Co. 1951.

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Israeli election a 'referendum' on peace

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel's elections this May will be a "referendum" on the Labor government's peace policies, says Jerusalem's ambassador to the United States.

In fact, the election was moved up from October to May because Israel anticipates that talks with Syria will begin to make headway after the spring, Itamar Rabinovich told a synagogue audience here last week.

Rabinovich said Shimon Peres' Labor government wants a mandate to pursue peace with Syria.

The ambassador, who also heads Israel's bilateral peace talks with Syria, said Damascus "holds the key" to a comprehensive Middle East peace and to an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Palestinian accords with Israel resulted in peace with Jordan, while a peace treaty with Syria would also bring about peace with Lebanon, much of which is controlled by the Syrians, Rabinovich said.

The dividends of peace are already seen in peace accords with several Arab countries and in Mideast-wide economic conferences, he noted.

And a peace deal with Syria would "marginalize" and weaken Iran, a Syrian ally, and "the single biggest threat to Israel."

Rabinovich said he told the Syrians that peace with them would never be like the relationship between Canada and the United States, "and they understood that."

Itamar Rabinovich

He likened a settlement with Damascus to "a table with four legs" — first, peace, meaning normal relations, open borders and tourism; second, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Golan Heights, without which a deal there is "impossible;" third, security arrangements for Israel to compensate for withdrawal; and fourth, a timetable for implementation.

Rabinovich did not mention giving up the Golan Heights, but he said that the late Yitzhak Rabin's idea of a referendum on the future of the heights "has not vanished."

As for the peace process, Rabinovich said the Gaza First plan and the extension of self-rule on the West Bank have been "successful."

Beginning in May, talks are scheduled for so-called "final status" issues: the form a Palestinian government will take, borders, refugees, water rights and the most important, Jerusalem.

"Jerusalem is an issue the Palestinians can raise, but we have made clear what our position is," Rabinovich said, referring to Israel's stance that Jerusalem is not negotiable.

He said he gives Palestinian president Yasser Arafat "a passing grade" in fighting terrorism and he believes Arafat will one day change the clause in the PLO's covenant that calls for Israel's destruction.

Rabinovich's talk was sponsored by the Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda synagogue's continuing education committee and B'nai Brith Canada.

Control of Jerusalem unbridgeable: Dore

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Differences between Israel and the Palestinians over the status of Jerusalem are so deep they are "unbridgeable," an Israeli commentator said here recently.

"The Palestinians want to control the Old City," said Dore Gold, of the Jaffee Centre, Tel Aviv University.

Gold struck a pessimistic note in his review of the Jerusalem situation at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synaogue. His contention that the Labor government has imperilled Israel's control of the city was in tune with the sentiments expressed by the audience during the question period.

It was the Oslo agreements and a letter Prime Minister Shimon Peres wrote to a Norway cabinet minister which gave Palestinians "a breakthrough" in their battle for Jerusalem, Gold said.

"We care about the future of Jerusalem and the Golan Heights," synagogue president Eric Goldberg said in opening the meeting.

Introducing the speaker, Rabbi Joseph Kelman declared: "Jerusalem is very much in our minds and hearts."

Gold refused to predict the winner in the Labor-Likud contest in the Israeli election in May and said the Israeli voter is faced with two nightmares: "If Likud wins, the peace process will explode and if Labor wins who will negotiate the final status of Jerusalem?

"No matter who wins, they will be judged by their ability to protect the national interest, and by that I mean Jerusalem," Gold said.

[Cont'd. on page 25]

When you're angry at the rabbi, you won't say "amen".

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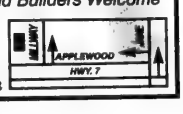

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From the editor's desk

Too many 'existential problems'

I have been back from Israel for three weeks and still my notes from the visit remain open. In this column I shall record some impressions from the first of two field trips.

The day began with a trip to Mt. Herzl for a wreath-laying ceremony at the grave of Yitzhak Rabin. We sat, for the most part, silently, as the bus climbed the short distance from our hotel to the cemetery. It was raining and the misty clouds hung close to the top of the small mountain as we alighted. Memorial candles were given to those inclined to light one and leave it at the graveside. Almost everyone did so. I was chosen on behalf of our group, along with Leni Reiss, the editor of the *Jewish News of Greater Pheonix*, to lay the wreath at his grave.

Like most people in middle life, I have already had many occasions, unfortunately, to be at a cemetery. But it was the first time I had ever placed a wreath at a grave. It was an unfamiliar custom and I felt self-conscious. Worse, the self-consciousness was displacing in my mind the more appropriate emotions and thoughts I had hoped to feel as a result of the place and the occasion. I felt unworthy of the honor. Cameras flashed. *K'el Maleh Rachamim* was chanted.

After no more than 10 minutes, the ceremony was over. We were allowed a short time to wind our way back to the buses through the pine forest and the rain. People clustered in small groups walking past the graves whose marble and dolomite faces marked the final resting places of so many of Israel's founders and fallen soldiers.

I picked up a small Jerusalem stone, returned to Rabin's grave and placed it alongside the wreath. This felt more familiar, more appropriate. It was more of what I was used to doing in a cemetery. Wiping away the rain from my cheeks, I hurried back to the bus. I was the last to return.

By now, we were less news and information-gathering journalists than we were simply tourists. The transformation was completed by our next stop: the Tower of David Museum and the Old City. As we strolled, talked and marvelled at both sights and sites, many of us were hurriedly scribbling notes into our notebooks. But I imagine many of those notes were, like mine, personal reflections, measurements of where we stood.

We were quickly snapped out of our tourist reveries and "restored" to our professional responsibilities by Colonel David Chacham who was assigned the task of briefing us on the redeployment of the IDF in Judea and Samaria.

Chacham, true to his name, answered every question put to him directly and with little embellishment. His youth belied his experience and undoubtedly, his skill. I guessed him to be in his early 30s. He had already served five years in Gaza as the advisor to the military government. He was fluent in a number of languages, including Arabic, and said that he knew the Palestinians well.

Israel, he explained, is at a very important and delicate moment in the peace process, trying to find the basis to found a new relationship with the Palestinians based on mutual self- interest. Of note in the young colonel's remarks was the fact that he stressed mutual self- interest rather than mutual trust as the divining rod pointing the way to peace. Trust would be an outcome of peace, not its pretext.

The Oslo accords were predicated upon constant, frequent points of daily contact and joint problem-solving between Israeli and Palestinian security officers. He expressed the hope that as contact became routine so too would trust. But he did not want to mislead us into believing that "all the obstacles can be overcome" quickly or neatly. There were simply too many of what he termed, "existential problems" to resolve between the two peoples. He listed four: sovereignty over Jerusalem, Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria, final borders and the questions of the refugees from the War of Independence.

Chacham believes the majority of Palestinians to be in favor of peace with Israel and that the results of the recent Palestinian elections have strengthened Yasser Arafat's hand in the autonomous regions. According to Chacham, Israel expects Arafat to take more effective steps against Hamas to stop the terror, even though the "bloody struggle" with them will take a long while.

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Ontario seniors injured in Israeli accident

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Three Ontario retirees were injured earlier this month — one of them seriously — in a bus accident in Israel.

Rose Rosen of North York, Ont., her sister, Ellen Bossin of Thornhill, Ont., and Hannah Cardaci, also of Thornhill, were hurt when the bus they were riding in missed a curve and tipped over.

Cardaci, 63, suffered a fractured vertebra, her daughter Mia told *The CJN*.

Cardaci is immobile and will stay in hospital indefinitely, her daughter said. She said her father was scheduled to fly to Israel this past weekend to be with her mother.

Rosen, who's in her early 70s, was also still in hospital as of late last week, suffering from broken bones.

Her sister, Bossin, in her late 60s, was treated and released from hospital. She has some bruises and discomfort, her daughter-in-law, Jane Bossin, told *The CJN*.

The three Canadian women were part of a group of 43 American volunteers, most of them senior citizens, taking part in the two-month-long Active Retirees in Israel (ARI) program.

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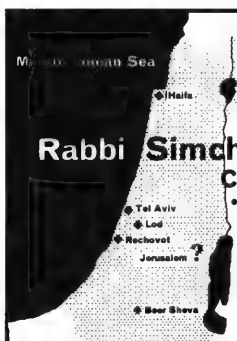

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By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Holocaust Memorial and Education Centre marked its 10th anniversary recently with the official opening of a new resource centre.

More than 250 people attended the celebration, which included speeches by dignitaries, community leaders and Holocaust Centre founders, followed by the unveiling of the Robert Rosen multimedia computer system.

The late Robert Rosen was a survivor who dedicated himself to educating others about the Holocaust and whose family made a generous contribution to the new resource centre in his memory.

The hi-tech multimedia computer in his name will link the Holocaust Memorial and Education Centre to the Washington Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Former Ontario premier Bob Rae, the main speaker, spoke about racism and hatred. Hitler persuaded people to "deny that Jews were human," he said. "We must refute this by existing and remembering."

He stressed that the best way to remember was through education "to establish little memorials in the hearts of Jews ... It happened and it can happen again."

Pointing to the recent discovery of mass graves in Bosnia, Rae urged Jews to condemn such atrocities. "In our own hearts we must recognize the existence of hatred and its persistence and have the courage to speak out against it."

Education best way to remember

He said the flip side to the tragedy of the Holocaust is "the triumph of the human spirit" — the creation of the state of Israel and the survivors who established new lives.

Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall told the audience she pledged to work with the Jewish community to fight hatred and racism. Manuel Prutschi, executive director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, praised the centre for its educational contribution. He called the centre "a sacred place that rekindles the memory."

Other speakers included Eleanor Getzler, chair of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee; Gerda Steinitz-Frieberg, honorary chair of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre; Marshall Kesten, executive committee board member, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto; Nate Leipciger, co-chair, Holocaust Remembrance Committee of Congress; Reverend Earl Albrecht, chair of the Christian Jewish dialogue of Toronto; Monte Kwinter MPP Wilson Heights; Israeli trade commissioner Yael Varsano-Barzilay, representing the Israeli consul general; and Anita Ekstein, chair of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre.

More than 500,000 people, 150,000 of whom have been students, have visited the centre in the last decade. Visitors have had the opportunity to hear survivor volunteers — there is a rostrum of more than 100 speakers — give first-hand accounts of their experiences.

What is the test of good manners? Being able to bear patiently with bad ones.

Helen Rosen, wife of the late Robert Rosen, unveils the new multimedia computer system with grandsons, left Jay and David Silber and Aaron Rosen. [Barbara Silverstein Photo]

Former Ontario Premier Bob Rae (centre) is flanked by Gerda Steinitz-Frieberg and Nate Leipciger. [Barbara Silverstein Photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

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Tory government cutbacks denounced at forum

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A University of Toronto professor of Social Policy sees no point in trying to change the minds of Ontario Premier Mike Harris and his government regarding provincial cutbacks.

"Their minds are made up," said Ernie Lightman in a scathing denunciation of Harris. "It's the next election we're fighting, along with the strategy to paralyze [the current provincial government]. We have to do what we can to help them screw up even more. The next election has already started."

Lightman was one of five panelists at a forum chaired by *Toronto Star* columnist Ellie Tesher last week at Holy Blossom Temple. The event, entitled The Cutbacks and Economic Alternatives: Where does the Jewish Community Fit In? was sponsored by fledgling organization Tzedek: The Jewish Campaign for Economic Justice, and drew a crowd of over 100 people.

Joining Lightman as part of the panel were Mark Adler of St. Clair Meals on Wheels, Gail Gould of Jewish Family & Child Services (JF&CS), Evelyn Shulman of the Association of Jewish Seniors and Jason Stevens of the Canadian Federation of Students.

While Adler placed some of the blame for Ontario's health care cutbacks on former prime minister Brian Mulroney's administration, he criticized Harris' government for "utilizing the recommendations [of a district health council] to close hospitals without putting anything better in their place ... the fact that there are no 24-hour clinics has resulted in inappropriate and costly use of emergency services."

Stevens focused on education, suggesting that "if we believe education is [only] for the privileged and the rich, we should back the Harris agenda."

Cutbacks affecting universities have resulted in tuition increases of 88 percent since 1990, Stevens noted. At colleges, programs are being eliminated, forcing students to transfer schools or not complete their course of study, he said.

Privatizing post-secondary education would result in a two-tiered system where less privileged students would "only be able to afford public education of a declining quality," he said.

JF&CS is trying to mitigate the effects of a $400,000 cut in its 1996 budget by servicing more clients in groups and on the phone, said Gould. Clients who receive financial assistance have been "severely affected," she added.

Abused women already have fewer resources available to them, Gould noted. Legal aid, for example, is "in complete upheaval. Lawyers are refusing legal aid certificates because payment is not assured."

As a result of government cutbacks, most services for abused women will "only focus on food and shelter," she said. Meeting emotional needs will be seen as a luxury, she warned.

Lightman, an economist, said the government of Ontario "has no interest in eliminating the deficit. That's simply marketing. If [they were], they wouldn't be implementing huge tax cuts to benefit the rich."

Much of the change proposed by the Harris government will be irreversible, Lightman believes.

The Harris government, which is not a traditional right-wing Conservative government, Lightman noted, "wants to drive into the ground everyone who happens to be vulnerable or dependent."

Lightman strongly recommended informing local MPPs how you plan to vote next election and why.

Dr. Ernie Lightman

Audience member Michele Landsberg, a *Toronto Star* columnist and outspoken socialist, encouraged "speaking to our own community. Many of them voted for this government."

Tzedek was designed in large part for that purpose, explained a representative of the group. Future plans include demonstrations and educational events.

Branson supporters rally for hospital

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It will cost more to merge Branson Hospital than to leave it alone, North York Mayor Mel Lastman told a gala Save Branson, $150-a-plate dinner.

The hospital's fate is now up to an Ontario government task force to be named in the next four months, which will consider a recommendation to merge Branson with York-Finch Hospital, Lastman said.

"It leaves the door open for strong and persuasive arguments against closing Branson," he added.

Talks are underway with other hospitals to keep Branson open, perhaps in a different form, a source close to the discussions told *The CJN*. In the meantime, the source said, the campaign to save Branson goes full steam ahead.

The gala, attended by 400 at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, also honored Lastman for his 24 years as mayor and Kenny Bodenstein of Steeles Memorial Chapel, chair of the gala, for his efforts to keep the hospital open.

The campaign got support from honorary chair Leslie Dan, who declared that the report from the Metro District Health Council recommending Branson's merger was "flawed" because it miscalculated the savings to be achieved and ignored the hospital's sensitive role in treating ethnic groups and in particular the elderly.

Closing Branson would leave the area as the one community in Metro without hospital service nearby, Dan said. Also, he said, the report overlooked the importance of Branson's geriatric program and its accreditation to train fourth year medical students.

Heart attack victims may die before getting help if they have to go to York-Finch or North York General Hospital in rush hour, Lastman said.

"They'll never make it. After four minutes it's too late," he said.

In fact, the hospital treats 400 heart attack victims a year and 20 percent of all its admissions are for cardiac problems. Twenty percent of the patients served by the hospital are over age 65.

An air of optimism prevailed at the balloon-decorated gala where a new song was heard: "Saving Branson our Way" by band leader Bill Drew. A silent auction of donated paintings, furniture, resort trips, restaurant meals and sports equipment also raised money for the campaign to keep Branson open.

Many of Branson's 300 physicians and other hospital personnel attended, including several representatives of the Seventh Day Adventist Church which runs the hospital.

"Branson is a hospital for the healing of body and soul," said Rabbi Joseph Kelman. Its closeness to the synagogue meant that a congregant who suffered a heart attack during serices was able to get help within three minutes, he said.

Greater Toronto Area

JSF talent show slated for York U

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An upcoming talent show-cum-fundraiser organized by York University students will feature something for everyone, says coordinator Natalie Margitta, a 21-year-old with a penchant for Ethel Merman tunes.

The March 10 event, presented by the university's Jewish Student Federation (JSF), will be held at Comedywood to raise money for Alzheimer's disease research.

Margitta, the JSF's vice-president of social programming, dreamed up the talent show when she realized that last year's planned social events, such as pub nights, didn't include "a forum for students to express their creativity."

Together with committee heads Barbie Green and Hedi Newman, both 22, and a behind-the-scenes crew of about 25 people, Margitta has been working on the show since the fall. The three students will co-host the show, and Newman will sing a Broadway tune with George Brown College student Miriam Suraski.

The show, which includes about a dozen acts chosen after on-campus auditions, runs about 2½ hours and will be followed by a dance with TNT Sound deejays.

For the price of a $12 ticket, people will "get their money's worth and help out a good cause," Margitta said.

Unlike most performances at the Thornhill comedy club, the JSF evening will not include stand-up comedy. But there will be "a big variety," promised Margitta, who will sing *If They Could See Me Now* from *Sweet Charity*.

Other musical numbers run the gamut from rap to pop to an Italian love ballad to Lynard Skynard. Dance numbers and a humorous drama skit are also included.

Margitta is pleased that the show will enable students to give back to the greater community and serve to "showcase Jewish talent." (About 70 percent of the performers are Jewish.)

For further information or to purchase tickets, call the JSF office at 416-736-5178.

Dry Bones

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-Talmud

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The colors of Purim

In Israel last Sunday, a group of early morning travellers had intended merely to start a new week in the ordinary course of their everyday lives. But a new cadre of Hamas murderers prevented them. Twenty-seven human beings were blown apart, some to unrecognizable shreds; scores were injured; countless more were traumatized; and an entire nation was outraged.

The people of Israel have been there before, in that penumbral place between rage and mourning, between courage and helplessness, between seeking peace but not knowing whom to trust. And each time, as mourning mounts, so too does rage.

More prosaically, we had intended to publish this week an unreservedly celebratory issue to mark the holiday of Purim. But that too has been affected. We will still celebrate Purim in this issue. That is our obligation to God and to the people whose lives were taken last Sunday morning. But like so many ceremonies in Jewish history, it shall be celebrated with broken glass underfoot.

More than 200 children responded to our request to send us original art portraying some aspect of the story of Purim. We were deeply gratified by this response. It had doubled from that of one year ago. And we were overwhelmed by the dazzling display of rich and resplendent colors. Obviously, beyond the adult's imagination is a kaleidoscope of primary and secondary colors in which children dream and play and grow.

The children's colors communicate to us. They tell us what their young eyes perceive in the story of Purim.

All colors, as we know, are but reflections of individual wavelengths of light, forces of energy which register through our eyes into our minds as the expression of yet another of nature's unexplained secrets. But, as we also know, all colors are contained in white light, the visible spectrum from red to violet, that forms when light passes through a prism or a raindrop.

Thus, in one seemingly indivisible ray of pure white sun, we find in fact a harmony of diverse colors, each distinct, but each dependent on the other to form the life-giving whole. The union of all the colors takes them beyond individual beauty and grace into a realm of physics and metaphysics, of elementary yet indestructible forces and of higher purposes.

In the pictures that they sent us, in the innocent, bold, creative cast of their colors, the children have drawn for us the essence of Purim.

The individuality of the colors, like the individuality within the Jewish people, gives life its texture and independence and freedom. But the union of the colors, like the unity within the Jewish people, gives life its strength and balance and purpose.

No fewer than four times in climactic Chapter 9 of the story of Purim is the verb *nik'hal* – to unite, to assemble together – used. The first reference (9: 2) is the most telling. The others reinforce the theme. "The Jews assembled and united together ... and no force was able to stand against them." The message is unsubtle. The Jewish people must be united.

The upcoming election in Israel is arguably the most important in the country's history. Yet, the people is deeply divided along political and religious lines. We in the Diaspora, alas, are but a mirror image of the divisions which exist in Israel. Now more than ever, we must assemble and unite together, so that no force will be able to stand against us. Unity is the message of Purim. It is evident in the childrens' drawings.

The evil Hamas murderers will occasionally succeed in killing individual Jews, but they cannot stand against a united Jewish people. They might as well try to destroy a rainbow.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
The space in a needle's eye is sufficient for two friends, but the whole world is scarcely big enough to hold two enemies.

ON PURIM WE'RE SUPPOSED TO WEAR FUNNY COSTUMES...
DRINK 'TIL WE'RE DRUNK, PARTY 'TIL DAWN...
AND HONOR ESTHER, WHO MARRIED A NON-JEW
PURIM IS THE PERFECT HOLIDAY FOR MODERN JEWRY.
©Mskirschen

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
March 1, 1913 Jewish students at Aberdeen primary school, Montreal, marched out on strike after a Protestant teacher implied that Jews were "dirty". Eventually a committee negotiated the students' return to class. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Most families want some Jewish education

Allow me, please, to correct inaccuracies in the account of an interview with me in the Jan. 25 *CJN* education supplement.

Among them was a statement attributed to me that "we are not reaching any more than 50 percent of Jewish youngsters." What I said was that during the course of their school careers, some 85 to 90 percent of Jewish children have contact with a Jewish educational institution for some period, but that at any given time, there are no more than 50 percent who are actually pursuing Jewish learning of any sort.

Such a period of limited Jewish study is regrettable, and one could only wish that we might find the means of altering the minimalism with regard to Jewish education with which too many parents are satisfied. What is worthy of note, though, is that an overwhelming number of families seek out a Jewish educational experience for some period during their children's lives — perhaps only a year for some; for others, several years — and this should be viewed as encouraging.

Also, the article describes me as having stated that our education system "has not reached far enough into Reform and unaffiliated homes, where most of the Jewish population resides." During an extended discussion, I spoke of some among the unaffiliated whose children are denied entirely a Jewish education, but did not single out any denomination, Reform or other, in this regard.

If, as many of us believe fervently, quality Jewish education is the basis for meaningful, exciting and creative Jewish continuity, then the task of reaching out to parents and children, to promote among them Jewish learning as a lifetime commitment, must not and cannot be limited to any one group in our midst.

Rabbi Irwin E. Witty
Executive Director
Board of Jewish Education

Donate property claims to charity

Re "Jewish property claims on way to being settled" (*CJN*, Feb. 1).

My friend in Toronto, George Scott, has a property claim in Hungary. Scott's grandfather was the owner of substantial agricultural land in pre-World War II Hungary, but everything was taken away when the family was deported to Auschwitz. At today's market price, the property may be worth $1 million. As sole heir, Scott has pursued his restitution claim for years, but recently he was told that at the most he might receive $1,000, while it would cost considerably more in legal expenses to pursue the matter.

I also have claims against the Hungarian government for property and assets that were confiscated by the Nazis. Is there any way to donate my claim to a worthy Jewish organization? If the answer is Yes, then you could provide a great public service by informing your readers how we might do some good with our vast vineyards of wrath.

Alan A. Brown
Windsor

Allow 3,400 Ethiopian Jews into Israel

Your excellent summary of the issues underlying the recent demonstration by Ethiopian Jews contained one significant omission. Our community is extremely concerned about the situation of 3,400 of its members, who for six years have been living in Addis Ababa under appalling conditions, awaiting permission to leave for Israel. Many have close relatives in Israel including soldiers serving in the IDF.

While previously challenged by an Israeli ministerial committee, their eligibility for immigration under Israel's Law of Return is now beyond question. In 1993, a committee of the Chief Rabbinate recognized them as a Jewish community. Recently, the National Religious Party issued an urgent appeal to Prime Minister Shimon Peres to bring them to Israel immediately since "they are without doubt part of Israel and live as Jews in all respects."

It has caused great suffering in Addis Ababa and has led to great anger in the Ethiopian community in Israel, explaining in part the unprecedented demonstration in Jerusalem.

Abraham Negussie
The South Wing to Zion
Jerusalem

Finestone was cabinet's alarm clock

Re: Richard Cleroux's column of Feb. 8. In my two years of service to Sheila Finestone, I have seen her work tirelessly for her constituents, both as an MP and as a member of the government of Canada. Of all the secretaries of state, she was the one invited most often to make presentations to Cabinet. Her ability to bring to the fore issues of importance to all Canadians, whether child support, hate crimes or gender equality, was well recognized and effective. The prime minister, in referring to her constant concern for equity in federal government policies named her the "Cabinet Alarm Clock."

Stéphane R. Blais
Former Special Assistant to
The Hon. Sheila Finestone

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Between mouthfuls of hamantashen

By ABRAHAM ARNOLD
Special to The CJN

Growing up in Montreal in the 1930s, we celebrated Purim and Chanukah as community and family simchahs. The two holidays were linked in my mind because of the plays we performed at the Davis YMHA for each of them.

In December 1932, at age 10, I took part in my first Chanukah play as a member of the soldiers' chorus in Judah Maccabee's army. A few months later, I was cast as a hamantash in the chorus of the Purim *shpiel* at the Y. A week before the play was to be performed, disaster struck. My sister caught the mumps!

In those days, when one child became ill with a contagious disease, all the children in the family were quarantined. I didn't mind missing a few days of school, but to miss the Purim *shpiel* would be a tragedy for me.

I phoned the director to tell him why I couldn't be in the play, hoping he would say the play couldn't go on without me. He said he was sorry, but he would have to find someone else to take my place. I learned the sad truth – that the Purim *shpiel* could go on successfully without me.

But there was still one place I could visit – Grandma's house. Bubbie was my favorite relative. We visited her on every Shabbat as well as on Purim and all other holidays. I set out for Grandma's, where I immediately unburdened myself about my sad loss at missing the Purim play.

"Sha, sha, it's not so terrible," my Grandma said. "You'll have lots of other Purims and lots of other *shpiels*. And talking about lot," she added, "did I ever tell you the story about Purim lots?

"A teacher once explained to her class that *pur* means 'lot' and Purim means 'lots.' She asked her students to find out the meaning of 'lots' when they went home that day. The next day, when the teacher asked the class what they found, one boy stood up and replied:

" 'Lot, the nephew of Abraham, had lots of lots. Lot also had lots of trouble with his wife, and what a lot was hers. We expect to have lots of fun on Purim, the Feast of Lots.' "

Grandma laughed at her own story and I soon chimed in, saying, "Talking about lots, Bubbie, how about lots of hamantashen, please?" I didn't have to ask a second time. A plate of hamantashen and strudel immediately appeared.

Between mouthfuls I asked Grandma a question I had asked before but I still like to hear the answer: "How come your hamantashen and strudel are different from my mother's?"

"That's because mine are Poilishe," she replied. "Your mother married a Rumainisher, so she had to learn how to make Rumainishe hamantashen and strudel."

My grandmother was born in Poland around 1870 and immigrated to England with her family when she was very young. Though her mother-tongue was Yiddish, she was completely fluent in English. But she learned to make Polish-style Purim goodies.

My mother learned from my father's meema (aunt) to make Romanian-style delicacies. In fact, my mother made the very finest paper-thin strudel dough which she filled with nuts, centred with Turkish delight. I never encountered a more delicious, mouth-watering pastry.

But being diplomatic I said to my grandma: "Both kinds of strudel are delicious, but I get nuts in my teeth no matter which I eat."

"I hope you are brushing your teeth regularly," Grandma admonished. "You don't want to go to the dentist to have a tooth pulled.

"Once when we were still living in England," she continued, "your zayde had to go to the dentist just before Purim to have a tooth pulled. When zayde offered to pay him, the dentist refused, saying: 'Let it be my *shalach mones* gift for you.'

" 'A *groiser dank* – thank you very much,' Zayde answered, 'but I won't tell any of my friends about this. If I did, some of them might offer me the same kind of *shalach mones*.' "

"I certainly wouldn't like that kind of *shalach mones*," I said seriously. "But we won't be able to visit our neighbors this year to give or get *shalach mones*."

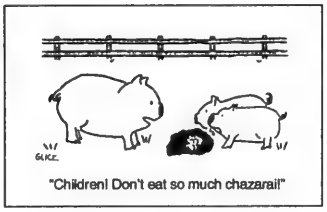
"Well you can still get *shalach mones* from me," Grandma said, and she packed a bag of Purim goodies for me to take home. I then repeated the popular Purim rhyme:

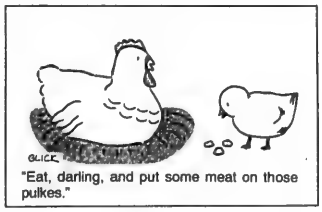
Haint is Purim, morgen is ois,
Gib mir a groschen un varf mir arois.
(Today is Purim, tomorrow it's gone,
give me a penny and send me on.)

She placed a penny in my hand and sent me home.

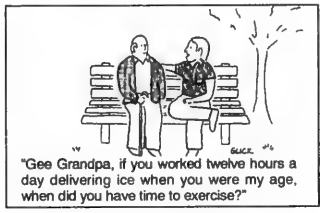
(Abraham Arnold is the author of Judaism, Myth, Legend, History and Custom, from the Religious to the Secular.)

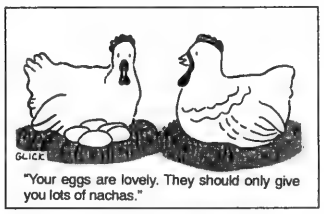
The Best of SHMOOZIN

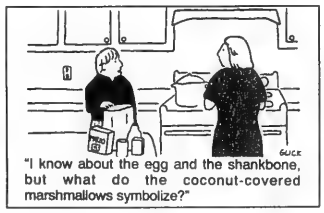

"Children! Don't eat so much chazarai!"


"Eat, darling, and put some meat on those pulkes."

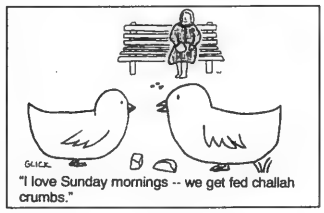
"Pasta was trendy when I was your age too – only we called it 'lokshen'."

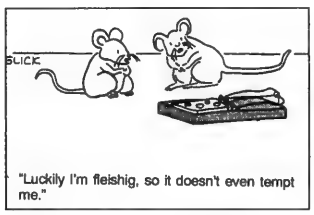

"Gee Grandpa, if you worked twelve hours a day delivering ice when you were my age, when did you have time to exercise?"

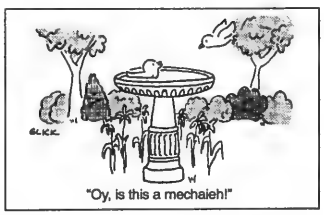

"Your eggs are lovely. They should only give you lots of nachas."

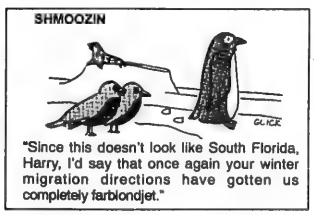

"I know about the egg and the shankbone, but what do the coconut-covered marshmallows symbolize?"

"No matter whether it is an Orthodox, Conservative, or Reform service, it is always traditional for the final announcement to be too long."

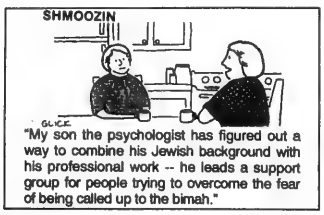

"I love Sunday mornings -- we get fed challah crumbs."


"Luckily I'm fleishig, so it doesn't even tempt me."


"Oy, is this a mechaieh!"



"Since this doesn't look like South Florida, Harry, I'd say that once again your winter migration directions have gotten us completely farbiondjet."



"My son the psychologist has figured out a way to combine his Jewish background with his professional work -- he leads a support group for people trying to overcome the fear of being called up to the bimah."

Happy Purim

Opinions

Direct elections new for Israel

The Israeli elections on May 29 will be the first in a new era in Israeli democracy. Four million Israelis will go to the polls to cast two ballots — the first, to elect their candidate of choice for prime minister, in direct elections. The candidate who wins over 50 percent of the votes will become prime minister. If no one wins a majority in the first round, a second run-off will be held between the two candidates with the largest number of votes.

By Shira Herzog

In their second ballot, Israelis will elect their party of choice to the Knesset. In Israel's system of proportional representation, 1.5 percent of the popular vote gives a party one seat in the Knesset. Following the election, the elected prime minister will try to form a coalition representing a majority of Knesset members, but he will not be dependent on them for his office.

This revolution in Israel's parliamentary democracy is the product of a lengthy, tortuous process that has been discussed and analyzed in thousands of articles and academic studies. It stemmed from changes in voting patterns that undermined the relative stability of governance and coalition building that had prevailed until 1977. Although no party in Israel ever had a parliamentary majority and coalition negotiations were often complex, several factors contributed to a satisfactory status quo and a tolerable price for the formation of a coalition government. The dominance of Mapai (later known as the Labor Party) and its ability to reach agreements with the Zionist Religious camp guaranteed a centre-left coalition that had no serious rivals.

The formation of a Likud-led government in 1977 created a new situation. There were now two political axes that were capable of forming a government. The result was a more democratic arena, on the one hand, but one that was far more vulnerable to the pressures of small parties, on the other. The blatant horse-trading that accompanied coalition negotiations and the ability of one- or two-member factions to demand exorbitant prices for joining coalitions produced unprecedented abuses of the system and widespread calls for reform.

Revolution in Israel's democracy

The subsequent electoral changes came about as a result of a web of sustained pressures and actions by Knesset members from several parties and a number of extra-parliamentary groups. Both Yitzhak Rabin and Benjamin Netanyahu supported direct elections of the prime minister as a way of freeing the post from some of the strains of coalition government — probably as a result of their direct exposure to the American presidential system.

Supporters of the new system have great expectations. They hope for a stabilization of the executive branch; a "safety net" against excessive demands from small parties; a clearer distinction between the executive and legislative branches; and a greater chance of effective action by the cabinet and prime minister, freed of the imperative of preoccupation with coaliton trivia.

Opponents of the new system warn of several dangers. These include exaggerated expectations from the new system and the attendant frustration when these are not met; a personalization of Israel's political culture and a movement away from ideology as a central factor in it; the potential for a chronic deadlock of a Knesset in opposition to its prime minister, without the American tradition of coexistence in similar situations; and the loss of the current checks and balances in the cabinet that might, in turn, result in overt independence on the part of the prime minister.

There are some observers that say "yes, but" to the new system. Some of these believe that Israel should move quickly to legislate its constitution to clarify the responsibilities of all three branches of government; others argue that a change from proportional representation to a constituency-based electoral system is an essential next step; and some have even advocated complete reform to an American presidential system.

Israel's municipal elections have been conducted by a two-ballot system since the late '70s. The experience has been largely successful, but the national arena is far more complex. Only time will tell how the new experiment will fare. Ironically, and sadly, Yitzhak Rabin, the man who ran his government as though the new system was already in place, will not be present at the first, critical test in the constitutional laboratory that the law of direct elections has created.

Jews and the welfare state

Jews have been the earliest and most steadfast defenders of the welfare state. As American conservative commentator Irving Kristol once put it, they "earn like Episcopalians and vote like Puerto Ricans." Throughout the post-war period, American Jews supported higher taxes, and state intervention in protecting the weak and promoting social goals.

By Morton Weinfeld

In the United States, Jews resisted the appeal of the Gingrichites, as well as the Perot movement, and supported Bill Clinton and the Democrats. In Canada, it is likely that Jews are wary about the more extreme manifestations of the budget cutting mania which is sweeping the country.

Jewish support for the welfare state continues to require explanation. Jews are largely a middle and upper middle class group. So by supporting the welfare state, they in effect vote to keep their own taxes high, though they are relatively less likely to benefit. Why do they do it?

Many Jews look to traditional Jewish culture for reasons. The Bible commands Jews to care for widows and orphans and to give tzedakah. Jews do not choose to give charity, they are obliged to do so. In addition, the Jewish religion encourages Jews to create a just society here on earth, rather than wait for the next world.

But this cannot be the only explanation. Parts of it can also apply to Christianity. There has long been a tradition of social activism and compassion within Protestant and Catholic traditions, despite the theological reliance on Christ as the route to salvation.

Another cultural explanation relies on the Jewish value of learning. Jews prefer to solve problems with rational solutions and planning, based on the application of knowledge. Government programs might appear to have that quality. (Think back to F.D.R. and the New Deal.)

These core Jewish values play a major role. But other explanations for Jewish support for the basic principles of the welfare state combine elements of self-interest and pragmatism.

Jews, as a historically vulnerable minority despite recent economic gains, fear social instability. Increasing gaps between the haves and the have nots may lead to conditions of social and political turmoil. Jews in the Old World feared the wrath of the poor or the dispossessed, whether peasants or urban masses. So policies which seek to minimize economic inequalities and injustices can indirectly benefit Jews.

In any case, North American Jews cannot be viscerally anti-government. It was government that sent troops to fight the Nazis, government that remained supportive of Israel, and government that passed anti-discrimination legislation which benefits Jews among others. Government in North America is not the czar.

A second factor deals directly with the impact of budget cuts as proposed by the Republicans in the United States or by the federal and provincial governments in Canada. Jews are disproportionately employed in the helping professions which can be adversely affected by these current trends. Jews work in health care, in education, in social services and in government, all targets for cuts and downsizing. Moreover, while Jews may underutilize welfare or unemployment, they may overutilize the educational and health systems.

Jews do not want their jobs or valued services cut. They do want to live in a just, compassionate society. While many Jews recognize the need to keep the lid on government deficits, one suspects strongly they would tilt the mix more toward tax increases than to budget cuts. The legacy of the exodus from Egypt lives on.

Syrian Christians

In the view of the world (which includes the Jewish world) there are two groups of people inhabiting Israel: Jews and Arabs. The latter are generally identified as Muslims, though — especially in Israel — they are also frequently Christians. Yet we hear little of Christians in the land, whether Arab or non-Arab. We have a vague impression of bearded priests walking in procession at Easter and Christmas, but that's about all most of us ever hear of them.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

To be sure, their numbers are not large, and they are becoming smaller. With some exceptions, their major role is to guard and maintain their sacred rites and buildings, though some of their efforts (especially among the French component) are directed toward archeology and biblical scholarship. There are now some 10 sects active in Jerusalem, and one of the smallest comprises the Syrian Christians.

"Syrian?" you will ask. How come they are in the Jewish capital, when their nation does not even recognize the Jewish state? But "Syrian" has nothing to do with Israel's political neighbor whom the Israeli administration is currently sounding out in Maryland, to explore whether there are indeed possibilities of mutual accommodation.

Officially known as the Syrian Orthodox Church, the sect is distinguished by the fact that its prayer language is Aramaic, the same tongue which was once spoken throughout the ancient Middle East, including the Jewish community. The Talmud reflects this fact as do some of our oldest prayers, like the Kaddish, Hebrew is, of course, a close linguistic relative, but was no longer fully understood by many Jews 2,000 years ago. When the Torah was read in the synagogue, a translator (*m'turgeman*) would stand beside the reader and render every verse into Aramaic for the sake of the congregation. The Syrian Church members are among the remnants of Aramaic speaking people; others are dispersed in Lebanon, Iraq, Iran and the Gulf states. They are, in fact, often known as Assyrians rather than Syrians.

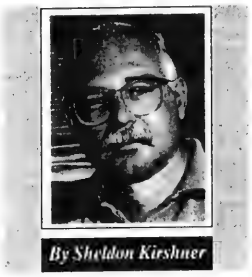
Their Jerusalem church is built on the spot where, according to Archbishop Jajjawi, the Last Supper took place, which Leonardo da Vinci's artistry made into one of the most famous paintings ever created. The present building stems from the time of the crusaders. Two hundred members of the church live in Israel's capital, the rest are in Bethlehem and a few other places, including the United States.

My information comes from a bulletin published several times a year by the Association of Christians and Jews in Israel.

Some time ago, there was vigorous opposition to the establishment of a Mormon Centre in the city, because many feared that it would sponsor conversionist activities. As far as I know, the fears have proven groundless. Judaism is not in danger from sources such as these. It is however endangered from within: by ignorance and assimilation (both here and there), and by a lack of dialogue between opposite points of view. Arguments about the peace process are only part of the conundrum and not the most troublesome.

The Kirshner File

Jacobovici explores mystery of Jewish existence in film



By Sheldon Kirshner

In the past few months, there has been a resurgence of interest in the Spanish Inquisition. Last year, publishers brought out two books, Erna Paris' *The End of Days* and Benzion Netanyahu's *The Origins of the Inquisition.*

Now, Simcha Jacobovici — a Toronto filmmaker — plans to unveil a documentary about the descendants of Jews who were forced to convert to Christianity before and during the infamous Inquisition. *Expulsion and Memory* is scheduled to be screened on TVOntario early next month to coincide with the Purim holiday.

Its focus is on the Conversos, known also as New Christians or Marranos. The vast majority were fully assimilated, but a minority secretly clung to their Jewish heritage while practising Christianity. Jacobovici's absorbing film zeroes in on these people.

Jacobovici, born in Israel and raised in Montreal, made *Expulsion and Memory* over a period of several years. The seed of the project was planted by one of his former associates, Roger Pyke, who brought a newspaper article to his attention.

It turned on a group of Hispanic Americans in New Mexico — the ancestors of an early colony of crypto-Jews — who had found out about their Jewish origins and were stirred by their discovery.

Jacobovici was fascinated by these sons and daughters of the Conversos. "How could it be, 500 years after the conversions, that some of their ancestors were walking around feeling Jewish? What Jewish customs and folklore had survived?"

With these unanswered questions ringing in his ears, Jacobovici rushed to produce a film on the topic in time for the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of Jews from Spain. But 1992 was not to be a favorable year for a documentary of this kind. The television networks he approached lacked the funds and seemed basically cool to the idea.

He kept trying, but to no avail. He was on the verge of giving up when Lilli Fournier, a Toronto woman interested in Sephardi culture, came to his rescue. "She had access to individuals with money," he said.

Eventually, Jacobovici enlisted the financial support of TVOntario, Vision TV, the Ontario Film Development Corp. and the Ontario Arts Council. Later, he signed an agreement with Malo Films to distribute *Expulsion and Memory* internationally.

Once all these arrangements had been completed, Jacobovici, 42, travelled widely: New Mexico, Spain, Portugal and Israel.

Far from wishing to make a factual documentary, his goal was a spiritual film that would explore "the subtlety and mystery of Jewish existence."

Jacobovici was touched by the experience of interviewing the scions of Conversos. He was particularly moved by a New Mexican war veteran who choked up as he spoke and by a Spaniard in a remote town who asked for a mezuzah from Israel.

"My own Jewishness," Jacobovici said, "was deepened by being exposed to them."

Expulsion and Memory is neither Jacobovici's first nor his last film on a Jewish-related subject.

He directed his first documentary, *Falasha: Exile of the Black Jews*, in 1984. Then, a few years ago, he released *Deadly Currents*, his award-winning feature on the intifadah. Looking ahead, he is planning a film about the so-called 10 lost tribes of Israel.

Presently in pre-production is *Hollywoodism*, based on Neal Gabler's best seller, *An Empire of Their Own: How the Jews Invented Hollywood.*

Jacobovici and his partner, Elliott Halpern, the principals of Associated Producers, are currently working on a cornucopia of general interest films. They run the gamut from *Sex Cops*, which revolves around child sex slavery in India, to *The Plague Fighters*, which deals with the deadly Ebola virus outbreak in Zaire.

Wiesel remains personally elusive

Elie Wiesel, the novelist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, needs no introduction, certainly not in the Jewish world. Suffice it to say that no Jewish writer today is as globally renowned as Wiesel. And yet, paradoxically, he remains personally elusive.

Readers who wish to penetrate the veil may read Wiesel's newly-published memoirs, *All Rivers Run to the Sea* (Random House, $36), the first of two projected autobiographies.

Poignantly written, *All Rivers Run to the Sea* is a richly woven tapestry of a turbulent life. Unfolding more or less in chronological order, the book conveys us from a Carpathian mountain village to Jerusalem, in no less than 500 pages.

Between these geographic poles, Wiesel describes his beloved family and his passage through two concentration camps in a prose style which at times soars to poetic heights.

Tallying up the post-war years, he tells of his unconsummated tryst with a German war widow, of his days as a struggling student in France, and of his initiation into journalism. Last but not least, he summons up memories of a "turning point," a cathartic trip to the Soviet Union in 1965 which prompted him to write *The Jews of Silence.*

Yet, at the end of this exhaustive journey of the mind and of the spirit, you feel that Wiesel has somehow managed to slip out of your grasp. He thus remains a remote and inhibited figure.

Wiesel, however, is a keen observer, and in this respect, he does not disappoint a reader.

He resurrects Sighet, an ethnically diverse outpost of the Austro-Hungarian empire which passed from Romanian to Hungarian hands.

He recounts the roundup of the Jews of Sighet, condemning the malice and cruelty of the Hungarian gendarmes who rousted them from their homes.

He remembers his "darkest day," the bitter moment in Buchenwald when his father died and he, Wiesel, was "bursting with pain."

But how does a religious Jew like Wiesel respond to the savagery of the Holocaust? Although his faith was not shaken by his experiences, he admits he will never "cease to rebel against those who ... permitted Auschwitz, including God."

In the aftermath of the war, Wiesel found his bearings, burying himself in the study of Judaism, in the faculty of letters at the Sorbonne and in a mountain of books.

He drifted into newspaper work by way of an obscure Zionist periodical. It led to a career in journalism, first as an underpaid, Paris-based foreign correspondent for *Yediot Ahronot*, and then as a writer for the *Forverts* in New York City. Reporting, in turn, encouraged him to wade into creative writing. Since then, Wiesel has written a procession of stately novels, from *Night* and *The Town Beyond the Wall* to *A Beggar in Jerusalem.*

I look forward to the second instalment of Wiesel's memoirs. But let us hope that Wiesel is more forthcoming about his inner life in this book than he has been in *All Rivers Run to the Sea.*

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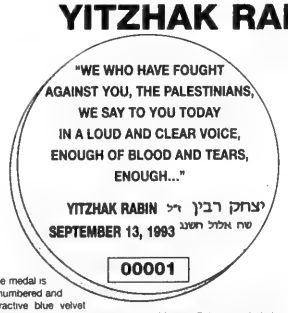

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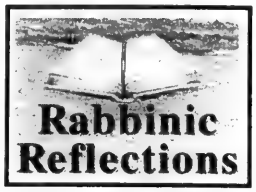
Two lessons of Purim



By RABBI LAWRENCE M. COLTON

Purim brings with it some very heavy baggage, indeed. Two separate and distinct lessons need to be emphasized as we celebrate Purim: one global, the other a personal and individual reminder for each and every Jew.

On the one hand, Purim's message for religious freedom in today's pluralistic society is not a message we ought to easily overlook. Religious pluralism is not merely a reality in modern life, but also an ideal to be cherished in a free society. Only pluralism can serve the needs of the emerging world community of the future.

On the other hand, separate and apart, Purim tells us something about the masks we all wear in an attempt to avoid confronting our own selves.

Purim is both a much needed political warning and a psychological self-assessment for our times.

So very often the lessons of the past fail to serve us well. We actually are capable of ignoring yesterday's stories so as to conceal our own uneasiness. The story of Purim, sadly, is a case in point. In the excitement to relate Purim to the young child of today, there is all too often the chance of highlighting the issues which only lead to merriment and play. The costumes of Purim override the lessons of Purim. The games played at a Purim carnival detract from the essence of a concept embedded in the holiday of Purim that begs our attention. We read in the secular newspaper of the rise in the number of hate crimes committed. We are reminded to be ever on the watch for the resurgence of bigotry and the vulgarity of prejudice. Yet we are uneasy with the message of Purim created to make precisely this point.

Purim speaks to the need for Jews never to seek to hide our identity, to always be prepared to defend our faith and to declare to the world that no one can be allowed to seek to destroy an entire people because of creed. The holiday of Purim was developed by our Jewish ancestors to deal with the problem, even then, of the acceptance of the Jewish people by non-Jews.

The Jewish people in the time of Queen Esther and her cousin Mordecai wanted to be accepted by the people amongst whom they lived, the Persians. Can a person successfully hide his or her identity? The Jews of Persia tried to disguise their Jewishness. We call this assimilation. The King did not know that Esther was Jewish and Esther and Mordecai did not want to tell him until Haman, who saw beneath their pretence, accused them of being different.

[Cont'd. on page 13]

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Rome was part of Toronto also

By BEN KAYFETZ
Special to The CJN

David Rome was born and spent his first 10 years in Vilna, the "Jerusalem of Lithuania." This tells us much about his love of books and writing, his attachment to Jewish culture, his search for deep roots in Canadian Jewish life and his overall *ahavat Yisrael*.

Guest Voices

When they came to America, his family settled, not on New York's East Side nor even in Montreal's "Main," but in the then sparsely populated (as far as Jews were concerned) city of Vancouver, the farthest west they could go in Canada. This may help us understand another facet in his character — his bridge-building, his search for mutual understanding with non-Jews that resulted in his acceptance in many quarters in and out of the Church and in the world of Québécois culture that many associated with unfriendliness and even hostility.

We are so accustomed to identifying Rome with Montreal that we forget he had a Toronto period — not lengthy, no more than one or two years — in the late 1930s or early 1940s, when he edited the English page of the *Hebrew Daily Journal* under another equally colorful journalist Shmuel-Meyer Shapiro. (Others who held this post were M.Z.R. Frank and Prof. Ben Lappin.)

But Montreal — then the cultural capital of Canadian Jewry — called and he moved eastward to take a job as press officer of Canadian Jewish Congress, working closely with Saul Hayes, Chanania Caiserman and Sam Bronfman, who had just taken on the leadership of Congress.

Part of Rome's job was editing the *Congress Bulletin* and therein lies a tale.

Montreal writer Ted Allen had promised Rome a short story for the *Congress Bulletin*. But he was late in delivering, even in writing it, because the complete story had not yet jelled in his mind. This was not good enough for Rome. The printer was waiting impatiently and time was of the essence. Besides which, he had promised Allen an honorarium of $10 (some versions say $5).

So Rome camped, not on Allen's doorstep, but in his very study, hovering and poking his head over Allen's shoulder, as the writer tapped out the words on his typewriter with Rome breathing hard down his neck, until finally the short story emerged.

This is how the Canadian classic — which became a movie — *Lies My Father Told Me* was born.

As a correspondent Rome was most unreliable when it came to answering letters. One might write him in January and not receive a reply until September. By that time, the point of the enquiry would frequently have been forgotten or would have rectified itself.

I personally regret that once settled in Montreal, Rome rarely came to Toronto even for plenary assemblies. It would have made for more stories of this eccentric but enjoyable and creative personality.

Rome's contribution to Canadian Jewish history was prodigious. His *Clouds in the Thirties* was a series of monographs on many aspects of Canadian Jewish history: the *Achat Chez Nous* movement, the Christie Pits riots in Toronto, the Adrien Arcand era, the anti-Jewish hospital strike of doctors in Montreal in 1934, the slanders against Archie Freiman of Ottawa.

And earlier periods were not neglected in the monographs on the Quebec Jewish school (including a special edition of documents related thereto); the story of a Jewish fighting editor Jules Helbronner, an Alsatian-born Jew who edited *La Presse* in the closing years of the last century; the influence of Reuven Brainin on the young Jewish intellectuals of the day; the Plamondon case, in which a judge ruled that racial group libel was actionable under certain conditions. And, best of all, the price was right — $5 per copy! (This writer cannot guarantee that these are still available).

Even in physical appearance and impact, Rome was out of the ordinary with his Puck-like physiognomy and his earnest, whispering speech.

Rome also prepared the Samuel Bronfman bibliography of writing by Jewish Canadians, scouring publishers' catalogues and reviews. He was a bibliophile, a researcher, a journalist, a librarian, an archivist, a historian, who like his older contemporaries B. G. Sack, Louis Rosenberg and Chanania Caiserman, helped Jews discover and understand themselves and their historic place in Canada.

Jewish Life

Purim sites available on the Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

In the story of Esther, King Achashverosh ruled over an immense empire "from India even unto Ethiopia." In order to deliver his royal decrees, messengers needed to travel for days to reach all of the King's 127 provinces.

Thanks to modern technology, news travels a bit quicker these days.

The Internet has a surprising number of Purim sites for you and your family to visit. By the time Purim starts on Monday night, you'll be able to travel the world for a wealth of information about the holiday that occurred in Persia over two millennia ago.

First of all, Purim is for kids. So take a look at **[http://www.jer1.co.il/kids/]**. There, you'll find Purim Stories and Purim Pictures which have been sent by children around the world via the Internet. For explanations about Purim's customs and traditions, visit **[http://www.netvoyage.net/~brozen/ba/purim-links.html]**. And for the historical context of the holiday, check out the World Zionist Organization essay at **[gopher://gopher.jer1.co.il:70/00/Aliyah/junk/hol/pur/gi/purim]**.

If you want to brush up on Megillat Esther (and if your web browser can handle Hebrew), you can find the original at **[http://snunit.huji.ac.il/snunit/kodesh/bible/mastr.html]**. (We'll look at how to read Hebrew on the Internet in a future column.)

An English translation of Megillat Esther can be found at **[http://www.spd.louisville.edu/~m0zaud01/holy/est.txt]**. Please note this is the King James version.

For something a bit different, Britain's Union of Jewish Students takes a contemporary look at Female Role Models in the Megillah at **[http://www.ed.ac.uk/~p92002/activist/purim.html]**. Calgary's Eliezer Siegel continues the discussion in a fascinating article called *Vashti: A Feminist Heroine*. Siegel has more thought-provoking articles such as *The War Against Purim* and *Purim, Parody and Pilpul*. You can find their links at **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/Calendar_Index.html#Purim]**.

What would Purim be without *mishloach manot*, the sending of ready-to-eat treats? Sure, nothing beats preparing your own basket, but if you want to send some goodies farther afield, you can have them delivered through the Jewish Highway!

I came across two web pages offering delivery of strictly kosher food to Israel. Although it's a bit late to send in your order, you might be interested to know that for $45 (US), an organization called Valued Israeli Products **[http://www.cyberscribe.com:80/vip/]** will send a friend or relative in Jerusalem the "Queen Esther Package ... overflowing with wine, Osem 10-pack soup, scrumptious treats like BBQ potato chips, plus an olivewood grogger." Bnei Akiva in New York **[http://www.netvoyage.net/~brozen/ba/]** also offers several baskets to Israel. And for an additional $10, they will send *mishloach manot* to a soldier in the Israeli army.

On a practical note, tradition teaches us that we are supposed to become so intoxicated on Purim that we are unable to distinguish any difference between "cursed is Haman" and "blessed is Mordecai." But what does that really mean? Kollel Menachem-Lubavitch of Melbourne, Australia, has an analysis at **[http://www.shamash.org/judaica/havienu/ph-3.html]**.

And on an even more practical note: food. I haven't had a chance to try these out, but here are a couple of recipes for hamantashen. Robin Leidner's Liberation Hamentashen can be found at **[http://haven.uniserve.com/~hostrov/recipe.html]**. Robin's recipe calls for Lekvar or prune butter. You can also try Fruit-filled Hamantashen from Philadelphia at **[http://www.epicurious.com/db/recipes/recipesH/3/40013.html]**.

Sorry poppy seed hamantashen lovers, I couldn't find an on-line recipe for you. Maybe next year.

Have a Happy Purim.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

Lesson of history is clear

[Cont'd. from page 12]

The lesson of history to our people is clear. No matter how much the Jewish people tried to demonstrate that they were like everyone else, a Haman came along to denounce them for being different and to seek their destruction because of that difference. Purim celebrates the miracle of Jewish survival.

History also records an all-consuming fascination with the faces we wear, some God given, others the masks we put on. Inherent in the story of Purim, there is a hidden meaning behind the masks each notable character wears: Haman's mask makes him appear authoritative and self-confident; Achashverosh, lusty and exhilarating; Vashti, stunning and beautiful; Esther, quiet, unsure and fearful; and Mordecai, devoted and loyal.

Contrary to the facade presented by these masks, however, Haman wears underneath his the reality of false pride and vainglory. He is in love with himself and destructively self-defeating. Beneath his mask, Achashverosh represents the paradigm of male chauvinism. Vashti is strong-willed and determined not to be anyone's slave, no matter the cost. Esther is made strong by fierce loyalties to heritage, people and family; and Mordecai is exceedingly humble.

If blind ambition is Haman's fault, then enlightened caring is Mordecai's virtue. If unchecked ego is Haman's downfall, then controlled outrage upon overhearing a grievous wrong is Mordecai's reward. Vashti strikes a blow for the propriety of the feminist's position in the midst of an old boys' network. Esther achieves a degree of bravery. Achashverosh redeems himself by swift action.

The Purim story could be entitled *The Masks We Wear*. Consider the masks that each of us wears every day. What we see is not necessarily who we are. Eventually, these masks are always torn away and as in The Book of Esther our true selves are revealed.

Purim is a holiday of tremendous impact for the world at large and, at the same time, for each and every Jew.

Rabbi Colton is the senior rabbi at Temple Sinai in Toronto.

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Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Preferred area of practice: Family Law
Author of Religion and Culture in Canadian Family Law

Are alimony agreements becoming meaningless?

PART 3 OF 3

Further to our discussion (Feb. 1 and 15) of Madame Justice L'Heureux-Dubé's minority decision suggesting that the Court could overturn a supposedly "final" alimony agreement it deems unfair, she also ruled as follows: if the payer spouse's standard of living improves, then the former spouse may have to be paid more support, notwithstanding a "binding" agreement that says otherwise.

All of this may be revolutionary. The majority decision of the Supreme Court written by Mr. Justice Sopinka appears to disagree with the need to make such new policy statements in this case, although he does not say that Madame Justice L'Heureux-Dubé is wrong. In my view, Sopinka correctly limited his decision to the facts of this particular case. (A man was obliged to continue support payments to his wife even though she continued to live with her lover, because when the contract was signed, both parties ought to have foreseen that the lover would cohabit with her.) Sopinka is right: this was not the appropriate case to review the general law of the binding nature of alimony agreements, particularly since even the majority of the Court upheld the agreement in this case! There was no need on the facts to suggest that such agreements can be ignored, since the Court did not do so with the agreement before it.

More importantly, if an alimony contract can be now be ignored because it wasn't "fair", then lawyers cannot advise payer clients to sign such agreements without a written acknowledgment from the client that, in the proper case, a Court can ignore the deal. Otherwise, lawyers open themselves to liability from former male clients who may come back later and say: "Hey, what the hell did I pay you for? She's now coming after me again. And it's your fault because the agreement doesn't protect me. You must now pay what I've been ordered to pay by the Court as a result of your negligence." In short, lawyers become insurers in a risky game. I'd rather take my chances in Vegas or Windsor. It's more fun.

Anyone who is now about to get married or even to cohabit may become an automatic pension plan to a dependent spouse, even in the face of a marriage contract. And anyone who contemplates settling their spouse's alimony claim could be fooling themselves if they think it's legally over, unless the agreement is drafted with this case in mind. Even then, there may no longer be any finality to such claims. It is my view that Madame Justice L'Heureux-Dubé's minority decision is a grave disincentive to settle alimony claims and that it may ultimately promote more litigation. Many lawyers would rather have a Court impose a support order than now become financial "guarantors" for negotiating releases that could be meaningless.

John Syrtash is a litigation lawyer with the Toronto firm of Kronis, Rotsztain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler. Mr. Syrtash's preferred area of practice is Civil Litigation and Family Law. Neither Mr. Syrtash nor the law firm of Kronis, Rotsztain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler nor B'nai Brith Canada is liable for any consequences that may arise from any party relying upon the information in this material. Mr. Syrtash can be reached at (416) 225-8750.

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Anti-racism program an eye-opener for students

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Anti-Racism Awareness Week at Newtonbrook Secondary School was more successful than some students would have predicted, given their reactions to one of the first events of last week's program.

An 18-year-old girl admitted that she had "expected to fall asleep" during a talk by Alan Borovoy of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

Another student went into the presentation "expecting to hear a cliche, that racism is bad."

Instead, the 10 OAC (final-year) students who met with *The CJN* immediately following the lecture found themselves quoting snippets of Borovoy's speech and trying to assimilate some new ideas.

"It gave me a different perspective," said Jaime Gomez, a Canadian-born student of Colombian extraction. "I never really thought of [racism] jobwise. I always thought of the bigot you had to fight."

It's not necessarily bigots who pose the problem, Borovoy had explained. "It's easier to get worked up about a handful of creeps who preach hate. To be sure, we have to be concerned about them, but ... the major emphasis of our activities [regarding discriminatory employment practices] should be on those who ... are polite, who don't insult, but nevertheless are not hiring enough members of minority groups."

Students at Newtonbrook Secondary School discussed discrimination as part of Anti-Racism Awareness Week. From left (back row) are Alex Korablev, Emilie Greller, Richard Kim, Keyvan Parvaneh, Jaime Gomez, and (seated, from left), Elaine Tsang, Alice Noaman, Jennifer Lim and Lee Dechaine. [Frances Kraft photo]

Equity and fair play must take precedence over racial harmony, Borovoy stressed. Although he wouldn't want anyone to think he's "opposed" to racial harmony, he said, his prime goal is to root out inappropriate behavior.

Canadian law prohibits discrimination against employees, customers and tenants, he noted.

Human Rights Commission inquiries into discrimination cases are designed to inconvenience offenders to the extent that they will conclude it makes sense to change their practices, Borovoy explained, adding that the commission is "hopelessly backlogged."

Even people who don't act in a discriminatory manner can pose serious problems when they fail to condemn racist behavior, he emphasized.

"They won't make a fuss if their organization honors a racist. They won't sign a petition. They won't stand up and protest. This doesn't mean they're all racists. This means they're not willing to pay the price to fight racism."

Borovoy's description of "well-intentioned non-doers" rang in the ears of several students, including Keyvan Parvaneh, who once attended a school where "you'd never see a white person and an Indian person talking."

Although a quick look in the Newtonbrook cafeteria indicates that students are clustered with others from like backgrounds, Dorsa Jabbari, whose background, like Parvaneh's, is Iranian, said that her group of longtime friends includes two blacks, a Greek and someone from China. Nor is she friendly with all of the Iranian students, she added.

Alan Borovoy

Among the school's 1,800 students are blacks and Orientals, as well as a substantial Jewish population, including recently arrived Russians and Israelis.

None of the students interviewed had experienced discrimination themselves, they said, although they have encountered ignorance.

Other events last week included talks by anti-racist consultant Carol Tator and Bernie Farber of Canadian Jewish Congress.

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Hosted by Ellie Tesher, Toronto Star Columnist and award winning author and humorist Morley Torgov, the show is produced by Howard Bernstein, Stephen Gardner and Janice Maser.

Temple Har Zion gets award

TORONTO — Temple Har Zion received the Irving J. Fain Award, in honor of its social action program, at the Union of American Hebrew Congregations' (UAHC) 63rd biennial convention in Atlanta.

Breaking the Circle of Hate will be featured in the 1995 *Guide to Congregational Social Action Programs* distributed to more than 850 Reform congregations.

The program was designed by Arieh Cohen, chair of the temple's social action committee, and Fran Issacs, to sensitize the congregation's youth to anti-Semitism and racism.

Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president-elect of the UAHC, emphasized the importance of such programming: "We will refuse to abandon the quest for justice which lies at the heart of our religious institutions; and we will remember, too, that *tikkun olam* is why we study Torah and why we perform mitzvot."

Temple Har Zion's Breaking the Circle of Hate was selected from among nearly 80 social action programs across the United States and Canada.

For more information about the program, contact Cohen at 416-787-9469 or Issacs at 905-881-2383.

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☐ $___ I will not be attending the May 7th program. Enclosed is my contribution to the Fund. Please ensure my name is included in the commemorative book to be presented to Leah Rabin.

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OBITUARIES

Community loses two leaders

'Uncle Max' dedicated to Mizrachi

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Max Zeifman, a prominent leader of Toronto's religious Zionist community, died on Feb. 20. He was 85.

Friends and family, who knew him affectionately as "Uncle Max," speak of his kindness, warmth and friendliness, referring to him as a *rodef sholom*, a peacemaker.

A familiar figure at community functions, he was passionately dedicated to Mizrachi, to which he had belonged since his youth, and to Israel.

Zeifman was born in Stopnitz, Poland, and came to Canada in 1927 as a teenager. He worked as a cutter in his brother's fur shop until 1954, when he started his own business, Maxwell Construction Co.

In 1972, he retired and devoted the rest of his life to charitable causes. He worked assiduously for the Jewish National Fund, United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bonds, the Central Fund and hospitals and yeshivot here and in Israel.

But his primary allegiance was to Mizrachi. Rabbi Menachem Gopin, executive director of Mizrachi of Canada, called him "a walking, talking spokesperson for Mizrachi projects in Israel."

Rabbi Mark Dratch, spiritual leader of Shaarei Shomayim, called him a "prince of a man," who could make friends with people of all ages and all backgrounds.

Rabbis Dratch and Gopin described how Zeifman continued his fundraising efforts even when he was in the hospital recovering from a stroke.

His son Sol said that his father was a Sabbath observer his whole life, working until the last possible minute on Fridays and going back to work as soon as possible Saturday night.

"He ran after mitzvot, going to funerals and shivah houses, going to shul every day after he retired, and either donating to charity himself or encouraging others to donate."

One of the highlights of his life, Rabbi Gopin said, was the dedication in 1993 of a sefer Torah in his honor to Shaarei Shomayim by the synagogue and Mizrachi.

Rabbi Henry Hoschander, former rabbi of Shaarei Shomayim, said, "He was not a *kovod* (glory) seeker. He was one of the most unique individuals in our community."

Zeifman was predeceased by his wife Lilly. He is survived by his children Esther, Sol and Lonni, and four grandchildren.

Finkler helped out BIU causes

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Leona Finkler, a powerhouse volunteer and fundraiser in Toronto's Jewish community for many years, died Feb. 20 while vacationing in Miami Beach, after a long illness. She was 77.

The eulogy at last week's funeral was delivered by Rabbi Emmanuel Rackman, chancellor of Bar-Ilan University, one of the main causes supported by the Finklers.

Among the most lasting legacies of Finkler and her husband Arnold, who died in 1989, was the Marilyn Finkler Cancer Research Centre on Bar-Ilan's campus, named for their daughter, who died of cancer in 1975 at age 19.

The state-of-the art, $2-million facility was opened in 1987 to enable Israeli scientists to explore new therapies for cancer and AIDS. Researchers there developed a substance known as AS-101, which lessens the toxicity of other drugs used to fight AIDS and cancer.

Born in Plock, Poland, Finkler survived eight concentration camps, but lost 80 members of her family in the camps, including her first husband, a physician, at Auschwitz.

She returned to Poland after the war, but widespread pogroms there drove her to Germany, where she worked for Aliya Bet, the clandestine organization that spirited Jews to Palestine. She was reunited with Arnold, a one-time patient of her husband, whom she had met in one of the camps.

The Finklers came to Canada in 1948, penniless but determined to help others. Those values were passed onto their two daughters. Patty Friedland went on to become president of the Baycrest Centre's women's auxiliary (as her mother had been), while Marilyn was once arrested for chaining herself to a fence to protest the treatment of Soviet Jews.

Leona Finkler served as president of the Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University and vice-president of the university's international board of trustees; chaired the women's division of State of Israel Bonds; and was active in the Jewish National Fund and Hadassah-WIZO.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Patty and Allan Friedland; grandchildren Jeffrey and Marla; brother Ben Lant and sister-in-law Sonia; and sister Irene Goldkorn.

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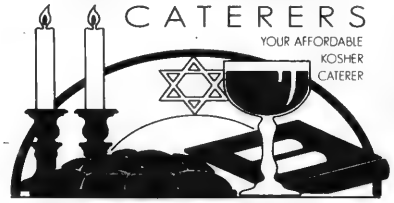

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שישאר ביננו

גידי קורן

לכל איש יש שם

זוכרים את שירה המופלא של זלדה? לכל אחד מאיתנו יש הרבה שמות שצברנו לאורך החיים בנסיבות שונות. במהלך תמישים השנים האחרונות ישראלים רבים שגדלו בארץ ישראל הלכו ועיקֵרתו את שם המשפחה שלהם. זה היה המרשם הבדוק "לנַרֵש את הגלוּת" מתוכנו, להתחיל מחדש, להיות "ישראלי גוּעי". וכך, למרות התנגדותם, שינו לילדי הגולה את שמם מאטאשה לטלי ומבֶּרל לדוּבי, ובאותו סגנון- לא יכולת להיות קצין בצבא קבע בלי שתשנה את שם המשפחה שלך. הדבר היה כל כך במוֹדָה, כל כך רגיל, שרבים מאיתנו עשו זאת גם בלי לחץ של הצבא או גורמים אחרים. שֵם בעברית נשמע צעיר יותר, נכון יותר, נמרץ יותר. אחד התירוצים המקובלים לצעד זה היה הנימוק שחשמות הגלותיים נקבעו לא אחת על ידי הגויים שהתכוונו להעליב יותר מאשר לפאר את סביבו וסבותינו. כל זה היה כל כך טבעי וכל כך "אין" עד שלא שמנו ליבנו לכך עד כמה נורא ובלתי טבעי היה הצעד הזה! אני עוד זוכר את אבי נושך בשפתיו ושותק כשאחי ואני עיבַרתנוּ את שמנו. בהיגוי יד מחקנו את זיכרם של סבינו, סבותינו, דודינו וילדיהם שנשאו בגאווה את השם הגלותי הזה והושמדו בשואה! לפני מספר שנים מצאתי את עצמי מתחיל לחשוב על זה ולהתבייש בעצמי, והינה הופיעו מספר כתבות בעיתונות העברית ומהן מסתבר שרבים וטובים מכים על חטא, על קלות הדעת הבלתי נסבלת שבה מחקו את שורשיהם! ורק השבוע רואיין המשורר נתן זך, שעיברת את שמו כמו כולם. והוא , חתן פרס ישראל לספרות, מבֶּכה על כך שמחק את שמו של אביו פעמיים: פעם אחת כשעיברת את שמו, ופעם שניה כשלא העמיד צאצאים. עצוב. עכשיו כשאני שוהה בגולה, יוצא לי לפעמים לספר את סיפור עיברות השם לאנשים מארצות שונות, כשהם בטוחים ש"קורן" הוא שם יוגוסלבי, מבטי ההשתאות שלהם מבהירים לי מעל לכל ספק איזה פסיכים היינו כולנו. עכשיו כשכולנו מחפשים את שורשינו הנדועים באירופה, בארצות המאגרב, ואיפה לא, בואו נזכור באיזו קלות דעת בלתי נסבלת עזרנו לגדוע את אותם שורשים במו ידינו.

מאברוק וחיים:

החודש צויינה פריצת דרך רצינית בהבנה שלנו איך תאי הגוף קולטים ומעבירים שדרים באופן נורמאלי, ומה לא בסדר בתאים סרטניים. לתגלית זו שפורסמה בעיתון המדעי היוקרתי Nature, אחראי רופא הילדים הישראלי חיים רויפמן, שמשמש כראש המחלקה לאימונולוגיה קלינית בבי"ח לילדים של טורונטו. חיים הגיע לטורונטו עם אישתו פרח והילדים בשנת 1983 להתמחות באימונולוגיה קלינית (תורת החיסון) . עם היתמנותו לצוות בית החולים ולסגל אוניברסיטת טורונטו הקים הוא קבוצת מחקר שהצליחה תוך מספר שנים לזהות את הליקוי הגנטי של אחת מהצורות המוּלדות של כֶּשֶל המערכת החיסונית. התגלית הנוכחית, בנוסף לתגליות רבות משמעותיות אחרות שחיים אחראי להם, מציבות את הרופא הישראלי בצמרת הלינה הבינלאומית של חוקרי תינוּדת הגוף (אימונולוגיה). בנוסף לתרומתו הבינלאומית, תורם חיים בצורה ישירה לישראל, כשכל שנה מתמחים אצלו מספר רופאים ומדענים ישראליים, שחוזרים אחר כך הביתה עם הידע שרכשו. לפני שבועיים כיכב הרופא הישראלי בכל תחנות הטלביזיה,בעיתונים ובתחנות הרדיו. העולם כולו הביע את הערכתו להישג.

בהחלט רגע של גאווה לקהילה הישראלית של טורונטו !

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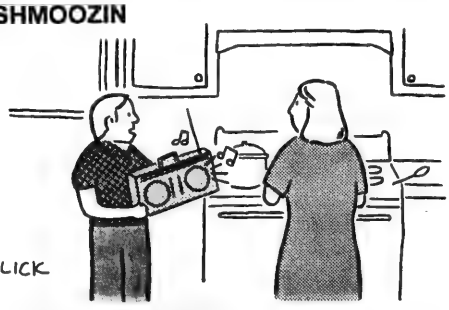

"Can I bring this to temple on Purim? I'll blast it to drown out Haman's name!"

Greater Toronto Area

De Villiers says society must target youth violence

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Violence against women is a plague as bad as any that has ever threatened our world, says Priscilla de Villiers, whose 21-year-old daughter Nina was abducted and murdered in Burlington in 1991.

"We are told that Canada is no worse than any other place, but is that a comfort when youth violence is escalating? The greatest number of victims of youth are other youth and they are our future citizens," she said recently at the second annual Women for Women breakfast, entitled Violence is Everywhere ... How Safe are Women, sponsored by Toronto Hadassah-WIZO.

Through its Women for Women campaign, Hadassah-WIZO supports shelters for battered women, 24-hour hotlines, rape crisis centres, legal advice bureaus and information centres in Israel.

De Villiers is the president and driving force behind CAVEAT, (Canadians Against Violence Everywhere Advocating Its Termination), an organization whose mission is to contribute to the creation and maintenance of a just and safe society by public education, advocating changes to the justice system and ensuring the rights of victims.

When she immigrated from South Africa, she said, "I felt like I had escaped from prison, but 17 years later we are imprisoning ourselves behind locked doors and burglar alarms. We are not winning the battle, but the wonderful thing about Canada is that it is still possible to win some of the battle.

"We cannot sit back and continue to believe that the system will take care of us, because since my daughter's death, I have found an extraordinary lack of concern for human lives. The frailty of life is treated in a very casual fashion — the sentences of men who shoot or stab their wives at home are ludicrous. The terrible truth is that at the moment, it is still a rarity for the Bernardos or the Olsons to create crimes, crimes are happening at home or at school," she said.

She said that to suggest there is one victim of any crime is an oversimplification.

"When Nina died, everyone in Burlington was a victim. Wherever I go, someone tells me how they reacted to my tragedy. Nina was a victim, but the whole community has suffered. We are all potential victims of violence."

De Villiers said that a big problem is that youth violence is not being targeted enough. "Why are we not putting in as many preventive measures as we can at that level so the people who do slip through are the minority? The bulk of our work is trying to use our clout to put services in place to deal with disturbed children and to help communities to help themselves. Human life is our most precious commodity and we must preserve it at all costs."

The liar fools himself most of all when he imagines that people believe him.

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Irving Abella
Past National President, Canadian Jewish Congress
Professor of History, Glendon College, York University
who will speak on
"Creating a Jewish Future - Canada Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"
Wednesday, March 6 at 8:00 p.m.
Pride of Israel Synagogue
59 Lissom Cresc., Willowdale
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Everyone welcome *No charge*

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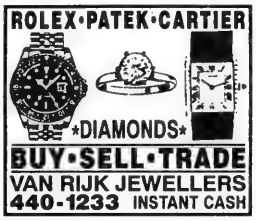

The Canadian Friends of Yeshiva University
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Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
invite you to a lecture by
DR. HAIM SOLOVEITCHIK
University Professor of Jewish History and Literature,
Bernard Revel Graduate School
and
Professor of Jewish Law,
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law
Yeshiva University, New York
on the subject
Rupture and Reconstruction: The Transformation of Contemporary Jewry
Sunday, March 10, 1996 at 8:00 p.m.
at the
Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
470 Glencairn Avenue, Toronto

Professor Soloveitchik, son of the late unique Torah giant of our age, Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, is in his own right an outstanding scholar and author. His theme will provide a provocative and stimulating exploration of a major phenomenon within modern Jewish life.

Dr. Soloveitchik's lecture will be based on his seminal essay of the same name in the Summer 1994 edition of Tradition magazine. Those planning to attend are asked to read his article, copies of which are available at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, Feb. 29, is deadline for March 14 issue and Thursday, March 7, is deadline for March 21 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, Feb. 29

SINGLE TRAVEL

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue Single Parents monthly lecture, Single Travel, presented by Travel 24, 8 p.m. at synagogue. $5. 633-5500.

Sunday, March 3

DARK LULLABIES

Dark Lullabies, a documentary exploring the impact of the Holocaust on the post-war generation of Jews and Germans, 7:30 p.m., at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, Director **Lilienheim Angelico** will read from the book *The Aftermath*, the inspiration for the film. Members $3, non-members $5.

PURIM LECTURES

Rabbi Mordechai Ochs lectures on The Other Purims, **Rabbi Bezalel Safran** on The Hidden Miracle of Purim and Natural Law, and **Rabbi Moshe Goldberg** on Why is Hallel Not Recited on Purim, 9:15-11 a.m., Shacharit 8:30 a.m., Torah Emeth Jewish Centre, 1 Viewmount Ave. **Sam Axelrod 784-9800.**

JEWISH HUMORIST

Allan Gould shares his Confessions of the Jewish Humorist: How I Write? Why I Write? at a Purim event featured by the Max and Beatrice Wolfe Library, 2 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue.

FAMILY FESTIVAL

Secular Jewish Association Family Purim Festival and Carnival, 10 a.m., Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. non-members 5 adult, $2 child.

PURIM CARNIVAL

Beth Sholom brotherhood and sisterhood Purim Carnival for kids of all ages, noon to 3 p.m. Prize for each child in costume.

JWI INSTALLATION

At Jewish Women International of Toronto's installation of officers for 1996/97, **Linda Mendelsohn**, president, and the outgoing executive will be honored for their year of service and **Barbara Swimmer**, incoming president, and the new executive will be installed, 11 a.m. Richmond Hill Country Club, 8905 Bathurst St. N., Richmond Hill.

PURIM CARNIVAL

Temple Sinai invites the community to the Fabulous Purim Carnival, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Proceeds support school bursary fund.

ISRAEL IN TRANSITION

First Narayever adult education Jerusalem 3000 series presents **Shira Herzog** speaking on Israel in Transition, 10 a.m., 187 Brunswick Ave.

KIDS PURIM CARNIVAL

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Young Families Group Children's Purim Carnival with Spiderman and Kimberly Power Ranger, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 633-3838.

ART AND MORE AUCTION

Shaar Shalom Synagogue's Art and More Auction, preview 6 p.m., auction 7:30, 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill. $5.

ALL ABOUT PR

Public relations expert **Linda Shapiro** talks about Who Needs Good PR? — Everybody, Even You, at Habonim Breakfast Club, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. $6 breakfast and lunch.

PURIM CELEBRATION

Kamin Education Centre Synagogue of Associated Hebrew Schools presents A Purim Celebration, with Mandell Entertainment Group, a concert with Barney, Associated Choir, 1-4:45 p.m., 300 Atkinson Ave. Thornhill. $4. **Ellen** 905-764-0390.

[Cont'd. on page 21]

food city Brings The Cost Of Keeping Kosher Down

Sun. 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., MON. - WED. 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., THURS. 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., FRI. 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., SAT., 8:00 A.M. - 10 P.M. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

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1st to 6th Rib
13.21 kg
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Assorted Varieties
Case of 12 x 284 - 300 mL btls.
2.99

Hadar, Kadem, Tirosh or Tempres Grape Juice
6.5 - 7 oz. btl.
.79

PRODUCE

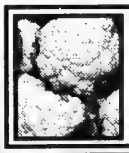
Red, Black or Green Seedless Grapes
Product of Chile, No. 1 Grade
2.18 kg
.99 lb.

Fresh Chickens
Kosher, Canada Grade A
4.39 kg
1.99 lb.

No Skin Good Snacks
Cheese Twists, Ranch Chips, Light Popcorn or Caramel Popcorn, 1 oz. bags
2/.99

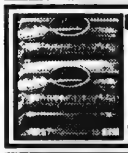
Lieber or Haddar Chips
Assorted Varieties, 6 x 1 oz. bag
2.29

Barney Cream Chocolate Bars
Assorted Varieties 85 g bar
2/.99

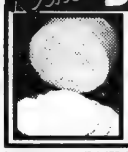


Cauliflower
Product of the U.S.A., Canada No. 1, each
1.49

Kosher DELI



Beef Frankfurters
Levitt's Kosher, Regular or BBQ
375 g pkg.
3.29

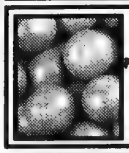


Turkey Roll
Levitt's, Smoked
3.08/100 g
13.99 lb.

Lieber or Elite Flake Bars
case of 24 x 21 g bars 10.99 or 21 g bar
2/.99

Kosher BAKERY

Hamantashen
Fresh Baked
Pkg. of 4
2.99



Honey Mandarins
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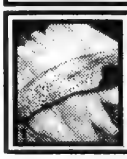

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Prices effective until closing Saturday, March 2, 1996. at CLARK & HILDA FOOD CITY, 441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

JEWISH STORYTELLING
Jewish storytelling at Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m. All welcome to listen or tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Monday, March 4

PURIMANIA
Come with noise makers and in costume to Anshe Minsk's Megillah reading, 6:30 p.m.. Then at 8 p.m., the Purim party, with dancing to live music of **Ron Wiseman**, the king of Jewish reggae. Suggested donation for party $10, children free. 10 St. Andrews St. Kensington Market. 595-5723.

MEGILLAH READING
Esther's Daughters present a Megillah reading chanted by women for all women in the Jewish community, klezmer band, dancing, 6:45 p.m. Barbara Frum Library, Room B. $10 at door BYOBook. **Rosemary Frei** 789-3448.

Tuesday, March 5

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT
Toronto ORT and State of Israel Bonds Women's Division Women of Achievement lecture series features global education consultant **Dorothy Golden Rosenberg**, 7:30 p.m. at the home of **Yvonne Fleck**, York Mills/Bayview area. Reserve, 787-0297.

BEIT HALOCHEM
New Leadership of Beit Halochem (Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel) open meeting to discuss spring events. Come and meet new people as you help raise funds for disabled Israeli war veterans, 7 p.m., party room, 10 Tangreen Ct. 488-7649.

Wednesday, March 6

A JEWISH FUTURE
Prof. Irving Abella discusses Creating a Jewish Future — Canada Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, 8 p.m. Pride of Israel, 59 Lissom Cres.

LUNCH AND LEARN
Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement presents The Music and the Man Behind the Music with Toronto Symphony concertmaster **Jacques Israelievitch** at noon. Bring your lunch. Coffee, cookies served. $1.

Thursday, March 7

CAMP SHOMRIA
Camp Shomria open house, hosted by the Gerichters at 30 Artreeva Dr., 7:30 p.m. Discuss questions and concerns with camp director **Yehuda Marle** and staff. Slides, video available. 736-1339.

ISRAELI FILMS
Israeli films (English subtitles) presented by University of Toronto Jewish Studies Program and the Jewish Student Union 5:30 p.m., Innis Town Hall, Innis College, 2 Sussex St. **Dina** 978-6600.

And What Else Is New...

THE MOURNER'S PATH
Dr. Simcha Paul Raphael, author of *Jewish Views of the Afterlife* and founding executive director of the Benjamin Institute for Community Education, is guest of Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel March 16-17 weekend. Saturday evening subject is Jewish Views of the Afterlife; Sunday he leads a workshop on emotional, psychological and spiritual issues emerging from loss. For those who work with the dying and bereaved or those who have been mourners themselves. Advance registration $36. 905-709-1900.

WALDMAN SCHOLARSHIP
The Dennis Waldman Foundation for Jewish Education is soliciting applications for the seventh Waldman Scholarship, to be awarded in June to a student graduating from a Jewish high school program and going on to university or yeshivah, or to a student graduating from a public high school intending to pursue a course of Jewish studies. Applications due by May 3. **Dr. Neil Waldman**, 635-9765.

CANDY TREES
Jordana-Yamit chapter of Hadassah-WIZO is selling candy trees for Purim. Send a sweet treat to a special friend or relative. Let your *mishloach manot* include attractively arranged kosher candy trees. $12. Free delivery. **Carol** 499-9534 or **Margi** 905-731-4227.

COUNSELLORS REQUIRED
Counsellors are being sought to work with special needs campers at day camps this summer. Information meeting Thursday, March 7, 7 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. 6th floor. **Nurit Adler** 638-7800.

NEWS FROM SOLEL
Solel, Mississauga, events: Purim Masquerade Ball, Saturday, March 2, 8 p.m.; Brotherhood Purim party and service, Monday, March 4, 6:45 p.m.; family services Friday, March 1, 15, 7:30 p.m. 10 a.m.; regular services Friday, March 8, 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 2, 9, 10 a.m. Tuesday morning minyan with breakfast 7 a.m. 905-820-5915.

NARAYEVER SINGERS
Narayever Community Singers, under the direction of **Brian Katz**, formed in 1991 by a group from Narayever Synagogue, welcomes new choir members. Group meets Thursdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. (except first Thursday of the month). Brian Katz, 656-5995.

JEWISH CIVIL RIGHTS
The Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada presents **Prof. Anne Bayefsky** discussing Discrimination Against Israel at the United Nations Today, at a luncheon Friday, March 15, noon, Park Plaza Hotel. $20. RSVP to **Flavia** 594-1812 no later than March 8.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Young Widows/Widowers Group, begins March 8; For Women Only (stress management, self-esteem, relationships), begins March 12. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

BEACH HEBREW INSTITUTE
Shabbat service Saturday, March 2, honoring International Women's Day with only women participating, sponsored by Women's Rosh Chodesh Group, 9:30 a.m., 109 Kenilworth Ave.

Also, erev Purim Children's Carnival Monday, March 4, 7 p.m., Megillah reading 7:30 p.m.

JUDEO-SPANISH CONCERT
La Rosa, a new work by Canadian composer **Milton Barnes** premiered by cellist **William Findlay** at Temple Emanu-El Shabbat service Friday, March 8, 8:30 p.m. Program also features **Cantor Anna Trubashnik**, mezzo soprano; **Beth Zeitlin**, flute; **Elliot Sairan**, guitar; Temple Choir under baton of music director **Amy Gilbert**.

SING-ALONG FOR KIDS
Kids are invited to join in a sing-along of Hebrew music. Knowledge of Hebrew not necessary. Sundays at noon at B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Cost is a loonie. 633-3988.

KENTON TINY TOTS 96/97
Kenton Tiny Tots co-op, sponsored by North York Parks and Recreation, for ages 2½-4, five mornings a week, explores Jewish holidays and the seasons through creative crafts, stories, indoor/outdoor play, kosher snacks, with music and creative movement specialists. $1,500 for the year. Registration Wednesday, March 6. **Leah** 631-9141.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
A special Shabbaton, as part of Jewish Awareness Month, March 8-9 at Adath Israel Congregation for university students who have a connection with the Conservative Movement, USY, Camp Ramah. Event is planned in conjunction with Koach and is sponsored by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, JSF, JSU and Hillel. **Rabbi Skobac** 512-0814.

For Seniors

A Time for Me, a personal growth workshop for seniors over 55. Discover strategies to help you look at life in new and rewarding ways. Co-sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service, Senior Care, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, Baycrest Centre, with support from Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. **Ann Gleberzon** 638-7830, ext. 799.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday night dances resume March 2; Purim party, Tuesday, March 5; movies resume Wednesday, March 6; dance with live band Sunday, March 10; bingo Tuesday, March 12; membership open ($12). 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays, 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). March 7, the video *The Best of Ed Sullivan Part II*. The March 3 Purim party has been cancelled. 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Purim program Tuesday, March 5, 1 p.m., **Rabbi Mark Dratch** speaks on Purim; Tulip Time Festival trip to Ottawa, May 14-16, filling up quickly; reservations being taken for Catskills Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre Hale and Hearty series with dietician/nutritionist **Sharon Zeiler**, Tuesdays March 5, 12, 19, 26, noon to 1 p.m. Register at Wellness Desk.

Low Vision Support Group meets Tuesday, March 5, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Israeli cultural club Etrog Purim party Wednesday, March 6, 7 p.m. with **Morris** and **Rachel Kastoryano**, accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**.

at the JCC/BJC

Institute for Jewish Learning course, Freedom! The Passover Experience with **Rabbi Ahron Hoch**, Wednesday evenings, March 6-27, at BJC. **Marlee Pinsker**, 636-1880, ext.352.

Visit New York on Victoria Day Weekend, May 17-20, with the Institute for Jewish Learning and Koffler Gallery. Visits include the Too Jewish exhibition at the Jewish Museum and the Storm King outdoor sculpture gardens. **Marlee Pinsker**.

BJC and Junior UJA Purim Extravaganza Sunday, March 3, 1-3 p.m. at BJC. 636-1880, ext. 284.

Celebrate Purim at the BJC Senior Adult Services luncheon, entertainment by **Osi Sladek**, Tuesday, March 5, 12:30 p.m. Advance tickets a must. **Teme**, 636-1880, ext. 364.

Bloor JCC Purim Carnival Sunday, March 3, The Story of Purim, storyteller **Justin Lewis** and actor **Alon Nashman** noon and 1:30 p.m. Parade 1 p.m. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Good Age Club Purim party, Thursday, March 7, 2 p.m., songs by **Rita Sue Fisher**. Non members $3. Tickets at JCC reception desk or call 924-6211.

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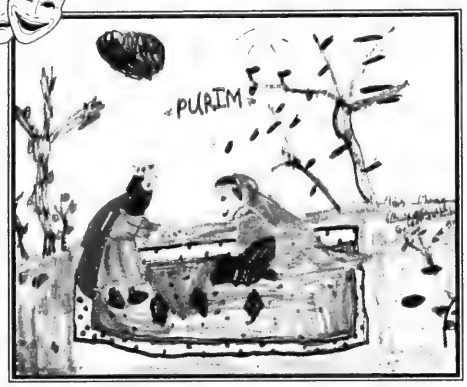
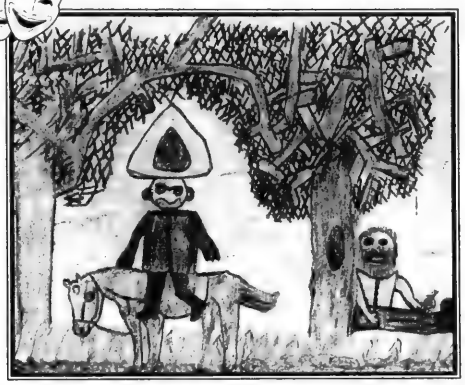
PURIM C

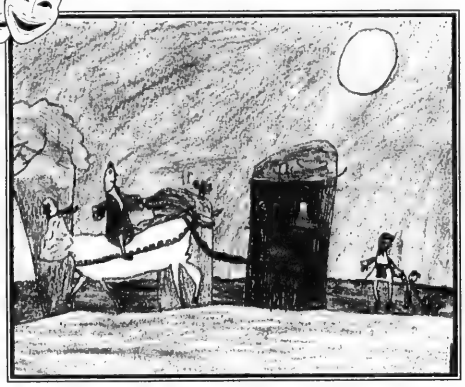
Honor Roll

Adler, Daniel
Anderson, Rachel
Arahams, Emily
Ash, Carly
Azoulay, Eric
Banner, Brandon
Banner, Jaclyn
Barch, Linzee
Baumander, Sandra
Baylin-Stern, Adam
Benlolo, Samantha Rivka
Bensimon, David
Bercovitch, Steph
Berenblut, Aaron
Berman, Bracha
Bernstein, Alan
Bernstein, Jennifer
Bernstein, Judy
Berton, Laura
Bibe, Jordan
Bistritz, Avrohom
Bistritz, Eliezer
Bordan, Sara
Bratin, Joel
Cartman, Gabriel
Cartu, David
Cohen, Hila
Cohen, Lawrence
Cohen, Samantha
Consky, Alex
Corcos, Julia Rachel
Daitch, Pamela
Dalfen, Farrah
Daly, Natalie
Daoud, Robert
Deitcher, Yigal
Dreyer, Natalie
Dyopf, Rebecca
Eisner-Levine, Michelle
Fineberg, Heather
Finewaz, Zachary
Finkleberg, Jessie-Lyn
Florans, Chaya
Foxer-Craft, Emily
Freiman, Jessica
Friede, Jody
Friede, Naomi
Friede, Simona
Friedman, Rivky
Friedman, Sarah
Fruchter, Orly
Fruchtman, Max
Gamble, Jeffrey
Garellek, Daniella
Ghoddoussi, Joshua
Goldrich, Kayla
Good, Shoshana
Good, Yitzchak
Green, Emily
Green, Sam
Griner, Jaclyn
Grossman, Aaron
Grossman, Michael
Hamilton, Kathleen
Hascalavici, Nachum
Hermelin, Michelle
Hill, Aaron
Honig, Daniel
Inhaber, Joshua
Isman, Miriam
Joshua
Judelson, Daniel
Kandelshein, Laura
Kendal, Sheera
Kichler, Marissa
Kichler, Sari
Klein, Jimmy
Kraus, Daniel
Lanton, Chagit
Lanton, Chaviva
Leutner, Ashley
Leutner, Michael
Levy, Noam
Levy, Samantha
Levy, Shira
Lieberman, Daniel
Lieberman, Jamie
Lightman, Deborah
Lithwick, Alexandra
Long, Rachel
Loterman, Elise
Loterman, Michelle
Ludman, Aaron
Ludman, Benjamin
Ludman, Shelley
Malca, Naomi
Martin, Jacob



Adam Mamane, Grade 1, St. Laurent


Benjamin Bloom, Grade 3, North York


Sara Waitzer, Grade 2, Dollard Des Ormeaux

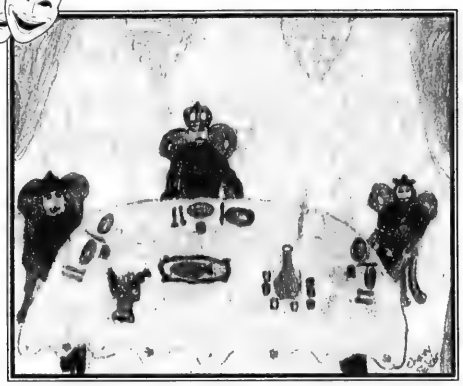
Kevin Goldstein, Grade 4, Montreal

Alex Newman, Grade 5, St. Catharines

Sarah Jill Rodan, Grade 4, Whitby

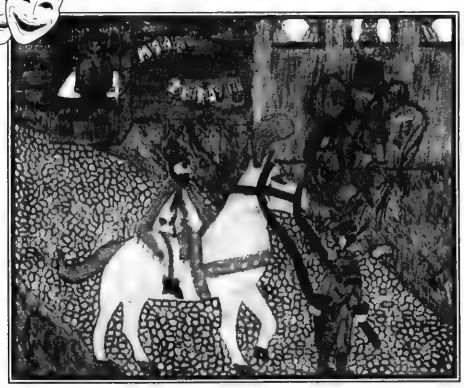
The Can
Jewis

CONTEST

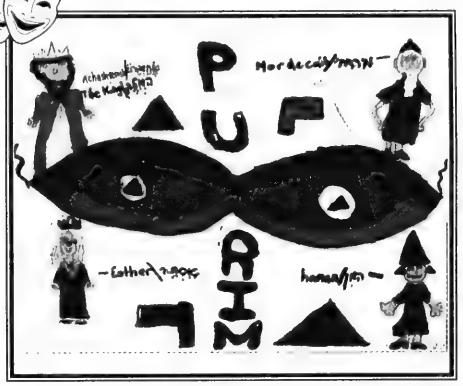


Chavy Salzer, Grade 1, Montreal

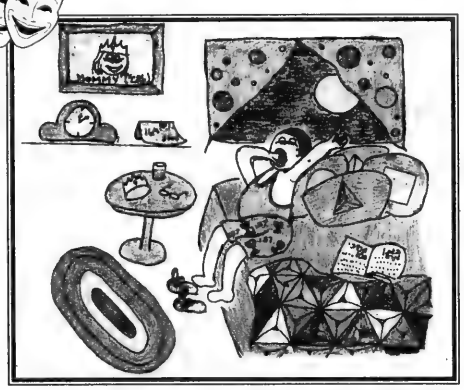
Dana Morenstein & Gillian Greenberg, Grade 2, Regina



Ruchy Salzer, Grade 6, Montreal



Stephanie Ellner & Jaclyn Luft, Grade 3, Montreal



Yaffa Levy, Grade 6, Kitchener

Eliana Diamond, Grade 5, Toronto

Matlow, Jeremy
Mendleson, Amy
Merion, Karen
Merion, Yoni
Merovitch, Mark
Mintz, Rebecca
Mitchell, Sarah
Mitchell, Talia
Mlotek, Erin
Mlotek, Haley
Muller, Courtney
Naijman, Melanie
Naiman, Rachel
Nathaniel, Ricky
Nemes, Ashley
Newman, Meagan
Newman, Mike
Norris, Ayah
O'Regan, Jordana
Panarello, Stephanie
Peerless, Yehudit
Pink, Emma
Pragaer, Jesse
Prayer, Sarah
Rapaport, Daniel
Richmond, Jackie
Rinkoff, Scott
Robins, Lindsay
Ronen, Michal
Rosenbaum, Jessica
Rosenberg, Robin
Rosenfeld, Jesse
Rosenthal, Raizel Sarah
Rossdeutscher, Faye
Rotberg, Ethan
Rowan, Erica
Roza, Charisse
Rubens, Samantha
Runcan, Julian
S., David
Sadavoy, Sarah
Saks, Brandon
Saks, Daniel
Saks, Matthew
Samosh, Daniel
Samuel, Sigal
Saul, Danielle
Sherman, Megan
Shlesinger, Mandi
Shlesinger, Shane
Silverman, Aaron
Silverman, Emily
Silverman, Kyle
Simpson, Jarrad
Sinervo, Kal
Solomon, Davida
Spatz, Joshua
Starkman, Samuel
Steen, Matt
Steinman, Joseph
Stemeroff, Noah
Stenge, Asher
Stober, Daniel
Stone, Carly
Stone, Ricki
Stoppel, Daniel
Switzman, Harris
Theobald, Carmen Horowitz
Thomas, Marissa B.
Tobis, Eddie
Tobis, Rachel
Tobis, Sherri
Trakman, Laura
Tsinman, Ava
Tsinman, Shira
Turk, Michael
Turk, Ryen
Turkel, Simon
Turkel, Tova
Ur, Ben
Vomberg, Aaron
Vomberg, Marni
Vomberg, Paul
Waitzer, Elizabeth
Wasser, Ezra
Wasser, Shoshana
Weinberg, Evan
Weiss, Shira
Winick, Warren
Wise, Amanda
Wise, Emily
Wronsberg, Jordan
Yafeh, Marlee
Yashayaeva, Emily
Zatzman, Elana
Zatzman, Renee
Zatzman, Rifkeh
Zilbert, Leah
Zlotnik, Josh

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Film Director, Irene Lilienheim Angelico

This powerful feature documentary explores the impact of the Holocaust on the post war generation of Jews and Germans.

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Sunday, March 3rd at 7:30 p.m.

Cost - $3.00 members **$5.00 non members**

Refreshments

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Purim Play & Comedy by the
"Not Ready for Purim Players"
The Light Side of the Other Side
or
Frum & Frumer: With Original Cast
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Admission: $5.00
• Come in Costume
• Refreshments
• Surprises

OHR SOMAYACH MEGILLAH READINGS:
MONDAY MARCH 4th
Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. West: 6:25PM
Forest Hill, 446 Spadina Rd, Forest Hill: 6:30PM

Don't miss our Purim Seudah on Tuesday, March 5, 4:30PM in Forest Hill with Rabbis Becher, Bratcowitz & Rothmanll!
$15 per person, $50 max per family
Reservations REQUIRED for seudah, Call (905) 886-5736

L'CHAIM

OHR SOMAYACH

London teen chess champ plays Spassky to a draw

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

LONDON — Liat Dobrishman, an Israeli-born public school student, was the youngest player to earn a draw with former world chess champion Boris Spassky at a match here in Westmount Mall. Spassky played 24 opponents simultaneously.

Liat Dobrishman playing 16 games simultaneously.

Liat, 13, a student in Grade 8 at Northridge Public School, teaches chess at Temple Israel where her family are members. She won the title for her age group at the Canadian Open Chess championship in London two years ago.

Liat's first chess teacher was her grandfather, Itzhak, who also lives in London. Her father, Lazar, a supervisor at Concord Elevators, and a part-time Hebrew teacher at Temple Israel, plays a little chess, but her mother, Riva, does not play at all.

The Dobrishmans were married in Russia and lived in Israel for 17 years in Rehovot, where Lazar was a physics and math teacher. Liat was eight when the family moved to Canada. The Dobrishmans also have a son, Yaakov, 28

"The house is full of trophies, cups and medals she won in chess tournaments," said her mother.

Liat plays the piano and is a good student, in addition to her chess wizardry. "One day she says she would like to be a teacher, and another day she wants to be a translator," her mother said. "I don't know what it will be tomorrow."

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Hiking, Learning, Working, Singing, Digging, Discussing, Exploring in Israel. Livnot U'Lehibanot, To Build and To Be Built. For young adults, 21-30. Scholarships still available for March 10. 212-752-2390.

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The 3rd annual **Jewish Bachelor and Silent Auction** for Anshei Minsk Synagogue promises to be *the* event! **Thursday, March 21, 1996** at Paradise Banquet & Convention Centre, 7601 Jane Street (just north of Steeles). Call: 416-410-5677 and reserve your tickets! They are selling quickly!

W.O.W. - Widows or Widowers, 45-60, celebrate our Third Anniversary, Mar. 23, 1996, For more info. Call Annette, 398-7477 or Louie, 496-2159.

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Jerusalem 3000 focus of Negev Dinner

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The Jewish National Fund (JNF) Pacific region's Negev Dinner takes on a different twist this year. Instead of having an honoree, the dinner will pay tribute to the city of Jerusalem "for 3,000 years the heart and soul of the Jewish people and the capital of the State of Israel."

The dinner is scheduled for March 31 at the Four Seasons Hotel. Guest speaker will be Moshe Rivlin, world chair of the JNF since 1977.

Funds raised will go towards a park to be built by the JNF in an undeveloped section in the southwestern part of Jerusalem. It is to include a huge outdoor amphitheatre and recreation site, and is expected to accommodate up to 40,000 people.

Dinner funds will also help the Gan Yaldei Yisrael (Israel children's garden) in the Jerusalem Peace Forest, a green belt in a more central part of the city.

Jack Diamond, 1991 honoree, will serve as honorary dinner chair, with past regional chair Norman Gold as dinner committee chair.

Entertainment will be provided by DuDu Fisher, an Israeli TV star, who began his singing career as a cantor and has performed lead roles in Tel Aviv and London, and on Broadway. In 1989, he gave a command performance in the lead role of *Les Miserables* for Queen Elizabeth II.

Fisher has recorded 14 albums of cantorial, Israeli and Yiddish music, and will be playing the lead in *Phantom of the Opera* in London.

Mel Sprackman will be master of ceremonies at the dinner and members of the committee include Naomi Frankenburg, national chair of Jerusalem 3000, and Gary Averbach, Bonnie Belzberg, Harvey Dales, Ruth Freeman, Bill Gruenthal, Shirley Schwartz and Irving Sirlin.

The best part about telling the truth is that you don't have to remember what you said.

From coast to coast

Multicultural diversity helps makes Canada a top country, says Fry

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Canada is rated as one of the best countries to live in and part of that reputation stems from the diversity of the population, the cosmopolitan nature of the cities and "our willingness to contribute collectively to the essence of being Canadian," says Hedy Fry, federal secretary of state for multiculturalism.

Recently appointed to her ministerial post, Fry, a Vancouver MP, spoke at the proclamation of Multiculturalism Week in British Columbia, Feb. 18 to 24.

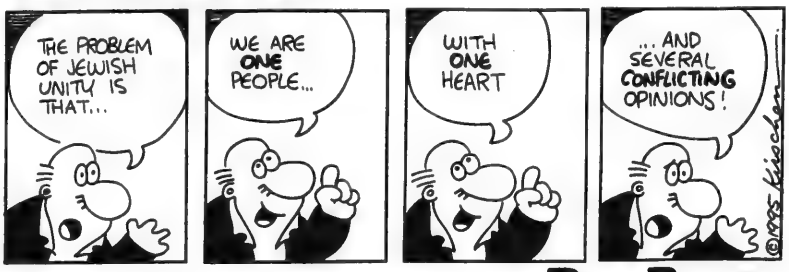
Canada believes strongly "in equality of opportunity, of citizen participation, contribution and partnership, not only as a matter of justice and fairness but of necessity, as we evolve as a nation and as we build a strong Canadian society," she said.

Multiculturalism "is an instrument of positive change in our society," she said. Multiculturalism is not about creating or encouraging differences. It is about "removing barriers of discrimination and misunderstanding, which stand in the way of acceptance and mutual respect. It is about fostering a sense of belonging and demonstrating how Canada's diversity is part of our strength."

Under the Charter of Rights and the Constitution, Canada is a country which embraces cultural, linguistic and regional diversity, she stressed. "We are all equal under the law, no matter if we are native born or naturalized Canadians like myself."

Fry pledged full support in the task of promoting racial harmony and the acceptance of other cultures in the community.

Multiculturalism Week was proclaimed officially by Ujal Dosanjh, the B.C. multicultural minister, and by Vancouver Mayor Philip Owen.



Dry Bones

Election a battle of peace patriots

[Cont'd. from page 3]

"The election is a battle between the patriots of peace and the protectors of national survival."

Looking to the future, he said, "Israel is going to need all the help it can get from the Diaspora. I fundamentally reject the notion that we don't need the Diaspora. We are going into the most difficult diplomatic period in our history."

Canadians have an important role to play in lobbying the government to support Israel's position in coming negotiations, said Marty Goldberg, president, Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University.

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12:40 PM	PICK UP AT JCC, 4588 Bathurst St. (at main entrance)	12:45 PM	PICK UP AT B'nai Brith Building 4266 Bathurst (on Reiner Rd.)	1:00 PM	ARRIVES AT SUNNYBROOK	2:00 PM	DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK				

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Leukemia patients to benefit from Roifman's efforts

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When he was a child in Israel, Dr. Chaim Roifman never had to choose what he wanted to do when he grew up. He always knew he wanted to be a doctor and to be involved in science.

Canada, and indeed the world, will now benefit from Roifman's dedication.

Head of the Immunology and Allergy Division at the Hospital for Sick Children and associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Toronto, he and his research team have developed a promising treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia, the most common form of childhood cancer.

Roifman explained to *The CJN* in a recent interview that for some eight to 10 years, research has been going on to try to find what prevents immune cells from growing (causing the so-called bubble babies, who have no immune system at all) and conversely, what causes cancer cells to grow without any control at all.

"We hypothesized that there must be a series of enzymes responsible for signalling the cells to grow [properly] that might have mutated in some way to cause either of these conditions."

The research conducted at the Hospital for Sick Children found that the enzyme Jak-2, which acts as a transmitter of cell growth signals, is overabundant and abnormally active in recurrent leukemia cells. This, a hospital media release noted, causes the leukemia cells to reproduce uncontrollably.

The next step was to try to isolate a compound which could block Jak-2's functioning. Very recently, research in mice proved that AG-490, a compound prepared by Drs. Alexander Levitzki and Aviv Gazit of the Hebrew University, blocked Jak-2 and killed leukemia cells, while not affecting other enzymes.

AG-490, then, Roifman said, appears very promising as a cure for acute lymphoblastic leukemia, as well as for other kinds of cancers.

When the research team realized that their work had been successful, "there was tremendous excitement," he said.

"For a year and a half, this group of dedicated people didn't come to work — they came to a mission. They came early, stayed late and worked weekends. They had a sense that they were achieving something important."

The task now is to create and test AG-490 on humans, a monumental effort that may take as long as five years and $10 to $15 million.

Roifman is not prepared to sit back and wait for the government to provide research funds.

"There is no doubt that there has been a dramatic decrease in government funding. Governments now don't have the means — they have other priorities," he said. "When people are laid off work, welfare has been cut and people have day to day needs, we can't complain about less research funding."

The scientific community has to be more aggressive in soliciting industry and direct community support, he said, noting that he had so far received grants from the Medical Research Council, from a drug company and from the Reichman family.

Dr. Chaim Roifman

"We should never give up the dream of doing excellent research," he said.

"Real breakthroughs start with a dream. If a young person has a dream and is determined to achieve that goal, sometimes it's not the ultimate achievement, but the trip that gives meaningful satisfaction in your life. It's nice to get to what you want to achieve, but the real thrill is the years of doing something you actually want to do."

Roifman gives credit to his wife Perach, a Hebrew teacher at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, and his three children, for his accomplishments.

"Without the support of an excellent wife, I wouldn't have gotten where I am. My children sacrificed as well. For the past 10 years, they saw little of me. I think they felt that I was doing some work that might be worth that sacrifice. But I suppose I will always feel guilty about that."

Another strong influence on his life, Roifman said, is the fact that he is the child of Holocaust survivors, who attended school in Israel and served in the army there.

"Is there a link between being the child of survivors and the tenacity to achieve mixed with Israeli chutzpah that leads to another level, a higher level? You tell me."

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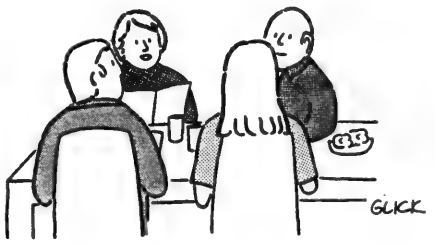

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Suicide terrorists heighten security concerns

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The ability of Israel and the Palestinian Authority to prevent attacks by Islamic extremists has been thrown into question by this week's twin suicide bombings in Jerusalem and Ashkelon.

The bombings — the bloodiest since Israel and the Palestinians signed the historic Declaration of Principles in September 1993 — left questions about how both sides handle security, the peace process' raison d'etre for many Israelis.

Sunday's attacks came only days after Israel lifted the closure it imposed Feb. 12 on the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the wake of reports that Hamas was planning to avenge the Jan. 5 Gaza Strip killing of master bombmaker Yehiya Ayyash, also known as ``The Engineer.''

Israeli officials, who neither confirmed nor denied Hamas allegations that the Jewish state was behind Ayyash's death, began easing the closure Feb. 15 to allow Palestinians older than 30 to return to their jobs in Israel. The closure was lifted entirely last Friday.

The deadly bombings — which struck a bus in the heart of Jerusalem and a soldiers' hitchhiking station near Ashkelon, killing 27 people and wounding more than 50 — came after security sources had warned not only about the possibility that militants would avenge Ayyash's death, but that they also would mark the second anniversary of the slaying of 29 Palestinian worshipers at a Hebron mosque by Jewish settler Dr. Baruch Goldstein.

But in the aftermath of the bombings, the Israel Defence Force chief of staff, Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, dismissed suggestions that Israeli security forces should have been more alert in the wake of the lifting of the closure.

"If it wasn't the 50th day [since Ayyash's death] it would have been the 60th," he told reporters. " Hamas does not need excuses.

"It has declared that it will act against us."

Police Commissioner Assaf Hefetz likewise said security and political measures were being taken to combat terrorism, adding that the lifting of the closure and Sunday's attacks were not necessarily linked.

"Just because there was an attack immediately after the lifting of the closure does not mean it was because it was lifted," he told Israel Radio.

In the Jerusalem attack on a No. 18 bus, a suicide bomber with a 22-pound bomb filled with nails and ball bearings killed 23 people and wounded at least 50 others, 10 of them seriously. Two Americans were among those killed.

The attack came during Israel's early morning rush hour, as the bus waited at a traffic light at Jaffa and Sarei Yisrael streets, some 900 feet from the central bus station.

The blast destroyed the bus, leaving only a blackened, twisted frame. It damaged another local bus, No. 36, which was waiting behind it, as well as seven cars near the blast.

The second attack occurred in Ashkelon, less than an hour later, at a hitchhiking stop for soldiers.

The suicide bomber in that attack killed two people and wounded 29, including six who were in serious condition.

The attack was reportedly carried out by a terrorist dressed in an Israeli army uniform who mingled with soldiers waiting for rides.

Hamas claimed responsibility for the attacks in a leaflet distributed and signed by the "cell of the new students of Yehiya Ayyash."

The attacks came after a six-month halt by Hamas, which last attacked an Israeli target August 21, when a suicide bomber detonated an explosion on the No. 26 bus in Jerusalem's northern neighborhood of Ramat Eshkol, killing four people.

Sunday's bombings generated questions about the Palestinian Authority's ability to control Hamas terrorists.

Israeli intelligence officials briefing the Cabinet on Sunday repeated their assessment that the Palestinian Authority was not doing enough to get at the infrastructure of Hamas and the other fundamentalist groups.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, briefing reporters after Sunday's attacks, said he had telephoned Palestinian Council President Yasser Arafat and demanded that the Palestinian Authority stop the militants from carrying out their deadly missions.

An Israeli policeman passes the covered bodies of four of the victims killed when a powerful explosion ripped apart an inner-city bus. [RNS photo]

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Leona Finkler ז"ל

Former President, Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University
and
Vice-Chairman of the Bar-Ilan University Global Board of Trustees

Along with her late husband, Arnold, Leona Finkler devoted herself to the cause of higher education and scientific research through Bar-Ilan University

Among her accomplishments:
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The Arnold and Leona Finkler Hall of Human Rights
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The Marilyn Finkler Cancer Research Center

We extend deepest condolences to Patty, Allan, Jeffrey and Marla Friedland, Ben and Sonia Lant, Irene Goldkorn and the entire family

May they be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

Police and rescue workers comb the wreckage of the bus looking for clues. [RNS photo]

Not a time for politics, says Likud leader

By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu issued a statement calling on Likud activists to refrain from holding demonstrations for the next two days, out of respect for the period of national mourning.

"On the day of such a terrible disaster, when terror strikes at the heart of Jerusalem and Ashkelon, it is fitting to unite the people in mourning and express the hope of achieving real peace and security. We won't enter into a political battle on a day like today. This is a day for uniting the ranks and that's how we'll act," Netanyahu said.

The National Religious Party (NRP) called on all parties to "refrain from turning this terrible tragedy into political currency."

"At this difficult time of sorrow and suffering, political criticism should not be sharpened," said NRP leader Zevulun Hammer. "Blown-up buses and dismembered bodies cannot serve as fuel for the primary election races."

Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan said the attacks "proved that Prime Minister Shimon Peres does not know how to fight this murderous terror and is leading the country to an impossible and false peace with terrorists, with encouragement from Meretz." He called for an unlimited closure of the territories.

MK Hanan Porat (NRP) called on Peres not to give up control of Hebron and the surrounding areas, from which, he said, terrorist cells operate.

MK David Levy, leader of the newly formed Gesher party, called on Peres to halt the talks with the Palestinians until they prove they are dealing with the Hamas and Islamic Jihad terror infrastructure.

"When there was no partner and no peace process, you could say this was the price. When there is a partner and he knows of the existence of this terror infrastructure, the government must put him to the test. You can't keep saying again and again, in the name of peace, that this is the price," Levy said.

Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi criticized the government for lifting the closure on Friday, saying it only invited the terrorists to attack. "If the government says it is stopping the talks, it is only to keep the public quiet by showing it has done something. The talks on selling Jerusalem will go on far from here in Europe," he said.

He called for an immediate closure of the territories, a halt to the "false peace process and the giving away of Eretz Yisrael to terrorists. The terror won't stop. Unless we sober up, this is not the last bus to explode."

Meretz canceled its primaries, scheduled for yesterday. "We can't just go on as if it were business as usual," said party leader Yossi Sarid.

Speaker Shevah Weiss issued a statement in the name of the Knesset expressing "deep shock and condemnation," condolences to the families of the dead and wishes for the speedy recovery of the injured.

The Knesset marked a day of mourning on Monday.

U.S. to press Arafat to fight terrorism

By HILLEL KUTTLER and DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Clinton administration indicated last Sunday that it is dissatisfied with Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat's efforts to crack down on terrorism, and it is increasing pressure on him to do so.

Messages and calls of condolences poured into the Prime Minister's Office, with Arafat being the first to phone.

In public remarks, Arafat said the attack was an assault against the entire peace process: "This is not a military operation. This is a terrorist operation. I condemn it completely. It is not against only civilians, but against the whole peace process. I send my condolences to the families of the victims and to Prime Minister Shimon Peres."

In a statement offering condolences to the families of the victims, President Bill Clinton said that such acts "must not only be condemned, they must be brought to an end."

In his statement, Clinton called the bombings "brutal acts of terror" that "offend the conscience of the world."

Speaking to reporters before heading to Britain on a private visit, Jordan's King Hussein said, "My feeling is one of bitterness and disgust. It's an effort to blow up the peace process and derail it, and its victims are innocent people here and there," he said.

Both Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Karim Abdul Kabiriti also contacted Peres and publicly deplored the attack. Kabiriti then made a call to Arafat and urged him to do everything possible against terror.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak also called Peres, offering his condolences. British Prime Minister John Major cabled Peres, noting that London has also suffered terrorism in recent days, but that Israel should not be deterred from peace.

Condolence messages were also sent by the foreign ministers of France, the Netherlands, Norway, and Cyprus.

POSTPONEMENT NOTICE

The Officers and Directors of the Canada-Israel Committee regret to inform you that the CIC Parliamentary Dinner & Policy Conference scheduled for March 19, 1996 has been postponed. The decision to advance the parliamentary elections in Israel has now precluded the participation of the event's guest of honour, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

The Canada-Israel Committee apologizes for any inconvenience this development may have caused. You will be advised of the new date for this dinner and conference at the earliest possible opportunity. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

All delegates registration fees received will be promptly refunded.
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'Stunned by the daring and the capability'

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Security officials said they were not surprised by the twin attacks, but were stunned by the daring and capability of the terrorists.

"They have advanced another step," said Karmi Gillon, former head of the General Security Service (GSS).

Gillon told Channel 1 that the number of terror attacks has dropped by 70 percent since Yasser Arafat's arrival in Gaza, and that since April 1995, Arafat has done substantially more, foiling several terror attacks. He cited cooperation between Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) security apparatus as a positive factor, while admitting that Israel's own intelligence network has been hurt following the IDF's pullout from population centres in the territories.

At the same time, he echoed the assessment of Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidror, deputy chief of IDF Intelligence, who told the cabinet Sunday that Arafat has yet to "root out the terrorist infrastructure."

The infrastructure is critical, as it takes many people to perform a variety of tasks before a suicide bomber blows himself up, Gillon said.

The question, officials said, is whether Hamas regards the bombings as a settling of scores for the assassination of Yehiye Ayyash or whether the success would prompt a wave of attacks.

Security officials had expected Hamas to retaliate for the assassination of Ayyash in January, despite a PA pledge to prevent terrorism. Israel imposed a closure on the territories for most of the past seven weeks to prevent the attacks promised by Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

But as time went on, security sources said, political pressure to lift the closure increased. Officials dealing with the Palestinians warned of heightened tensions unless Arab laborers were allowed in to work.

Security officials were embarrassed by the insistence of government leaders that they recommend the lifting of the closure last Friday, a move that some sources maintain resulted in the decision by Hamas to send in the suicide bombers. Some officials, particularly in the police and GSS, asserted that they consistently opposed lifting the closure, but their influence is limited.

The assessment of security sources is that the suicide bombers were probably ordered to attack at a suitable site closest to the Green Line, to avoid delay and possible detection. Hamas agents were said to have prepared the bombs and funding for the operation weeks ago, but waited for the recruitment of the suicide attackers as well as the right date — the second anniversary of the Machpelah massacre.

Some security officials said that the seven-month lull in suicide bombings represented more of a Hamas decision to lower its profile rather than the ability of the authorities to eliminate the terrorist network.

They acknowledged that despite the PA's success in foiling several suicide bombers, Palestinian forces have left Hamas's military organization intact.

This includes the support system to recruit suicide bombers and other attackers, and the money to pay them and their families and to obtain the guns and explosives needed.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres acknowledged that at the urging of the GSS, he asked PA President Yasser Arafat to arrest a list of suspected Hamas terrorist leaders, including followers of Ayyash, who were planning a new outrage. Arafat, the security sources said, did nothing.

More Hamas murders

[Cont'd. from page 1]

And more quietly. There were no massive demonstrations. Opposition party leaders called for restraint, not wishing to rekindle the ugly protests that preceded Yitzhak Rabin's murder. But it's not clear that they had to make this plea at all. Many Israelis seemed to be looking inward.

On a Tel Aviv-Jerusalem bus, there was a hushed silence as the radio carried updates of the death toll. Only one passenger broke the silence and sobbed out loud.

"People feel despair," says Israel Harel, a right-wing commentator. "They feel there is nothing they can do."

"People have just sobered up," counters Prof. Shlomo Ben-Ami, a Labor party candidate. "They recognize that there is no simple solution to the problem."

And maybe they are just numb. There is a dulling sense of deja vu after the 13th suicide bombing in two years. There is a predictable series of rituals that follow each attack.

The radio plays a familiar selection of melancholy music between the updates on the number of dead and wounded.

The schools observe a minute of silence, followed by a special discussion with students. For some children, it is already the fourth or fifth such talk. Many are too frightened to take buses.

And on Monday morning, the front pages of the major dailies display the faces of the dead. Most of the victims of the attacks in Jerusalem and Ashkelon are under 21 years old. The bombers prefer Sunday because the buses are packed with young soldiers returning to their bases after the weekend.

The rows of youthful faces are a reminder of other Sunday attacks like the one at Beit Lid.

This time, it's a 19-year-old girl who was to be married in the summer. Instead of a wedding, her mother is planning her funeral. This time, it's a journalist who shows up at the site of the bombing, not knowing that his son is buried somewhere beneath the rubble. This time, it's a widow who loses her only child. Another 27 faces. Another Black Sunday.

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LEONA FINKLER ז"ל

Bar-Ilan University in Israel and its American Friends mourn the passing of one of the most committed leaders in its 40 year history, Dr. Leona Finkler. She, and her beloved husband, Arnold, were honorary alumni of our university. Both were members of the Global Board of Trustees and chairpersons of the Canadian Friends. At Bar-Ilan, they established one of the first Institutes for Holocaust Studies in the world, which proudly bears their name. They also built the Marilyn Finkler Memorial for Research on Cancer and AIDS and the celebrated "Hall of Rights" in the Emanuel Rackman Law Center. However, while these gifts attest to their generosity and self sacrifice, they cannot possibly convey the love that they generated, the friendships they inspired and the concern that was theirs for humanity in general and Jews and Judaism in particular.

To Patricia Friedland, their surviving daughter, and her beloved husband, Allan, we extend our condolences. Patricia is a member of our Global Board and with her and Allan we will continue to build and fashion a school in the image of her parents. This is the challenge of our present bereavement. May we all derive solace from inspiring memories and continue in our work together in G-d's vineyard

Prof. Moshe Kaveh, *President and* Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, *Chancellor*
Mrs. Jane Stern Lebell, *President,* American Board of Overseers
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Israel

ELECTION NOTEBOOK

Sarid Elected Meretz Leader

JERUSALEM — Environment Minister Yossi Sarid was unanimously elected Meretz chairman by the movement's 900 council members last week.

The council also bid farewell to outgoing chairman Shulamit Aloni, who is retiring from political life after 31 years in the Knesset. Aloni officially announced she would not set up an independent party, and led Meretz leaders to believe they could count on her support in the election campaign.

Levy Launches New Gesher Party

JERUSALEM — Last week MK David Levy officially launched his new party, Gesher (Bridge). He announced that after the elections he will be a partner to any Labor or Likud government that accepts Gesher's principles.

Presenting his new party at a press conference in Tel Aviv's Beit Sokolow, Levy dismissed surveys predicting him winning two to three mandates, stating that "according to our surveys, we have a potential of 20 percent of the undecided voters, which means seven to 10 mandates.

"Mark my words: No new government will be formed without us," Levy declared.

Foreign Leaders May Be Asked To Stay Home

JERUSALEM — The Foreign Ministry is weighing whether to ask foreign dignitaries to delay their trips here until after the elections to avoid a diplomatic confrontation over visits to Orient House, Foreign Ministry officials indicated.

It is possible that even in the absence of an explicit Foreign Ministry appeal, foreign officials would decide not to visit during the election campaign, should Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal ban visits to Orient House.

Candidates' List Causes Row In Likud Party

JERUSALEM — Likud officials charged the Israeli media last week with exaggerating a reported rift in the party between leader Benjamin Netanyahu and Knesset member Dan Meridor.

Reports of the rift came in the wake of the publication this week of a list of recommended Likud candidates in the primaries, which did not include Meridor or Knesset member Ehud Olmert, the mayor of Jerusalem.

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu (left) signing the election agreement with Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan. [Israel photo]

The Week in Israel

Feb. 19

• The Arrow II anti-tank missile was successfully test-launched, yet again, in Israel. American officials in charge of the missile's development, were on hand for the test.

• Interior Minister Haim Ramon announced that he intends to approve the construction of 6,500 apartment units in the Har Homa neighborhood in southern Jerusalem.

Feb. 20

• Knesset members from religious parties complied with an appeal by Justice Minister David Libai to postpone a vote on legislation governing Jewish conversions.

• Deputy Defence Minister Ori Orr said that the redeployment of the IDF from parts of Hebron will be carried out according to the date specified in the Interim Agreement and will not be linked to the date of Knesset elections.

Feb. 21

• The date for elections was finally settled as May 29.

• *Davar Rishon* reported that Yasser Arafat is likely to agree to a request from Israel that the resumption of talks on a "final status" peace agreement be delayed until after the Israeli elections.

Feb. 22

• *Yediot Aharonot* reported that a cooperation agreement between the IDF and the Turkish army would be signed in Israel during the visit of Turkey's chief of staff. The visit came on the eve of the formation of a new coalition government in Turkey, which includes an extremist Muslim party.

Feb. 23

• Friday's *Yediot Aharonot* poll reported that Prime Minister Shimon Peres enjoys 49 percent support among the electorate compared to 34 percent for Benjamin Netanyahu and five percent for David Levy.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• More than 5,000 people were expected to attend the Conference of the International Christian Embassy held in Jerusalem throughout the week.

Arafat condemns bombings; sends his condolences

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat condemned the bombings as "terrorist operations" and sent his condolences to the Israeli people. But is he himself doing enough to stop terror?

Foreign Minister Ehud Barak and former General Security Service head Karmi Gillon said Sunday that Arafat's police have prevented at least five attacks, but he has failed to dismantle the infrastructure of Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas.

Arafat admits as much, saying it is too risky, and has tried to reach understandings whereby Hamas, his main political opposition, will handle Izzadin Kassam.

He has been more direct with Islamic Jihad, which has no substantial political wing. Three weeks ago, his police shot down two members wanted by Israel for last year's Beit Lid bombing, and when Israel was presumed responsible for killing Jihad leader Fathi Shikaki in Malta, he did not shed a public tear.

However, with Hamas, the game is more subtle. Arafat claimed he reached a verbal understanding with Hamas which has prevented suicide attacks against Israel since August. Then came the assassination of Yehiya Ayyash, the Hamas bomb-maker. Hamas stopped cooperating and swore revenge. If Arafat's police thwarted Izzadin Kassam attacks, as Israel agrees it did, the police must have been tipped off by Hamas informants. So, when Israel was blamed for killing Ayyash, Arafat's praise of "The Engineer" as a prince of martyrs was simply a damage-control operation.

According to Gillon, Arafat began dealing more forcefully with Izzadin Kassam last April. That was when the Oslo 2 talks emerged from their slump, and then foreign minister Shimon Peres began issuing target dates for their completion.

Since April, there had been only two suicide attacks, one in Ramat Gan which Izzadin Kassam was reluctant to take credit for, and one in Jerusalem that was widely condemned by Palestinians. Meanwhile, Arafat built up his authority. The Oslo 2 agreement was completed. Elections loomed and Arafat expected easy victory, which would be sweeter if Hamas ran, too. The trauma of Ayyash's death passed. Hamas was seen to be an even smaller threat than expected, and Arafat enjoyed a convincing election victory.

Today, Arafat's position is much stronger than it was a year ago.

Hamas is torn between Izzadin Kassam and joining the peace talks. Hebron, a bastion of Hamas, is to be evacuated in one month, and Peres stands for re-election in May. Terror can in no way help Arafat, Hamas or the peace process.

If the attack was meant as a one-time atrocity to avenge Ayyash, with widespread acceptance by Palestinians, Arafat will probably let it pass as a blow aimed at Israel rather than himself. But if it means Hamas has reneged on its agreement to rein in Izzadin Kassam, he has no good political reason to tread softly with Hamas.

A Jewish medic uses a spatula to scrape blood off the road where one of the victims was flung. [RNS photo]

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Jewish content mars play's excellence

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — No one can argue that modern Israel and its relationship to Diaspora Jews is not good material for drama. On the other hand, Jason Sherman's *Retreat* at the Tarragon Theatre until March 17 uses the Israeli connection as window dressing for a play about a couple having an extra-marital affair and a wheeler-dealer film mogul using that affair to exact revenge on his partner.

The pre-show hype on *Retreat* was all about Rachel, a Hebrew school teacher who was in trouble for her views on doings in Israel.

So this reviewer poses a question: Does Sherman write in the Jewish characters, particularly the wheeler-dealer Jeff and his questionable Jewish jokes, because it is good box office?

Rather offensive

For my part, I found the references to Forest Hill Jews and the Jewish presence in movie making rather offensive, and only partly offset by the accurate depiction of Rachel's father as an Israeli pioneer bereft by current events.

It's not that Sherman can't write riveting dialogue, as he proves in *Retreat* and as he proved in an earlier play, *The Trouble with Pamela*, which has nary a Jewish character.

And it's not that Sherman doesn't understand the excruciating questions some Jews have about events in Israel, which form the subject of most of his plays.

What troubles this reviewer is the easy laughs Sherman draws at Jewish expense and the enthusiasm with which the audience greeted them. I don't think I'm being overly sensitive because I have given good reviews to plays which skewer Jewish lifestyles that are legitimate targets for satire.

With that off my chest, I can say that, with one exception, *Retreat* is a brilliantly written and acted examination of loyalty, deception and betrayal in the lives of four people.

Acting honors should go to Peter Hutt as the unlikable TV film producer, followed closely by Joseph Zigler as the more idealistic writer and Aron Tager as the ailing Israeli. Sarah Orenstein fails in the character of Rachel, being far too skittish to be credible as a dedicated Hebrew teacher manipulated by two warring film types.

Sarah Orenstein and Aron Tager star in Jason Sherman's The Retreat.

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Show honors Ed Mirvish

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — There's no business like show business. Ask Toronto entrepreneur Ed Mirvish, owner of Honest Eds at Bloor and Bathurst, the Royal Alexandra and Princess of Wales Theatres on King Street and the Old Vic in England.

"It's a privilege and wonderful to be part of the theatre industry, but I wouldn't give up my day job," he said. "The theatre business is very risky. The bargains will be here when I wake up."

Mirvish, who restored the Royal Alex, built the Princess of Wales and bankrolled such high profile Toronto productions as *Les Miserables*, *Miss Saigon*, *Tommy* and *Crazy For You*, will be honored for his contribution to Canadian theatre on March 4 at a gala variety show at the Princess of Wales.

Performers will include some of this country's best-known actors, among them Gordon Pinsent, Cynthia Dale and Don Harron. The Canadian cast will be joined by American stars Donald O'Connor, who starred in the musical *Say Hello to Harvey* at the Royal Alex in 1982, and Hal Linden, who is best known for his role on the television series *Barney Miller*. Linden was featured in the 1965 production of *Guys and Dolls* at the Royal Alex.

Ed Mirvish will be honored at a gala variety show.

The people working on the show — an estimated 150 — are very enthusiastic, said Ernie Rubenstein, the show's producer. "They want it to be wonderful for Ed."

He said working on the show is a way to thank Mirvish and his son, David, for their support over the years.

Show director Kelly Robinson also said he is grateful for the opportunities Mirvish has given him and many other Canadians in theatre.

Grateful for his support

Mirvish is known for his zany sense of humor; over the years his promotions and legendary publicity stunts — such as 72-hour dance marathons and give-aways — for Honest Ed's generated a lot of media attention — and sales.

His formal foray into show business began with his 1962 purchase of the Royal Alex — at a bargain price of course. He paid $200,000, less than one-third of what it cost to build the theatre in 1907.

After refurbishing the Royal Alex, Mirvish converted the adjoining building into a restaurant for theatre-goers. Since then, the area has developed into a diversified entertainment district.

Proceeds from the event, which includes a party at Ed's Warehouse, will be going in part to the Mirvish fund for oncology at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. For more information call 416-872-1212.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Bronfman Documentary: An upcoming CBC documentary tells the rags-to-riches story of the Bronfmans, one of Canada's best-known and wealthiest families.

In Yiddish, Bronfman means Whisky Man, the name attributed to Sam Bronfman as a child by jeering classmates. Following his namesake and determined to overcome his poor Russian immigrant beginnings, Bronfman and his brothers started from scratch by making whisky in a warehouse in Yorkton, Sask.

The Bronfman empire flourished, selling liquor to American bootleggers during the 1920s prohibition years. By the time he died in 1971, Bronfman was a billionaire in control of the world's largest distillery. Today, Seagram is a global, diversified corporation, dealing in whisky, champagne, cognac – and now the entertainment industry, with the purchase of MCA/Universal Studios at a price of $5.7 billion (US).

Samuel Bronfman

Whisky Man: Inside the Dynasty of Samuel Bronfman captures Samuel Bronfman's private side in home movies and interviews with close family members. Directed by David Paperny, the documentary reveals the complex world of a legendary Montreal businessman who, while devoted to his family, was known to be consumed by work and subject to an explosive temper.

Tune in to CBC's *Witness*, March 5 at 9 p.m.

* * *

Yiddish Theatre & Song: Folksinger Naomi Bell and actress Gloria Valentine offer two four-session courses this spring in association with the Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS).

Valentine's Yiddish Theatre Workshop helps participants develop stage confidence by reading, interpreting, acting and telling stories in Yiddish. Classes are April 1, 15, 22 & 29 at 7:30 p.m. 416-638-2222.

Bell's Yiddish Folksongs to Sing & Understand helps participants learn and understand dozens of songs; music and texts provided. Classes are May 1, 8, 15 & 22 at 8.15 p.m. 416-633-3416.

The fee for each course is $50 ($40 for JASS members) and classes take place at Earl Bales Park Community Centre, North York.

* * *

Holocaust-Related Events: Ronny Loewy of Frankfurt's Fritz Bauer Institut discusses the role of the German Holocaust Education Centre, dedicated to the memory of the attorney general who was so instrumental in the Auschwitz trials. March 3, 2 p.m. at the Studio Theatre, Harbourfront, Toronto.

At 4 p.m. in the same location, the feature film *Abraham's Gold*, by Jorg Graser, is being screened. The film tells the story of a small-town innkeeper who travels with a friend back to Auschwitz where the latter had buried a chest of gold teeth extracted from victims' skulls. (English subtitles.)

Both events are presented under the auspices of the Goethe-Institut with the cooperation of the Toronto Jewish Film Society and the Holocaust Remembrance Committee. Admission, $2 for each event. 416-924-3327.

* * *

Ballet Gala: Stars of the 21st Century is an international ballet gala featuring many young dance sensations in a varied program. O'Keefe Centre, Toronto, March 19, 7.30 p.m. Tickets range from $35 to $125. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital. 416-872-2262.

* * *

More Dance: With streetwise movement, offbeat humor and eclectic music, New York City's explosive David Dorfman Dance makes its Canadian debut at Harbourfront Centre's Premier Dance Theatre, March 5 to 9 at 8 p.m.

David Dorfman has been hailed by Dance Magazine as "one of the most mesmerizing performers in contemporary dance." He is a native of Chicago and a former high school football and baseball star. Tickets are $19 to $31. 416-973-4000.

* * *

In Brief: Hear jazz guitarist Harris Mark Lusher and vocalist Marci Wilson at Mezzetta Restaurant, 681 St. Clair Ave. W., Toronto, Wed. March 6 (two sets, 9.15 & 10.30 p.m.). Cover, $6.

Stage Centre's production of *The Children's Hour*, a play by Lillian Hellman, continues this week at Fairview Library Theatre, North York. Written in 1934, the play "vividly portrays our ability to judge and try without benefit of truth." Adults $15. To March 9. 416-299-5557.

Claude Watson School for the Arts presents An Evening of Dance, in which students perform original ballet, jazz, modern and national works. Tickets $10. Ford Centre, North York. 416-395-3180.

He owes God for his soul, and the butcher for his meat.

Dancers for Life gala will benefit AIDS

TORONTO – State of Israel Bonds Construction and Development Division is participating in the ninth *Dancers for Life Gala* benefitting the AIDS Committee of Toronto March 9, at the O'Keefe Centre.

The show will be highlighted by performances from Veronica Tenant, Michael Sean Marye, Evelyn Hart, Rex Harrington and the National Ballet of Canada.

A minimum new State of Israel Bonds purchase of $5,000 includes two free gala tickets, a post-performance coctail reception and complimentary parking at BCE Place.

For more information, call Jacques Volger at 416-789-3351.

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SUNDAY, MARCH 3 – FILMS AND LECTURE

at the Studio Theatre, Harbourfront Centre, York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay West – Admission: $2.00 one event / $4.00 both events

2:00 P.M.: JEWISH LIFE IN FRANKFURT AND THE FRITZ BAUER INSTITUT

Ronny Loewy of the Fritz Bauer Institut discusses the role of this German Holocaust Education Centre and presents a film made by himself and two colleagues in November 1994 in Auschwitz.

4:00 P.M.: FEATURE FILM SCREENING: ABRAHAM'S GOLD

by Jörg Graser, 35mm, 95 min., English subtitles. 45 years after the war, the past returns to haunt two men, when one of them is confronted with his criminal past as a guard in the concentration camp at Auschwitz and his friend discovers himself to be a Jew.

Events presented by the Goethe-Institut Toronto, the Toronto Jewish Film Society and the Holocaust Remembrance Committee.

March 3 is the final day of the exhibit "Remain Silent: Auschwitz-Birkenau", photos by Jack Burman 1994, in the photo passage, York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

For more information call the **Goethe-Institut at 416/924-3327.**

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If you are interested call Makin' Movies Inc. at 416-504-3960.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Indian Odyssey: Two of our readers recently travelled for several days in India with the Team Canada trade mission headed by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and several provincial premiers. They spent a day with the mission in New Delhi and three days in Bombay, where they met Pearl Padamsee, an Indian film star who is half-Hindi, half-Jewish. (Bombay's film industry is substantially larger than Hollywood's and turns out almost 1,000 films per year.)

Splitting from the trade mission, they toured northern India, seeing such sites as the Red Fort of the Moghuls in Delhi, the 18th-century observatory in Jaipur and the Taj Mahal in Agra, perhaps the most widely recognized symbol of India.

In the south, they toured Madras, Bangalore and the Malabar coast – including the town of Cochin, with its historic but dwindling Jewish community, one of the oldest in the Diaspora. Dating back to the days after the Second Temple (70 CE), the Jewish community prospered in medieval times from the spice trade, which turned Cochin into a thriving international port.

The road leading to Jewtown, as the Jewish neighborhood is called, is still lined with exotic spice, antique and curio shops, as well as signs in both Hebrew and English. Once tens of thousands of Jews lived here, but today there are only about 20 Jewish families left.

Built in 1568, the Cochin synagogue is the oldest in the British Commonwealth; it replaced another that was centuries older. The synagogue was nearly destroyed by Portuguese colonists who mercilessly persecuted Jews in the mid-1600s. The floor is tiled with ceramic tiles imported from Canton, China, two centuries ago. To commemorate the synagogue's 400th anniversary in 1968, Indira Gandhi visited and the Indian post office issued a stamp.

Besides many extraordinary travel memories, our friends brought home to Toronto a signed contract for business worth a reported $1.5 million.

* * *

Skiing in Utah: An estimated 131 inches of snow graced the slopes of Snowbird, a ski resort outside Salt Lake City, on the day Travel Talk rode a high-speed aerial tram up from roughly the 4,000-foot to the 8,000-foot level. More than 500 inches of snow fall annually on this, one of the best peaks for skiing in the Rocky Mountains Wasatch range.

As we made the spectacular ascent, tall pines receded below us and skiers snaked down the powdery slopes in S-shaped paths. With mounting vertigo, we watched as two snowboarders, momentarily poised on a cliff-edge, took the near-vertical plunge, adventurously surrendering to the white void.

It is clear why the International Olympic Committee has picked Salt Lake City as the site of the 2002 Winter Olympics. Delta Airlines (416-868-1717) offers regularly scheduled flights from Toronto to Salt Lake City. For information on skiing in Utah, contact the Salt Lake City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 180 S. West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1493. Phone 801-521-2822, fax 801-355-9323, e-mail slcvb@saltlakecvb.com.

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On View: Saturday, March 16th: Noon - 5 p.m.
Sunday, March 17th: Noon - 5 p.m.
Monday, March 18th: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Břetislav Novák, Jr. (b.1952)
Untitled, blue and pale yellow glass, four peces
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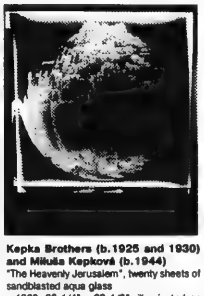
Kepka Brothers (b.1925 and 1930) and Miluša Kepková (b.1944)
"The Heavenly Jerusalem", twenty sheets of sandblasted aqua glass
c 1988, 39-1/4" x 39-1/2", illuminated on acrylic stand, 59-1/2" x 49" overall

Vera Lisková (b.1924)
"Music", lampworked clear glass
signed, c.1977, 33-1/2" x 30-1/4"

René Roubíček (b.1922) - Alfréd Lorenc
"Victory", engraved clear glass vessel
signed and dated 1986, 10-3/4" x 7-1/4"

Kepka Brothers (b.1925 and 1930) and Miluša Kepková (b.1944)
"By the Rivers of Babylon", sandblasted grey glass, applied with grey and red
c.1985, 47-1/4" x 67"

Films explore impact of Holocaust on children

TORONTO – *Dark Lullabies,* a powerful feature documentary exploring the impact of the Holocaust on the post-war generation of Jews and Germans, will be showing at the Beth Tikvah Synagogue on March 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Dark Lullabies is a film about a generation possessed, a generation preoccupied by a history in which it played no part. Seen through the eyes of the filmmaker, Irene Lilienheim Angelico, a child of concentration camp survivors, the film explores the impact of the Holocaust on a generation of Jews and Germans born after World War II.

Angelico will be at the synagogue to introduce the film and field questions afterwards.

Tickets are $3 for members and $5 for non-members. Beth Tikvah Synagogue is located at 3080 Bayview Ave. in North York.

***

Also Holocaust related is *Hidden Children* showing on CBC Newsworld's *The Passionate Eye* airing March 3 at 8 p.m. EST.

Of the millions of Holocaust victims perhaps the least understood are the thousands of Jewish children who were hidden from the Nazis, sometimes by non-Jews, and forced to masquerade as gentiles.

By the end of the war many had developed close relationships with their new parents and had abandoned all ties to their own culture and faith.

Hidden Children follows the stories of six of these survivors who have struggled with their identities for most of their lives, living with the pain and guilt as survivors forced to abandon their heritage.

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Hockey player labors in obscurity waiting for a shot at the big league

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If you don't aim high, you'll never attain your dreams.

That simple credo is helping sustain hockey player Mikhail Nemirovsky as he labors in the relative obscurity of the Colonial Hockey League en route, he hopes, to bigger and better things.

A leftwinger who counts skating, playmaking and stickhandling as his major skills, Nemirovsky believes he has the ability to score big in the National Hockey League.

At 21, he's still young enough and at six feet, 200 pounds, he's got the size to play with the big boys in the big league.

His younger brother, David, is a prospect with the Florida Panthers; so if bloodlines count for anything, that's another mark in his favor.

Earlier this season, Nemirovsky attended the training camp of the Pittsburgh Penguins' International Hockey League (I) affiliate, the Cleveland Lumberjacks. Even though he led the team in scoring during the exhibition season, he was let go.

He believes Cleveland had too many players in skill positions already under contract and didn't have the room to add another player of that type.

So he packed his hockey bag and headed to the Flint Generals of the Colonial League where he was placed on a scoring line with centre Scott Burfoot and rightwinger Kevin Kerr, a playing assistant coach.

In the first 21 games of the season, Nemirovsky bulged the twine 11 times and added 18 assists for 29 points. His finesse has earned him a spot on the team's powerplay and he gets lots of ice time when the teams are four a side.

"In Flint, they want us to skate and put pressure on their defence, to go to the net and stickhandle," Nemirovsky said in a telephone interview.

Even though he's been relatively successful on the ice, the tone of his voice suggests he's getting a little exasperated with the league itself. He spent last season with Hampton Road Admirals of the East Coast Hockey League, where the calibre of play is comparable to the Colonial League, and before that, two seasons with Spartak of the Soviet elite league.

The Colonial League is something else altogether — in a word, it's chippy if not completely dirty, he says.

This year, he's already had 10 stitches in the face, experienced bruised legs and and other minor injuries. Thunder Bay and Brantford are the biggest rule-benders and the refereeing is, need we say it, minor league.

"Some of the players, I don't know what they're trying to do. There's a lot of high sticking and hitting from behind," he said.

Nevertheless, Nemirovsky is determined to give each game his best shot, knowing NHL scouts are often in the stands. He's already predicting one of his teammates will be a sure draft prospect.

Two years ago when first interviewed by *The CJN*, he predicted that a teammate from Spartak was a sure bet for the NHL. Rookie Alexander Selivanov of Tampa Bay has proven him correct with 40 points in 53 games.

This time, he says, look out for Konstantin Kalomkov, a 17-year-old rightwinger with the speed and size (six foot four, 215 pounds) that NHL teams covet.

Nemirovsky plans to finish the season in Flint and then do a little scouting himself. "For the next camp, I've got to evaluate the teams to see if they need a playmaking scorer," he says.

That way he won't make the mistake he did last summer by going to a team already loaded in that category.

If he can't catch on with a team in the I or in the American Hockey League, Nemirovsky said he'll consider moving to Europe to play. He'll keep at it as long as the chance of playing in the NHL is a realistic prospect.

"I don't care if I'm 28 and make the NHL, as long as I'm moving forward," he said.

Nemirovsky, who was born in Odessa in the former Soviet Union, was brought to Canada as a baby. His brother David, 19, was born in Canada and the two grew up in Toronto playing a finesse — they call it a Russian — style of game.

Nemirovsky the Elder said he's intrigued at the prospect of playing for Canada at the 1997 Maccabiah Games in Israel, which will see the inauguration of hockey at the "Jewish Olympics."

"That could be the only chance to play on the same team with my brother," he said.

Mikhail Nemirovsky

DAY SCHOOL CHAMPS

The Netivot HaTorah Panthers last week became champs of the Jewish day school basketball league, defeating the USDS Warriors 45-42. [Ron Csillag photo]

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Girls' Basketball	Tues. Mar. 26, Thur. Mar. 28, Sun. Mar. 31 8-10 p.m. (Set of 3 required tryouts)
Volleyball	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Mon. Mar. 25, Tues. Mar. 26, Tues. Apr. 2 8-10 p.m. (Set of 3 required tryouts)
Soccer	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Tues. April 2, 6:30-8 p.m.
Tennis	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Mon. March 25, 7-8:30 p.m.
Track	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Swimming	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Golf	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Boys' Baseball	Sun. March 31, 12-1:30 p.m.
Girls' Softball	Sun. March 31, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Since the maximum contingent is 90 athletes, it is possible that some of the above sports or gender/age groups may not be represented on the final team attending the Games.
Notwithstanding the formal and fair tryout format, the final decision for inclusion on the team is at the discretion of the coaches and committee.
All tryouts: Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. (416) 636-1880 ext. 230

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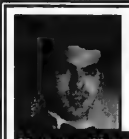

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CLARK & YONGE "CONSERVATORY"
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Lots of home, low price! 5 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths, renovated kitchen, large principal rooms, basement apt., generous lot, only $329,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

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Det. bungalow on 40' x 132' lot, hot location surrounded by many luxury new homes. Only $219,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Spacious side-split on 80' x 200' lot, prestigious location, surrounded by luxurious homes, country-like setting. Only $559,000. Call now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bathurst-Lawrence, wheelchair acces., 2 + 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bths, CAC, 4 appl, fin. bsmnt, $1050 + util/mo, 636-0241.

Bathurst/York Downs Spac. reno, 2 bdrm + den, mn flr, new appls, Mar. 1, 905-889-0751.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

85 Skymark, private, 2 bdrm, den w/bit-ins, patio, 2 prkg, $340K, no agents, 497-9381

Bathurst/Neptune, gorgeous, vacant, 3 bdrm, 2 full bths, reno'd, has to be seen. Serious inquiries, $160,000. 783-6796.

• **CUSTOM BLT. BEST VALUE.** North York exclusive cul-de-sac. 4 bdrm., 4 baths, 20' ceiling lv. rm., 60' frontage, near shuls, shopping. **$374,900** - Call: **ANNETTE ROSENTHAL Res: 631-6883.**

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• **BALMORAL ESTATES, Stunning Home $529,900.** Finest upgrades, steps to shuls, TTC, etc. Call: **DAN FAUR 416-633-6666 HOMELIFE/5 STAR LTD.**

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50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Bayview/Steeles Share 2 bdrm apt., Sun. noon to Fri. noon. For details fax: 416-512-7891.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Looking for female to find & to share a 2 bdrm apt., must keep kosher. 785-4660.

65 ACCOMMODATION/ SWAP/EXCHANGE

Room & board in exchange for companionship for. disabled young man. 250-0767 5-7pm.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
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highrise
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960-3238 - Bus.
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Bathurst/Clanton Pk., 1 bdrm bsmnt, TTC, no smoker/pets, own entr., $600. 633-5406.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Lawrence/Marlee 3 bdrm, lux. apt., avail. immed., 781-0942.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Thornhill, Bathurst-Chabad Gate, 1 bdrm, lndry facilities, close to synagogues, shopping, TTC, no smoking, no prkg, avail Apr. 1.$ 550 incl. 905-886-0153

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Balfour Beach, 4 bdrm, eat-in kit, recent reno, lg. deck, lake view, day camp, 45. min from Tor. $135K. Call evgs 533-6067

Belle Ewart, Lake Simcoe - reno'd, 3 bdrm, maintenance-free cottage on shared lot, 220 ft of safe, sandy, shallow waterfront. No agents, 416-447-4222.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Belle Ewart or Big Bay Pt., waterfront, min. 3 bdrm, priv., dock, July or season, call Benjy Katz, days 416-777-9172.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Resp. young family seeks priv. lakefront cottage nr. Belle Ewart/Barrie area. Must have 3-4 bdrms, lndry, bbq & fireplace, July & Aug., 633-5347.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

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Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson 4 bdrm apt, fully furn., Knesset view. Mthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Netanya, luxury furnished 2 bdrm apt., avail Mar. 5-19, $650 U.S. 905-731-1919.

185 OUT OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Palm Springs, resales, leases, 100s of vacation rentals to choose from. (800) GO2-PALM ***THE RENTAL CONNECTION***

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education is seeking full-time Hebrew/Judaic Teachers in a community day school system K-12 for the 1996/97 School Year. Applicants should be certified and experienced in primary/elementary education or in middle/high school education. Salary range $31,000 to $57,000. Please forward resume with references to: Dr. Arnold Carmel, Director of Education, Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education, 200-370 Hargrave Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 2K1. Telephone: 204-949-1482. Fax: 204-956-0609. Application deadline: Fri., March 29, 1996

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Jewish Day School requires exp. middle school French teacher to begin immediately for long-term supply. Call 416-225-1143, or fax 416-225-0659

Permanent, P/T, Ontario licensed, veterinarian required by North Toronto small animal hospital. Fax resume in confidence, 905-731-5745. Overworked vet needs time off.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Bookkeeper computerized, A/P, A/R, payroll, statements. Call Filomena, 233-8789.

247 DAY CARE

Baby sitting, Part/full time, outdoor play, arts & crafts, nutritious snacks, play groups, story time. Call Annette, 224-9870.

Looking for 1 baby/toddler to share our wonderful nanny with 7-mo-old girl. In our kosher home at Yonge/Lawrence, days 288-2051, eves, 484-4246.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Cleaning lady available Mon-Fri., refs., 416-787-5281.

Cleaning lady for weekends or evenings, exp, refs. 657-8976.

Cleaning lady, weekdays, exp., refs., reas. rates. 538-3067

Conscientious cleaning of homes, offices, walls, windows, etc. Good hrly rates, refs. avail. Call Lynn at 416-922-3185.

European cleaning lady avail, exp., refs avail., Judit 249-2342

European lady cleans homes & offices, 10 yrs exp., also companion for elderly. 658-3777.

Exp., mature, reliable, flexible **Pilipino nannies/housekeepers/companions/cleaners** with excellent references, Call Hi-Q Personnel, 416-763-8861.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042.

Mature Jewish lady, caring, responsible avail. as companion for elderly, refs. Berta 398-7766

Nanny, housekeeper avail, afts. only. 635-0116.

Nanny/caregiver, live out, 14 yrs. exp., 537-0571.

Nannys! Nannys! Nannys! Mature, experienced and available. 538-6573.

Need a nanny? No finder's fee-Intern'l Domestics 651-2929.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Exp. live-in nanny, light housekeeping, 2 children, Bathurst-Wilson area, must be flexible & fun-loving. Kathy 633-2825.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

HCA available, P/T, to care for elderly, 416-614-7913.

HCA with exp., cert., live-out, lv. msge, Val, 416-740-4214

HCA, exp, for elderly, private care, priv. home, avail nights 269-0726, S. Peters,10 - 4 p.m.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

HCA, priv. duty, home or institution, 651-9687 or 654-4398.

259 SENIORS

Mature cheerful lady Yiddish speaking, with car, avail to drive to dr. appts, shopping & do housekeeping or be hospital companion. Harriet 665-8674.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

SOULMATES
Mazel Tov! to Mark K. & Shereen M. on your marriage! You can be next! Evelyn! 905-709-3868.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appts. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Singles Registry. Select your own dates by viewing biographies/photos. Over 940 members averaging an engagement every 7½ wks. 398-7068.

270 PERSONALS

STRESSED? Relax in Israel at Livnot U'Lehibanot, To Build and To Be Built. Work and Study program for young adults. Hike and explore your Jewish roots. Scholarships still available for March 10. Call 212-752-2390.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Fun-loving prof. SJF, 28, 5'6" enjoys wide variety of activities, seeks sensitive, intelligent SJM, 25-35, who is responsible yet a little goofy. Box 6709 CJN.

Gay, white, Jewish, Sephardic male, romantic, university post-grad, 48, looks late 30s, 5'8", 140 lbs., seeks same, 30-40, for long term, non smoker, no alcohol, no drugs, HIV negative. Box 6714 CJN.

Jewish male, 35, looking for a new friend. I am a warm, caring, professional, who enjoys sports, movies, reading, romantic and playful evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 24-33, with a traditional background who is interested in a long term relationship. If you are interested to meet, reply to Box 6711 CJN.

Let's melt the ice together. A 38-yr-old, 6 ft., attractive, romantic and fun loving SJM is looking for a sincere and warm, 25+ SJF to enjoy the humour and the unusual that life has to offer and would be my best friend. Ready to "leap" into the adventure? I await you at Box 6713 CJN.

Pleasant Jewish widow, considered attractive would like to meet a 70ish, interesting, SJM, with a good sense of humor. If you like good conversation, bridge, theatre, movies, travel and just enjoying life, I'd love to hear from you. Box 6710 CJN.

Recently widowed lady, 60s, attractive, warm personality, intelligent would like to meet a sincere gentleman for friendship and sharing life. Box 6712 CJN.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #_____
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

SJM, 32, accountant, handsome, open-minded, seeks SJF, for long term relationship. Reply to Box 6708, CJN.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SHIDDUCH WANTED
Traditional family with very attractive, presentable, 29 yr old daughter, slightly intellectually challenged seeks male with similar or other deficits with a view to marriage and ongoing emotional support. Box 6676 CJN.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WISEBROD- WEISFELD - With much pride and joy Fern and Herbie, Sandi and Ron are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, **Stephanie** to **Adam**. Proud brothers are Jaimie, Jeremy and Shane. Mazel Tov to grandparents Sylvia Berall, Freda and Yaakov Akerman (Tel Aviv) and Leo Binstock. Also excited is Uncle Allan. Sadly missed at this time are grandparents Ron Berall, Gertie and Hymie Wisebrod, Evelyn and Harry Weisfeld and great-grandparents Dora and Hymie Simon and Sara and Aaron Kunigis. Wedding to take place June of 1997.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

The Sharon Home Inc., a 229 bed fully accredited Jewish Personal Care Home in Manitoba is seeking personal or historical photographs and articles dating from 1914 to the present. If you can assist in providing these items, please call Naida Rubin at (204) 584-9781.

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of **Spectrum Health Care**

Waldstein, Jack on February 11, 1996
Gray, Harold on February 11, 1996
Abrams, Benjamin on February 11, 1996, late of 1650 Sheppard Ave. E. #301
Mizrahi, Khanbaba on February 12, 1996, late of 19 Vallonclife Rd.
Nalberg, Emilia on February 15, 1996, late of 5 Stonedene Blvd.
Eisner, Leah on February 15, 1996
Goldman, Harold on February 16, 1996
Pinkin, Anatoli on February 16, 1996
Zelcer, Beatrice on February 17, 1996
Milchman, Henry on February 17, 1996, late of 17 Denmark Cres.
Abramovich, Gennady on February 18, 1996, late of 60 Borden St.
Scutaru, Golda Dita on February 19, 1996
Rosen, Harry on February 19, 1996
Zelfman, Max on February 20, 1996, late of 3000 Bathurst St. #911
Finkler, Leona on February 20, 1996, late of 70 Garnier Court
Tevens, Minnie on February 20, 1996, late of 205 Cummer Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Sadie Pearson on February 9, 1996, late of 62 Danby Avenue
Sylvia Bialow on February 10, 1996, late of 80 Searle Ave.
Isaac Goldman on February 12, 1996, late of 133 Torresdale Ave. #1108
Jacob Louis Epstein on February 12, 1996, late of 300 Ridley Blvd.
Leon Shupak on February 15, 1996, late of 88 Almore Ave.
Pamela Okorofsky-Simons on February 15, 1996, late of 18 Wickstead Way

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Dear Lisa,

Last week I was fired from my job! I feel horrible. What should I do now? How will I ever be able to explain this in an interview.

Dear Reader,

Take heart. These days few people lose a job because of incompetence. Most people are being fired because of a shortage of work – downsizing. When companies let go of staff citing this reason, the companies are often able to provide their employees with relocation counselling assistance and other useful techniques to help you find work.

Some people lose their jobs because of personality differences with a supervisor or other employees. If this is your situation, take some time to think about what happened, be honest with yourself and learn what you can from the experience. But don't blame yourself. If other people within that company have lost their jobs because of personality differences, odds are your working for this company was not a great choice.

Being fired is often expected and some people find it a relief when it actually happens. Other emotions may include fear and anger. Fear may make you cry and ultimately destroy your self-confidence. Anger can make you say things you really don't mean. Be aware of your feelings and find appropriate times to express them. For the next little while you may find yourself on a roller coaster ride where fear and anger will take turns with excitement and optimism.

Before you do anything, acknowledge your feelings. Then take stock of your experience. Learn what you can. Make a resume. Speak to a relocation consultant or employment counsellor. Register for Unemployment Insurance, if you are eligibe. Consider updating your skills. Go to the library and start reading books on job hunting.

When you are asked how you lost your job be honest. You can explain personality differences but don't talk about how you and your boss hated each other. Talk about the good things you did for the company and how other people appreciated your efforts. Try to explain why you left your previous employer without overreacting or getting defensive.

If you lost your job because the company downsized, just say that. Today this explanation is common and should not reflect your ability to perform at work.

The most important aspect to keep in mind, however, is how you react to the situation. If you keep yourself calm and try to approach the experience from a somewhat positive perspective, it is likely that a future employer will follow your lead. Show future employers that you are a good worker, who had an unfortunate experience. Encourage future employers to believe in your strengths and abilities and they will likely disregard the fact you were ever fired from a job.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

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27 graham crackers
1 1/4 cups butter/margarine
1 cup brown sugar
1 cup sliced or slivered blanched almonds or 2 tsp. sesame seeds

Preheat oven to 350°. Line a jelly roll pan with foil and single layer of wafers touching each other. Microwave butter and sugar until melted. Add almonds or sesame seeds and pour over crackers immediately. Bake 10 mins. or until bubbly. Freeze. Will cut better while frozen. Store in refrigerator.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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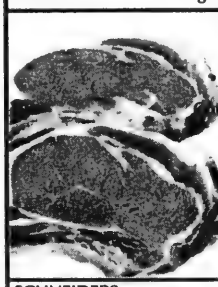

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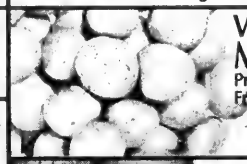

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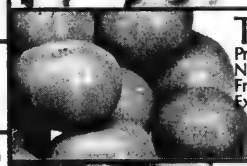

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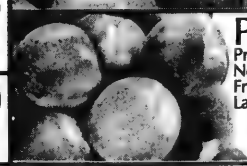

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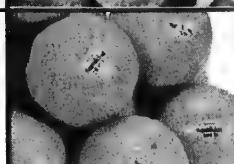

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Zimriyah Festival starts off sombrely due to bombings. *Page 5*

Former Heritage Front member delivers powerful message. *Page 6*

Coast to Coast

Keegstra conviction reinstated in surprisingly quick decision. *Page 19*

Israel, U.S.A. & The World

Rabbi Yehuda Amital is not your typical government minister. *Page 29*

Health news

Families scour the ends of the earth in search of cure for genetic illness. *Page 33*

TAB news

Jane Corkin has been called Toronto's first lady of photography. *Page 37*

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Shabbat: Ki Tissa - Parah
Candlelighting 5:57
Adar 17, 5756
Havdalah: 7:02

War against Hamas

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

Soldiers lower into a grave the flag draped coffin of 19-year-old Haim Amedi who, along with 17 others, met his death in Jerusalem in the early morning of March 3. *[RNS photo]*

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Shimon Peres declared an all-out war against Hamas on Sunday, as Israelis mourned 18 victims of yet another suicide bus bombing in Jerusalem.

The powerful explosion stunned the country, occurring on the same bus line, on the same street and at the same time of day as the blast of almost two weeks ago. As some Israelis emerged from shivah for the 24 killed in last week's attack, others began mourning the new victims of yet another bloody Sunday.

The eerie rerun of scenes of carnage shattered an already fragile sense of security among Jerusalemites, many of whom refused to board buses all day, and plunged national morale to rock bottom.

"How much more suffering can we take?" cried a youth from Katamonim, a Jerusalem neighborhood that lost 16 residents in the two consecutive Bus #18 bombings.

Sunday's attack was a further blow to the government, making its week-old promises of action sound hollow and prompting Peres' harshest response yet to the wave of terror. Ashen-faced and angry, the prime minister announced new measures to beef up security and placate a frightened and furious public.

Peres said for the first time that the peace talks with the Palestinians would not continue until Arafat crushed the Islamic fundamentalist movement responsible for the bus bombings.

He added that neither the IDF pullout from Hebron nor the permanent settlement talks would proceed if the situation did not improve.

He called on Arafat to ban the military wing of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad, hunt down the organizations' leaders and disarm their members. Both Peres and IDF Chief of Staff Amnon Shahak said that if Arafat proved unable to deal with Hamas, "someone else would."

The prime minister said that the Oslo accord would not prevent Israel from entering the Palestinian autonomy areas in order to pursue its war against terrorists.

The main new measures announced by Peres include the implementation of a 260-million shekel Separation Plan that will close off the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Israel; the establishment of a special 800-person force to provide bus security; the deployment of an additional 2,200 police and soldiers in Jerusalem; and the destruction of the homes of the families of terrorists.

President Ezer Weizman urged the government to also suspend negotiations with Syria and demand that Arafat annul the Palestinian Covenant immediately.

Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu said he would support the measures taken by Peres, but maintained that the prime minister had not gone far enough.

Continued on page 28

'We will destroy them': Peres

The following are exerpts from the press conference Sunday evening with Prime Minister Peres.

"Arafat must act according to the agreement. If he doesn't we will have to draw our conclusions,"

"There will be no holds barred in Israel's total war against Hamas and other terrorist groups," said Peres at a press conference. "This is war ... and we will fight ... until we destroy these organizations to the core. Hamas has declared war on Israel, and Israel will act accordingly."

"We all agree to uproot this organization to the foundations. We will not shy from any measure. We will spare no effort. We decided to give this war the highest and most unequivocal priority – all that we have in men, ideas and means."

Hamas strikes in Tel Aviv

As The CJN was going to press, we received the following news from Leora Frucht, our correspondent in Israel.

TEL AVIV — Less than 24 hours after Prime Minister Shimon Peres declared total war on Hamas, the terror group struck another fatal blow against Israel, this time in the heart of Tel Aviv, killing at least 12 and wounding more than 80 people in a suicide bombing.

The attacker apparently strapped explosives to his body and blew himself up on a crowded street corner outside the Dizengoff Centre shopping mall. The blast occurred just before four in the afternoon on the eve of Purim as children, dressed in holiday costumes, congregated at this central spot. Several were among the casualties of this suicide bombing – the third in eight days.

In a television interview conducted minutes after hearing about the attack, Prime Minister Peres vowed to wage and win the war against Hamas. "We will strike back," he said. "In war there are blows; there is pain. It's a test for the entire people and for the government of Israel. If we don't give up, I know we will win."

Peres was to convene an emergency cabinet session on Monday evening to decide what further action could be taken.

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From coast to coast

Community reacts to new attacks

CJC CONDEMNS THE KILLING OF INNOCENT JEWS BY ARAB TERRORISTS

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has condemned the second terrorist bombing of a Jerusalem bus in as many weeks, which killed at least 19 innocent civilians and injured dozens of others.

"While tragically it is innocent Jews who are being murdered the Arab terrorists are working against the interests of their own Palestinian people," said CJC president Goldie Hershon. "While we support the peace process it is clear the Israeli government, like any other government in the world, has as its first responsibility the protection of the lives of its citizens, its way of life and its territorial integrity.

"Even the long suffering people of Israel have limits to their patience," she added. "Once again terrorism's ugly face hovers over the region. Regrettably, the history of Israel and indeed of the Jewish people has been one of response to repeated atrocities in every generation."

CJC extends its profound sympathy to the families of the Israeli victims and wishes a speedy recovery to those injured.

CIC CALLS FOR MEETING WITH AXWORTHY

OTTAWA – In the aftermath of last Sunday's bus-bombing in Jerusalem, the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) has called for an immediate meeting with Canada's Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy.

"The world cannot stand by offering heartfelt, but ultimately ineffective words of consolation, as dozens of innocent Israelis are murdered and scores of others mutilated on a weekly basis," said CIC national chair Stephen Victor.

"Neither direct security measures by Israel nor arrests of Hamas supporters by the Palestinian Authority are sufficient to ensure the safety of the Israeli public. The lifeline of these terrorist groups must be cut off and for that, the international community must work in perfect cooperation and with common resolve," Victor said.

"Canada and other Western countries must clearly indicate to the Palestinian Authority that their continued support is dependent on the Palestinians' moving fully and unambiguously to outlaw and disarm the terrorist wings of Hamas and other Muslim terror organizations operating in areas under Palestinian control.

"Moreover," Victor said, "peace will never be a reality until the Palestinian Covenant is satisfactorily amended to extract all references to the destruction of Israel.»

On behalf of the CIC, Victor conveyed his condolences to the bereaved families and expressed solidarity with Israel during this painful period.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF PEACE NOW QUESTIONS ARAFAT'S EFFORTS

TORONTO – Canadian Friends of Peace Now is shocked and angered by yet another suicide bombing in Israel committed by Hamas, the national president of the organization said.

Simon Rosenblum asked how many more Israelis must die in Hamas' last-ditch efforts to destroy the peace process?

"Stopping terrorism is by no means an easy task, as Israel is fully aware. Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PA) has been making some sincere efforts to that end. But not enough," he said.

COMMEMORATIVE ASSEMBLY MARCH 7

TORONTO – The local Jewish community is organizing a commemorative assembly to express its anger and frustration over the recent bus bombings in Israel on Thursday, March 7, at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn, at 7:30 p.m.

The decision was made following an emergency meeting of community leaders called by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

The assembly will allow the community to share the pain and suffering experienced by the families of the victims of terrorism and all the people of Israel, according to CJC.

The commemorative assembly is being sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada; CJC, Ontario region; the Canadian Zionist Federation; and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

A member of the burial society searches for victims and body parts behind the driver's seat of a city bus that was blown up by a Hamas suicide bomber March 3. According to Jewish law, all flesh and blood must be buried with the victims. [RNS photo]

Bus Bombings — *Reaction*

Canadian Arab Network:
The Canadian Arab Network strongly condemns the brutal, vicious and cowardly bombing in Israel, and the senseless killing of innocent civilians. We extend our deepest and sincere condolences to the Israeli people, Israeli government and especially to the victims' families, in their moments of sorrow and grief.

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Canadian Jews return from largest UIA mission

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — Over 1,100 Canadian Jews returned home last week, after getting a taste of Israel that they will never forget.

The members of the United Israel Appeal (UIA) of Canada's largest mission to Israel stayed at a kibbutz that was the target of an aborted hang-gliding attack, they were in Eilat when that resort town was shaken by a mild earthquake and they were having breakfast in Jerusalem when a bomb went off in a bus in the capital, killing 24 and injuring dozens.

"There was terrible shock and fear after the suicide bus bombing," said Sandra Brown, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. "But we soon realized that this is part of life in Israel. People learn to pick themselves up and get on with life. We took an example from Israelis and did just that."

The attempted attack by a hang-gliding terrorist from Lebanon took place on the night the Canadian mission arrived at Kibbutz Manara near the northern border. The hang-glider — who had, according to reports, targeted that kibbutz — was blown up over Lebanon. Mission members read about the incident in newspapers the following day.

The trip to Eilat included only Toronto participants who were visiting the Project Renewal and Partnership 2000 neighborhoods with which they are twinned. The earthquake, a mild aftershock of a large tremor in November, was felt by very few. It was the bus bombing in Jerusalem that was most disturbing for the Canadian Jews, 60 percent of whom were on their first visit to Israel.

"It was shocking," said Sheila Sinukoff of Toronto. "Our tour guide was on his way to meet us. He passed by the site of the attack only five minutes after it happened. He told us that it's just something that Israelis learn to live with."

"It was unsettling, but it wouldn't stop me from coming back to Israel," said Dr. Warren Sinukoff, a first-time visitor. "There are bombs in London and many other places."

The Sinukoffs joined the mission to celebrate their 50th birthdays. "It was a more meaningful way to mark our birthdays than throwing a party," said Sinukoff, a general practitioner, who said it was also the first time he had ever left his practice for a two-week period. "I don't regret a single second of the trip. There were moments of grief and frustration. But overall it was an emotionally uplifting, educationally rewarding experience — a real awakening."

The UIA mission members — who filled two jumbo jets and travelled in 25 buses — toured Israel following individual tracks, designed to suit the particular interests of participants. All groups took part in an opening ceremony in the new Olympic Ice Skating Arena at Canada Centre in the northern town of Metulla. Both facilities were built with the support of Canadian Jewry.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert addressed the mission during a gala ceremony in Jerusalem. A particularly moving moment in the evening was the relaying of a message from Yitzhak Rabin to Canadian Jewry. Harvey Wolfe, president of UIA of Canada, read aloud the letter from Rabin which was received on Oct. 30, 1995, only five days before his death.

"As prime minister of Israel, I look forward to the arrival of the Canadian mega-mission...The mega-mission is a demonstration of solidarity between your communities and Israel. This is of special importance at this historical time when Israel is waging its struggle for peace.

"We want to continue our partnership with you. As we enter the 21st century, that partnership will be altered but it will never end because wherever we live all Jews are one people.

"By coming to Israel on this mission, you will see the reality with your own eyes. You will see the miracle that is Israel. You will see what we have accomplished with the help of fellow Jews all over the world. You will see what still remains to be done. I hope that after you have visited you will feel that Israel is your home."

Rabin had signed the letter: "*Le'hitraot be'Israel* — See you in Israel."

The mission was made up of 620 participants from Montreal, 360 from Toronto, 53 from Winnipeg, 26 from Edmonton, 24 from Calgary, 10 from Vancouver and a few dozen from smaller communities across Canada. "This is the largest operation we have ever undertaken," said Wolfe.

(Inset)Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres receives an Inuit sculpture from Harvey Wolfe (left) and Herb Rosenfield at the Canadian Connection gala event. Mission participants, shown here, wait in line for the security check.

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From the editor's desk

Due to *The CJN's* attempt to provide our readers the most up-to-date information on the late-breaking news out of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, From The Editor's Desk will not run this week. Hopefully it will return to this space next week.

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Funding complaint goes to the UN

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Metro Toronto man has filed a complaint with the United Nations, alleging Canada is violating international law because Ontario does not fund Jewish day schools.

Said to be the first of its kind, the complaint alleges that Canada discriminates on the basis of religion because Ontario's Roman Catholic schools are the only non-secular schools receiving full public funding from the province.

Arieh Waldman, whose two sons are enrolled at Bialik Hebrew Day School, wants Queen's Park to fund all religiously-based schools equally.

The complaint filed last week with the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Committee says Canada, a signatory to the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, is violating provisions on discrimination on the basis of religion because of Ontario's stand.

At a press conference last week, Waldman and his lawyer, Raj Anand, a former chief commissioner of Ontario's Human Rights Commission, noted that Ontario is the only province in Canada to fund some religious-based schools but not others.

Waldman's 52-page brief to the UN notes that he pays over $14,000 a year in tuition for his sons and must also pay education taxes — a burden not shared by Catholics.

The complaint represents a new approach to an issue that began in 1984, when retiring premier Bill Davis announced the extension of full public funding for education in grades 11, 12 and 13 in the Catholic Separate school Board.

Since then, Jewish groups have lobbied hard for funding of at least the secular portion of Jewish education, arguing it is unfair to fund Catholics and no one else.

In 1987, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that Ontario's funding of Catholic schools was permitted under the compromise that formed Confederation in 1867.

But the matter is still before the courts. In late January, the Supreme Court heard final arguments from five Jewish parents who allege that funding Catholic schools violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms' equality provisions, and that the charter's guarantee of freedom of religion requires the government to fund Jewish schools as well. The court has reserved its decision.

Waldman argues that Ontario's religious makeup has changed radically since 1867, with non-Christians now comprising eight percent of the population, versus .2 percent at Confederation.

Waldman took his action "because I've waited long enough for the Canadian and Ontario governments to take action and live up to their human rights promises.

"It is time that Ontario's disgraceful violation of equality rights is clearly understood as a breach of this country's international commitments to equal treatment," he said in a statement.

Waldman and Anand conceded that the UN committee cannot order Canada and Ontario to change their laws, but that it can find Canada in violation of international rules on religious freedom.

They said Canada has been found by the UN committee to have breached its human rights obligations seven times since it began considering human rights cases in 1977.

In one of those, Canada changed its Indian Act following a successful grievance by a native Canadian.

Anand said a decision could take as long as three years.

Arieh Waldman (left) and lawyer Raj Anand announce complaint with UN at a press conference last week. [Ron Csillag photo]

B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, Canadian Zionist Federation and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto

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on

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Wednesday, March 13, 1996
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Still serving as head of the Hesder Yeshiva Har Etzion, which combines Yeshiva study with military service, Rabbi Amital, in November 1995, was appointed Minister Without Portfolio in the Peres government.

Greater Toronto Area

Zimriyah choir festival began on a sad note

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — One of the Toronto Jewish community's most uplifting musical events began on a very sad note this year.

Zimriyah, the Jewish school choir festival, took place last Sunday, just hours after two terrorist bombings in Israel killed 27 people.

The sad irony was that the theme of this year's Zimriyah was Jerusalem, the very place one of the bombs had exploded.

"It was very difficult to go into a Zimriyah on Jerusalem because of what happened," said Joyce Levine, the Board of Jewish Education's (BJE) coordinator of school services and of the Zimriyah, but she added, "I think it was important that Zimriyah was dedicated to Jerusalem at a time like this."

Joseph M. Steiner, chair of the BJE, acknowledged the mood of sadness in the sanctuary of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, where the festival was held. "It is good for us to be together on these occasions," he told the audience.

Elliot Sokolsky, a grade 3 student from United Synagogue Day Schools (USDS) Bayview campus, sings a solo with the USDS choir.

"Our children have worked hard to prepare for this. It's appropriate that we use this occasion to reaffirm our solidarity with Israel and with Jerusalem," he said.

Zimriyah, now in its 31st year, is sponsored by the BJE. It keeps growing in popularity; a record number of students and schools participated this year, Levine said.

Some 630 students, up from 540 last year, performed in 15 choirs from 14 different schools. (Associated Hebrew Schools had two choirs.) The Hamilton Hebrew Academy participated for the first time and guest artist Reuven Zemer performed *The Other Jerusalem*.

To accommodate the large number of participants and their families, Zimriyah was divided into two separate shows, with roughly half the choirs performing in each. The sanctuary, set up for 1,350 people, was filled to capacity for both shows.

The choirs came from eight day schools — Bialik Hebrew Day School, Leo Baeck Day School, United Synagogue Day Schools, Associated Hebrew Schools, Netivot HaTorah Day School, She'arim Herbrew Day School, Kadima School and Hamilton Hebrew Academy — and six supplementary schools — the Downtown Jewish Community School, United Congregational Schools, and Temple Sinai, Beth Tzedec, Shaar Shalom, Temple Kol Ami religious schools.

The individual choirs performed their own repertoires — all the songs were about Jerusalem — and sang several songs together.

Doron Ophir, the musical director of the event, made a tape of the medleys, which the individual choirs learned on their own. They had only one opportunity to rehearse together as a large group the week before, he said.

Levine praised Ophir for his contribution. He prepares all the songs and music, which he distributes to the schools in the fall; he then stays in constant touch with the schools until Zimriyah, she explained.

The children were accompanied by live musicians conducted by Ophir, giving the whole festival a "real professionalism," she added.

She also credited Zimriyah stage manager Rivka Atzmony with the show's artistry.

"Rivka gives it a spark. She and Doron work well together," Levine said, but ultimately, "it's the choir leaders and the students who are the stars."

Soloveitchik to lecture

TORONTO — One of the continent's premier scholars will share with a local audience his perceptions of a major shift in the religious development of the Jewish community.

Rabbi Haim Soloveitchik will lecture on Rupture and Reconstruction: The Transformation of Contemporary Jewry, on March 10 at 8 p.m., at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave., under the auspices of the Canadian Friends of Yeshiva University. Admission is free.

The lecture will be based on an essay published by Rabbi Soloveitchik in the summer 1994 edition of *Tradition* magazine.

He has requested that those attending his presentation should read the *Tradition* article. Reprints are available without charge at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

the Bay

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All future "Naomi Shemers" and "Yehoram Gaons", are invited to participate in a city-wide song writing and performing competition.

The winning performers will participate in a gala concert on May 21,1996 at Beth Tikvah Synagogue where the number one song will be featured.

The best song will be sent to Israel to represent the Toronto area in the Halleluyah Song Contest in Jerusalem in July 1996.

The best singer will win a trip to Israel in order to participate in the Halleluyah program in Jerusalem in July, 1996, where judging of songs from all over the world will take place.

If you can sing, compose, song-write, or play an instrument, please contact:
Tami Savion at the Israel Youth Program Centre
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Former Heritage Front member delivers powerful message

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Students from several Ontario school boards expressed their shock after attending a recent screening of *Hearts of Hate*, a documentary filmed several years ago, about Canada's growing racist movement.

The film, followed by a discussion with Peter Raymont, its producer, and Elizabeth Moore, a former Heritage Front member, was presented by the North York Board of Education and the generation to generation sub-committee of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. Program moderator was Bernie Farber, national director of community relations, Canadian Jewish Congress.

Students, who came by the busload from as far away as Waterloo, were visibly shaken, and one demanded to know from Elizabeth Moore, who appeared in the film as a Heritage Front member, how she can be trusted not to rejoin the racist organization.

"When you leave the Heritage Front, you do not mess around. I am branded for the rest of my life. To take the route I have taken, I cannot afford to be superficial. I hope you people will learn from me," Moore answered.

Moore, 22, who has become an outspoken anti-racist since leaving the Heritage Front about a year ago, told the students and teachers that as a high school student she was exposed to a lot of racial tension and became the victim of racial insults.

"I started to get angry and when I met a member of the Heritage Front, he started telling me his view of the world. He explained that the Front was not a hate group, but rather a white man's answer to multiculturalism. I only had his view to go on.

"I started to get involved and they knew exactly what to say to me. They made me feel that every racist act was an empowerment. I took to this new outlook and it made me feel good to be doing something. By the time I realized I wanted to get out, I was running a racist hotline, putting up fliers and making speeches. I was completely wrapped up in the organization.

"I became more and more conscious, however, of the Front's violent activities. There was a very violent side to the movement and I was aware that if I said the wrong thing I might be next."

After hearing Bernie Farber speak in Kingston, where Moore was a Queen's University student, she approached him and he encouraged her to leave her boyfriend, also a member of the organization.

"I went to visit the Hololcaust Memorial Centre with Bernie and suddenly all my views seemed completely ridiculous and absurd. I saw the video there and felt subhuman. I realized I was at the bottom of the heap, and that is not easy to accept. I had everything in the world and I had handed my humanity over to these people without a struggle. Bernie, told me, however, that the important thing about humanity is that you can get it back. Thank G-d he's right."

Racist activities today are different than 30 years ago, said Farber.

"The Heritage Front has gotten its message out to young people and when viewing Heritage Front videos since 1983, you can see the average age drops from 70 to 17. Many people do not realize how dangerous these people are. They are not in the mainstream, but they hover around the mainstream. There is a group of new young Nazis who are waiting to take over and restart the Heritage Front.

Asked what can be done to fight racism, Farber replied that he would like to see the classroom as a place to engage in discussion.

"If everyone decided to do something, something would get done. Write to the Ministry of Justice and the attorney general and say that it is time to lay charges against hatemongers in Ontario."

One student said, "Hate built up in me when I watched the movie, so I can see how easily hate can be nurtured. I commend Elizabeth for trying to repair the damage she's done."

Another said that as long as there are people, there is going to be hate, and "I think it will be too late by the time people realize that."

Community key to fighting hatred

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Jesse Kaufman

TORONTO — At a police chiefs' conference a couple of years ago, a participant from one of Ontario's smaller communities downplayed the issue of hate crimes, labelling it "Metro's problem." Ironically, a cross was burned in his community within three weeks, said David Boothby, chief of police for Metropolitan Toronto.

Boothby, who was instrumental in establishing Metro's hate crimes unit three years ago, was keynote speaker at a recent League for Human Rights event on Combatting Hate-Motivated Crime in Metro. The evening focused on police/community partnerships — particularly the youth aspect — in fighting hate.

"As we increase the awareness, I would suggest we will have hate crime units in other centres right across Canada," said Boothby. Currently only a few such units have been established — Boothby mentioned Halifax, Edmonton, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Montreal — but other police forces are taking the initial steps.

To reduce hate crimes in the future, Boothby said "we all have to be very careful what we say and do in our homes, in our communities and in our workplaces, because children imitate us."

The event held at the B'nai Brith building on Hove Street also included a student play entitled *No One Has The Right*, produced by students of Scarborough's Albert Campbell Collegiate Institute following a suggestion by the hate crimes unit.

"It's important for the group not being victimized to show support. Otherwise the victim feels terribly alone, afraid and vulnerable," said Karen Mock, director of the League, in a video co-produced by the League, the Scarborough Board of Education and the Metropolitan Toronto Police hate crimes unit.

Mock also stressed, as did Boothby, the importance of reporting hate-related incidents.

The League has been documenting anti-Semitic incidents for the past 14 years, said Rochelle Wilner, vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada and national education chair of the League, which is under the B'nai Brith umbrella.

The Human Rights Youth League was formed in 1993, to give young people from a variety of backgrounds a constructive, non-violent forum from which to deal with racism and related issues.

Jesse Kaufman, 17, president of the youth league, urged others to join him in pressuring Ontario's attorney general Charles Harnick to prosecute hate criminals.

Det. Dino Doria presented "respect certificates" to members of the youth league and representatives of the League for Human Rights on behalf of the hate crimes unit.

Greater Toronto Area

Ex-Airborne member charged

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A white supremacist and former corporal in the Canadian Armed Forces' notorious Airborne Regiment was arrested in Calgary last week and charged with second-degree murder.

Matt McKay, 25, was arrested in connection with the 1991 murder in Winnipeg of Gordon Kuhtey. Also arrested and charged in connection with the murder are 24-year-old Robert Eugene Welsh of Winnipeg, a suspected former leader of the Northern Hammerskins, a white supremacist group, and James Russel Lisik, 22, of Penticton, B.C.

Gary Allan Kuffner, 27, was arrested the next day.

Winnipeg police said they believe the 48-year-old Kuhtey was beaten to death because his attackers thought he was gay. Kuhtey was beaten in an area of Winnipeg where homosexuals regularly gathered.

McKay was part Canada's troubled peacekeeping mission sent to Somalia in 1993. Canadians were subsequently shocked to discover that McKay and others formed a small circle of white supremacists and skinheads who made racist remarks on videotapes later broadcast on Canadian media.

The Airborne was disbanded in 1994 following reports of racist attitudes in its ranks, wild hazing rituals and the deaths of four Somalis at the hands of Canadian soldiers. An inquiry is proceeding on Canada's peacekeeping mission in Somalia.

McKay left the military last year.

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) first raised the question of McKay's neo-Nazi links early in 1993, after newspapers carried a 1990 photograph of him wearing a Hitler T-shirt and giving the straight-arm Nazi salute in his barracks.

McKay was known to CJC "for many years as a leading member of violent hate groups in Edmonton and Calgary," said Hal Joffe, CJC's national community relations committee chair.

Joffe said Kuhtey's murder underscores the need to ensure that gays and lesbians have the same rights and protections as others.

The whole episode raises more questions about how the military screens its personnel, said CJC's Bernie Farber.

B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights expressed relief at the arrests, saying it too warned of the dangers McKay posed.

Canada deports German neo-Nazi

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A friend of Ernst Zundel, convicted of 12 to 14 neo-Nazi hate crimes, was ordered deported to Germany by Canadian immigration last week.

Oliver Bode, 29, who helped Zundel rebuild his Carlton Street home on a previous visit to Toronto, was scheduled to be deported March 2, despite an appeal by Zundel, who acted as his counsel at the deportation hearing.

"We commend the government strongly for acting so quickly," said Steven Shulman, Canadian Jewish Congress associate director of community relations. "There was no doubt Zundel knew he was coming, because Bode had a suitcase with videotapes of three neo-Nazi rallies in Germany. This was no ordinary tourist on his way to Niagara Falls."

Bode was red-flagged on immigration computers because of his convictions in Germany and was stopped at Pearson International Airport Feb. 24.

Zundel argued unsuccessfully at the one-hour hearing that some of the criminal convictions against his client in Germany are not valid in Canada.

"I've ordered that you be deported from Canada and that you cannot return without a letter of personal consent from the immigration minister," adjudicator Edward McNamara ruled.

Because Bode was stopped does not mean that other Zundel supporters from Germany will not try to get into Canada to support Zundel, a notorious Holocaust denier, Shulman said.

"That can happen with any criminal violation, but we're gratified that in this case the system worked to keep Bode out."

Bode remained locked up at the Celebrity Inn on Airport Road until escorted to the airport for his KLM flight out of the country.

"If anyone has any doubt whether this fellow is a hatemonger or not, it's all erased when you see who his representative is," said Shulman.

At the hearing, Zundel agreed with McNamara that an assault causing bodily harm conviction registered against Bode in the 1980s was comparable to similar provisions under Canada's Criminal Code.

The News In Brief

Canada

Deportation Adjourned

TORONTO — The deporation hearing for alledged war criminal Konrad Kalejs was adjourned to May last week.

Kalejs was expelled from the United States in 1988 after a finding that he was a senior officer in a Nazi execution during World War II.

The adjournment was ordered after it was agreed that it would take more time to prepare for a hearing.

Hate Crimes Unit

VICTORIA — British Columbia's attorney general is taking steps towards forming a special hate crimes unit within his ministry.

The initiative comes on the heels of a Justice Department report released in Ottawa last week.

Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh has his staff identifying experts in the legal, academic and law enforcement fields.

At this point though, he said no special funding is being directed towards the idea.

Jerusalem 3000

MONTREAL — A tripartite committee is producing an educational package for Jerusalem 3000 celebrations geared towards small Jewish communities in Canada.

Canadian Jewish Congress, the department of education of the Joint Authority (World Zionist Organization) and the Jewish National Fund have joined forces to prepare suitable material to assist smaller communities with the Jerusalem 3000 theme in mind.

MLA To Step Down

VANCOUVER — NDP MLA Bernie Simpson, the province's sole Jewish representative, announced that he would not run in the next provincial election, expected sometime this year.

Simpson said he would continue to work for the NDP during the next election.

Librarians' Convention

TORONTO — Members of the Association of Jewish Librarians (AJL) will gather here June 16, for the first conference held in Canada in 10 years.

The conference, led by Edmond Lipsitz, will focus on the theme Culture and Continuity.

For more information, call 785-7941 or e-mail 75567.3155 @CompuServe.com.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Blood-soaked Sunday

As these words were being written, 18 more people were being buried in Israel, their lives suddenly ended, their families and friends forever diminished, in a flash of fire and hate in the early morning of another blood-soaked Sunday in the holy city of Jerusalem.

What words of comfort can abate so unabatable a loss? There are none. There are only words of mourning and large gaping silences of incomprehension. Decent people recoil.

But after the silence there must be words of resolve. All governments that stand on and for the foundations of democracy, all people who cherish peace and seek it for others, must resolve to abhor and to root out from all international forums and norms, the loathsome evil that is known by the name Hamas.

Shimon Peres has declared war on Hamas. But it is not a war Israel should wage alone. For it is not only Jewish life and a peace process which are imperilled. The very essence of our democratic values – the belief in the uniqueness and in the sanctity of all individual life – is at stake. Hamas cares nothing for individual life. It cares only for the fundamentalist, intolerant ideology that it would impose on others.

Western democracies, including Canada, which in the past were so often quick to hector Israel, should finally agree to isolate, by concerted, appropriate means, those countries and organizations which fund or otherwise aid terrorist groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad. The aiders and abettors of terrorist groups must be treated as the pariahs that they truly are.

The Palestinian Authority must finally show its true colors. Peace with Israel cannot coexist alongside compromise with Hamas. The people of Israel must not be left to wonder constantly at Yasser Arafat's real game. Either he destroys Hamas or they destroy the Palestinians' chance for a life of self-rule and peace. His pronouncements after Sunday's bombing inched closer to the truth than at any time in the past. He acknowledged publicly for the first time that the murder of Israelis by Hamas is also the murder of possibility and hope for the Palestinians. But pronouncements without action will be seen as the pro forma rhetoric which they are. He must now act.

The people of Israel – in Israel and in the Diaspora – must unite. These words are written with great humility. For though we in the Diaspora can relate, can understand, can even see the street in our mind's memory, the suffering we "experience" from our vantage is once removed, primarily indirect – horrible, sickening images on a television screen or audible anxiety at the end of a phone line.

The suffering of our kinfolk in Israel, however, is of another, more immediate, more terrible kind. They not only see the street in their mind's memory, they board the buses and they walk on the blood-splattered pavement. They collect and bury the dead or what is left of them. They sob at the graveside.

But though the anguish is great and even unbearable, we must avoid the self-accusation and the self-recrimination which merely feed the vicious maw of the Hamas murderers. The scenes of the angry Jewish mob hurling insult and invective upon the prime minister as he surveyed the site of the carnage were a horrible reminder of a terrible, black day barely four months ago, of a society setting upon itself in a frenzy of bewilderment and anger.

Shimon Peres is not the enemy. Anyone who claims the contrary is rewarding the people who hate Jews and who stop at nothing to ensure that, along with Jews, peace will also die.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

A young tree bends; an old tree breaks.

AMERICAN JEWS USED TO LOOK AT ISRAEL LIKE SOME POOR RELATIVE.
WHILE ISRAELIS THOUGHT OF AMERICAN JEWRY AS STUCK IN A DIASPORA MENTALITY.
THESE DAYS WE'VE GOT TO WORK OUT A NEW RELATIONSHIP BASED ON A NEW, SHARED PERCEPTION.
HOW 'BOUT MUTUAL SUSPICION?

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

March 7, 1899 The synagogue in Halifax was sold by the sheriff at the instigation of the Baptist Conference, which foreclosed on the property. Mr. Abraham Michaels bought it and returned it to the Jewish community. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Finestone will pursue interests of Mount Royal

While it has been a unique and satisfying experience to serve in the ministry of our government, there has never been a more important role and responsibility, that I have always tried to respect and fulfil to the best of my ability, than that of being member of Parliament for Mount Royal Riding. The privilege of reflecting the concerns of my constituents, with whom I keep in touch by phone, mail and personal contact is the key to my philosophy of the role of a member of Parliament.

Canada and the people of Mount Royal are dear to me. I am as deeply attached to Montreal, Quebec, Canada and my ancestral home land as I am to my family. I share my pride of belonging to all these realities in my life, which are not in conflict but are all important factors that have given me the unique opportunity to grow within their arms to a happy, meaningful and purposeful life. I have never been more energized to preserve these identities as the paragon of all that is good in national and personal life.

I intend to continue to ensure that the voice of our very special pluralistic riding will be heard as that of important stakeholders in Canadian society. I believe we reflect the will of the people to live together in mutual respect for our differences, with pride and attachment to our country and its democratic values.

I shall pursue efforts to ensure harmony, trust and well-being in the interests of all constituents in Mount Royal. My commitment to them will forever remain unwavering.

Hon. Sheila Finestone, M.P.
Mount Royal

Shalom Achshav youth program

Steve Mock (*CJN* Feb. 15) described the first "official" meeting between Israeli and Palestinian student organizations supported by the Labor party, held on Jan. 24.

Unofficially, however, for the past few years, Shalom Achshav (Peace Now) in Israel has been initiating such joint activities at a rapid pace on an ongoing basis.

Today, Shalom Achshav has established programs for more than 2,000 Israeli and Palestinian students at junior, high school and university levels across Israel, the West Bank and Gaza. So successful are these programs that there are currently another 2,000 students asking to participate in a wide variety of activities which include exchange visits, seminars, bikathons for peace and ongoing dialogue groups.

Beverley Stern
Toronto

Arafat fails to act on PLO covenant

In "A chat with Shimon Peres" (*CJN*, Feb. 22), Peres was reminded that he had said the "peace train will stop" if Yasser Arafat does not rescind the PLO Covenant's anti-Israel clause.

Why has Arafat not honored his commitment?

Using Peres' words, Arafat made the commitment before the entire world; fulfilment of this commitment ought logically to be a *sine qua non* for the peace process. And besides, one should bear in mind that this commitment even honored, remains vulnerable.

Isaac Josy
Toronto

Seeks data on school at Nahalal

I am writing my doctoral thesis at Bar-Ilan University on the Hadassah-WIZO Canada Agricultural School for Girls at Nahalal and the influence of agricultural training on the status of women in pre-state Israel between 1911 and 1930.

If you have any information or know anyone who has, please write to me.

Esther Carmel Hakim
Kibbutz Ramat Hashofet, Israel 19238
Fax 04 9898134

Objects to measures against poor

Harris nonsense or not, Canadians realize that eliminating the deficit is a top priority. However, while debt reduction is saddled on the backs of the disenfranchised, who are blamed for our woes, those at the top of our financial and political structures maintain increasing wealth and power.

We have bought the line of the power elite controlled mass media, that the poor are the problem, not the corporate greed that is eroding our society. In the name of the deficit, we punish those on welfare, oppress the unemployed and turn our backs on 500,000 Ontario children who are at risk.

I for one do not want a tax cut that comes at the expense of children.

Sandra Stern
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

In defence of "common sense"

By LORRIE GOLDSTEIN

It is always difficult to debate someone like Rabbi Dow Marmur who claims, not to be objective, merely to be right.

The fact remains that in arguing that the Tories' Common Sense Revolution in Ontario is worse than the disease it seeks to remedy (*CJN* Perspectives, Feb. 8), Rabbi Marmur has deliberately chosen to all but ignore the disease.

In order to test his thesis, then, let us begin at the beginning, by describing the malady to which he refers only in passing.

Ontario today is among the highest taxed jurisdictions in North America. Over the past 10 years, its two previous governments hiked taxes 65 times, including 11 hikes to personal income taxes. In the same period, public spending more than doubled to $53 billion, outstripping both inflation and population growth. While spending soared, so did public debt — tripling to $100 billion in 10 years.

By the time the NDP was voted out of office last year, Ontario's public debt was steadily rising at the rate of $10 billion annually.

Between 1982 and 1995, spending on welfare in Ontario, which pays out among the highest benefits in North America, rose from $930 million per year to more than $6 billion. At the same time, the number of people on welfare increased fourfold. Until very recently, the number on welfare, now well over one million, had continued to rise through periods of both economic slowdown and growth.

Today, the Ontario government still spends $1 million more every hour than it takes in. Taxpayers spend almost $8 billion per year paying simply the interest on debt, more than we pay for social assistance.

It is this disease, culminating in the eventual inability of previous governments to generate tax revenues even as they increased taxes, that has resulted in numerous symptoms, a few of which Rabbi Marmur eloquently laments. In fact, the quality of everything government does, not just its ability to look after "the poor ... the old, the weak and even the lazy" — to use Rabbi Marmur's terms — has been in decline for some time.

Despite this reality, Rabbi Marmur argues the problem with the "common sense" of the current government and of the average person — that we could not go on the way we had been and that the status quo was not an option — has led to the essentially godless philosophy of "what is mine is mine and what is yours is yours."

This is nonsense. Reducing welfare rates, as this government has done, from 30 percent above the average of the other nine provinces to 10 percent — still leaving us as one of the highest welfare-paying jurisdictions in North America — can hardly be fairly or accurately described as creating a world in which "there can never be sharing."

The reality is that for now, there cannot be as much sharing as there once was, because of the spendthrift attitudes of the two previous governments. As is the case with so many ideological critics of this current government, Rabbi Marmur avoids any mention of this reality, other than to observe that he, and we, should take no comfort from the fact "previous governments may not have done better." (Not done better at what — spending more, spending less, spending wisely?)

Rembrandt's image of Jeremiah contemplating the many difficulties of leading his people, poignantly expresses the conscience-testing quandaries faced by leaders when they must find fair, reasonable and humane solutions to complicated problems.

Then again, as we have already observed. Rabbi Marmur, donning the mantle of the Hebrew prophets on behalf of the poor and disadvantaged, does not claim to be objective, only to be right.

But if it is right to condemn the architects of the Common Sense Revolution for, say, advocating the layoff of 13,000 to 20,000 civil servants in order to control costs, then surely it is wrong not to have condemned in similarly strong language and with equal prominence and vigor, Ottawa's decision last year to fire 45,000 civil servants.

If it is wrong to cut welfare payments in Ontario by $1 billion as the Common Sense Revolution has done, then what of the decision to slash $2 billion from unemployment insurance, as the federal government recently announced? Indeed, why has the Liberal government in Ottawa escaped the brunt of the theological storm (not just from Rabbi Marmur but from the United Church and other religious leaders), to say nothing of provincial governments across Canada of every ideological stripe from Liberal to NDP to Parti Québécois?

They too, have all either embarked down the path of restraint, many long before Ontario did, or expressed the immediate need and desire to do so. Interestingly, it has only been the Tory governments of Ontario and Alberta that have been continuously denounced by some critics.

It is true that not all of these other restraint programs have been as drastic as those outlined in the Common Sense Revolution, but the fact is that when the current government took over in Ontario, it faced a greater problem than most other jurisdictions, due in large part to the prolific spending of the two previous administrations.

This left us with the highest per capita deficit of any province in Canada and the third highest per capita debt. By failing to address these aspects of the disease that has led to the remedy of which Rabbi Marmur disapproves, we are left to wonder about his position on any number of issues.

Does he believe the debt and deficit need to be reduced, or not? Does he believe most Ontarians, and for that matter Canadians, are lying when they tell pollsters they have hit the tax wall and cannot afford to pay any more in taxes? Is he suggesting there is some way to cut public spending in which no entitlements, programs or workers will be affected? Does he, not wishing to be objective but only to be right, support the idea of restraint in theory but object to every cut in practice as yet another example of "cruelty and callousness"?

None of this is to suggest that the current government in Ontario, or governments in general, are above criticism for the way they are pursuing restraint.

There is a school of thought that argues Canada's debt problem is the result, not of spending on social programs, but of the high interest rate policies of the central bank, policies which have had the added negative effect of keeping unemployment high.

Then again, such concerns, if valid, are more appropriately addressed to the federal jurisdiction, since that is where monetary policy is set.

On the provincial front, one can even be a Conservative and have concerns about the recently-passed Tory omnibus law which, contrary to the "less government" promises of the current administration during its election campaign, in fact centralizes even more power in the cabinet.

It has also become clear that the current government at Queen's Park is corporate rather than populist in its "common sense" conservatism. How else to explain its continuing and disturbing silence about the reality of ongoing corporate downsizing in the face of record corporate profits?

Commentators on all sides of the political spectrum have also questioned the wisdom of the promised Tory tax cut and whether it is consistent with fiscal conservatism to remove another $4 to $5 billion from government revenues, thus making the cuts that need to be made in order to balance the budget deeper than they would otherwise have to be.

Finally, there are legitimate policy questions about whether the best way to reduce public spending is simply to fire as many public servants as possible, which in turn brings greater economic uncertainty and added costs to the taxpayer, in the form of unemployment insurance, welfare and reduced ability to pay taxes.

We may all ask ourselves whether these things are examples of true "common sense" at work, just as we may reasonably question the "common sense" of a government which has promised, not only to reduce the provincial income tax rate by 30 percent within three years, but also to balance the budget in five while not touching "a penny" of funding for health care, classroom education and street policing.

But those who raise these issues without at least acknowledging the nature of the crisis we face, and how we arrived there, and with only the sage advice that the government should be somehow kinder and gentler than it now is, do a disservice to the debate.

Given all that, Rabbi Marmur concludes by worrying that in a society where common sense replaces God sense, religious institutions will only be "recognized as benevolent do-gooders and told to pick up the pieces of the damage done by government."

Perhaps he should be equally concerned with those who relegate themselves to the role of "do-gooder" through their own choice, through selective criticism which may well lead the public to conclude they have become political rather than religious partisans — and in trying to be both things at once, neither objective, nor fair, nor right.

Lorrie Goldstein is the senior associate editor of the Toronto Sun.

Opinions

The Law of Return must remain

By Emil Fackenheim

Post-Zionism," "Economic Zionism," "Mideast Benelux" — these and similar expressions have been around here for awhile, shamefaced expressions of non- or even anti-Zionism. Now the shame is gone.

In *Life after Zionism* (*Jerusalem Report*, Feb. 8) Hanoch Marmari cites a "provocative proposal" made by him a year ago in *Ha'aretz*, of which he is editor-in-chief: The Law of Return ought to expire in 2023, 75 years after Israel's founding. He expected a huge protest. But "not one reader responded. The Israeli public, I assume, does not care a whit whether the Law of Return exists or is rescinded."

I reacted with hot anger. Former Torontonian Avraham Avihai's *Danger: Three Jewish Peoples* (New York: Shengold 1993) shows that the Jewish People is threatening to fall apart into three, the Haredim in Israel, other Israelis and the Diaspora. Isn't this enough? Should the politicians help it along and scrap what, next only to the Jewish state itself, is the most heroic Jewish collective achievement in this century? And — still in anger, with a bit of nastiness added — like justice, the Law of Return is blind, admitting olim regardless of politics. After 2023, will the establishment then in power keep out those Jews who are politically incorrect by the standards then considered valid?

Having cooled off, I looked at what supposedly makes the Law of Return "out of step with changing circumstances." Trivial problems aside — such as can be disposed of by slight changes in the law as others have been in the past — Marmari's case comes to two points:

First, there are "olim of necessity" — in flight from persecution — and olim of freedom — from Western Europe, America and other democracies. In 1950 (when the law was passed), there were many of the former, now virtually none. And many of the latter were expected, but few have come.

The most heroic Jewish achievement in this century

Second, Marmari says, "Israel will return more or less to its pre-1967 borders, and in some areas population density will reach Hong-Kong levels."

I will leave aside the controversial prognosis of peace by 2023 and an Israel shrunk as the author anticipates. But a Mideast Jewish Hong Kong? For "life after Zionism," that is what the politicians are telling us, and they are already preparing. A new big trans-Israel highway, with as many lanes as possible, for as many more car as possible! Why not a train and as few cars as possible? "Maybe we don't need a beautiful country," an unreconstructed Zionist writes, sarcastically. "What's wrong with paving over a country?"

The new after-Zionism prophets sound like 10 of the 12 spies sent by Moses to explore the land, who returned wailing that it eats its inhabitants — except that, having found that the land is better than a cannibal, they set out to make it worse and into one.

The remaining two spies sent by Moses, Joshua ben Nun and Caleb ben Yefunneh, give a different report: the land flows with milk and honey. That they, like the 10, exaggerated a bit was discovered when the Zionists came upon swamps and desert; so they, like the present after-Zionists, improved on the spies and, by drying up swamps and making deserts bloom, made it yield milk and honey. But now, after-Zionists say that no more of them should come, that in "some areas" there are too many Jews already.

But there are not enough Jews in the Galil and not enough people in the Negev. There is still a place, it seems, for some Zionists.

Marmari mentions only two kinds — olim of necessity and of freedom. But since our 1983 aliyah, two further groups (or subgroups) were news to us. The bad news are the hustlers and crooks, who prey on all the others. But far more important is the good news — olim, whether of freedom or necessity, who expect a good country but, finding it not good enough, stay to make it better. Olim of this kind Israel will always need. If only for their sake alone, the Law of Return must remain, an essential part of the very substance of Israel.

The battle against despair

By David Hartman

The Jewish calendar has two distinct beginnings, one in the first month, Nissan, with the holiday of Pesach, and one in Tishrei, with the holiday of Rosh Hashanah. These two holidays of new beginnings offer insight into the meaning and direction of Jewish existence.

Unlike Pesach, Rosh Hashanah is not a historical holiday. Rather than focusing upon the destiny of the Jewish people, it celebrates creation, "the birth of the world." The theme of creation has had a decisive formative impact upon Jewish consciousness, for it teaches that what "is" does not exhaust what can be, that no moment of existence discloses the full potential of reality.

The concept of creation thus introduced the Jewish people to the idea of *tshuvah* and change. The essential meaning of *tshuvah* is that the past does not determine the present; a radical new future is always a possibility. Creation conveys the belief that it is never too late to begin again, that no amount of failure, set-back or suffering can remove the possibility of a new start. This is why Rosh Hashanah, the holiday of creation, initiates the 10 days of *tshuvah*, the period of renewal and regeneration preceding Yom Kippur.

If Rosh Hashanah signifies *tshuvah* in the life of the individual, Pesach embodies this idea in the life of community. The story of the Exodus translates the themes of change and new beginnings into historical terms. It is the paradigmatic expression of the notion of *tshuvah* in history. Pesach teaches that no historical conditions are final, that even an utterly humiliated slave people can be raised from the pits of silent despair to the heights of dignified hopeful human existence.

These two Jewish holidays of new beginnings prefigured and made possible the stirring drama of modern Jewish history. A battered people that lived for 2,000 years on the periphery of history could emerge from extermination camps and ghettos and choose to take upon itself the responsibilities of historical existence only because it never abandoned the individual and collective principles of *tshuvah*.

We re-entered historical Jerusalem because we never gave up the Pesach dream of *tshuvah*. Despite the pain and suffering of warfare and terrorism, the essential spirit that gave birth to this country and that continues to nurture its heroic determination is expressed at the end of the Passover seder in the words: "Next year in Jerusalem."

Although we now live in Jerusalem, we continue singing the words that gave hope to Jewish history. We say these words because ultimately they give expression to the faith that has defined the soul of Judaism throughout history: Do not be imprisoned by despair and resignation. Here in Jerusalem, we look forward to a future when terrorism will be a horrible memory of the past, when we can walk the streets of Jerusalem without fear.

Living in Israel, in Jerusalem, has taught me the opposite of Karl Marx's claim that religion is the opiate of the people. The God who liberated us from Egypt and brought us to Mt. Sinai broke the chains of necessity by inspiring Moses and Israel to dream of a world where the ideals of justice and holiness can become realities.

Singing "next year in Jerusalem," in Jerusalem, energizes us against sinking into passivity and despair and testifies to our eternal faith in the God of creation and of the Exodus.

Hawaiian journey

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Two years ago, I reported on my visit to the Hawaiian islands and in particular, my experience with the Jewish community. This column is a sequel, for my wife and I recently returned from another visit to the Aloha State. I gave lectures to the Jewish community in Honolulu (on the island of Oahu) and Kona (on the island of Hawaii, also known as the Big Island).

It happens that Hawaii is the name of both the 50th state in the Union and also of the biggest island, whose land mass is more than twice that of the other seven islands together. Our visit to Honolulu was sponsored jointly by the Reform and Conservative congregations; and that to the Big Island by Kona Beth Shalom, which is as yet unaffiliated with any national movement.

During the years of its independence, which lasted well into the 19th century, Hawaii had a highly stratified society, with strict rules, called the *kapu* system. (The word comes from the Tahitian "taboo.") The sacrosanct chief was truly apart from everyone: he must not be approached to closely; even one's shadow should not fall on his grounds. Women could not eat with men or even prepare their food; fishing and logging fell under equally stringent regulations. Breaking any *kapu* was considered an offence against the gods and always engendered the penalty of death.

However, *kapu* breakers could obtain absolution from the priest at the "place of refuge" — if they could reach it in time. Despite the evocation of the biblical "city of refuge" and the similarity of the Hawaiian word *kahuna* (priest) to the Hebrew, no connections have been found that would show an early contact with our people.

The Jews who live here range from young to old, and from those who are earning their living to those who are retired. No one is sure of their number, although several hundred is a good guess. The two major communities are in Hilo (where the university is located) and Kona, which has a lovely even climate the year round, with an average temperature of 26 C, and where the people enjoy a laid-back, slow-paced lifestyle.

Kona Beth Shalom Congregation counts 40 resident members who came here originally from the U.S. mainland and from Israel. They have one thing in common: they call their habitat *Gan Eden*, an earthy paradise. Adding to our pleasure was the presence of two "snow birds," at whose marriage I had officiated some 40 years ago, in St. Paul, Minn.

Measured by mainland standards, the state of Hawaii is distinguished by a remarkably low level of inter-group prejudice and is well-known for its mixing of races and backgrounds. Jews are part of this ambiance and their percentage of mixed marriages may be the highest in the nation. They hope that, with more and more Jews coming to settle, it will be easier to preserve the ancient heritage.

Hawaii's weather was very kind to us, and so were its people.

The Kirshner file

The passing parade...

By Sheldon Kirshner

They died recently, leaving footprints in time...

Lucjan Dobroszycki, a pre-eminent scholar of the Holocaust, was the author of *Image Before My Eyes: A Photographic History of Life in Poland 1864-1939* and *Reptile Journalism: The Official Polish Language Press Under the Nazis 1939-1945.* He was also the editor of *The Chronicle of the Lodz Ghetto.*

Born in Lodz, he was a Holocaust survivor. After the war, he was long associated with the Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. Following his emigration from Poland in 1970, he was a researcher at the Yivo Institute for Jewish Research and a professor of Holocaust studies at Yeshiva University, both in New York City.

Annie Kriegel, a French historian, was widely considered the leading authority on the Communist party in France. Her book, *The French Communists,* was the standard work on the subject. A member of the resistance movement during the Nazi occupation, she was a force in intellectual circles.

Emanuel Geltman was one of the founding editors, together with Irving Howe and Stanley Plastrik, of *Dissent,* the New York-based political journal. A man of the left, Geltman steered a steady course between his criticism of the abuses of capitalism and his abhorrence of totalitarian Marxism.

Solomon Liptzin, a specialist in Yiddish and German literature, was a prolific author. Among his books were *A History of Yiddish Literature, Historical Survey of German Literature* and *Biblical Themes in World Literature.* From 1923 until 1962, he taught at City College in New York. He was also a founder of Bar-Ilan University in Tel Aviv.

Ernest Geller, an anthropologist, philosopher and political scientist, wrote *Nations and Nationalism,* a groundbreaking work. Born in Paris and raised in Britain, he filled teaching posts at the London School of Economics, Cambridge University and the Central European University in Prague.

Emmanuel Levinas, a Lithuanian-born philosopher and religious thinker who made his career in France, melded Talmudic wisdom with phenomenology. A student of Edmund Husserl and Martin Heidegger, he searched for the meaning of Judaism and morality after Auschwitz.

Melvin Kranzberg helped pioneer the study of the history of technology and popularized it in newspaper articles. A professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, he wrote or edited 11 books. He was a recipient of the Jabotinsky Medal for eminence in science and letters.

Elias Schwarzbart, a civil rights attorney, was the last surviving member of a team of liberal New York lawyers which defended the so-called Scottsboro Boys in Alabama in the 1930s. The celebrated case — a symbol of racial injustice in America — turned on nine black teenagers who had been unjustly accused of raping two white women. The trial led to two historic U.S. Supreme Court verdicts.

Jerry Cohen — a dean of class-action litigation in the United States — won two landmark cases. The first enabled farm workers to unionize themselves for the first time. The second established the precedent that sexual harassment in the workplace was a violation of civil rights law. In addition, he participated in the Exxon Valdez oil spill trial and in a case involving the leak of pesticides from a Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India, which killed about 4,000 workers.

Simon Rifkind won renown as a trial lawyer. He was probably best known for representing Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis in confrontations with the author William Manchester (*The Death of a President*) and with the photographer Ronald Galella, who invaded her privacy. In his capacity as advisor on Jewish affairs to the U.S. army in Europe after World War II, Rifkind assisted Holocaust survivors in Germany and Austria.

David Marshall, a founding father of the city state of Singapore, was chief minister in its first elected government in 1955. Born in Singapore, he was the son of Iraqi immigrants. From 1978 until 1993, he was Singapore's ambassador to France. Later, he practised law.

Philip Piratin, the last Communist MP in Britain's House of Commons, was elected to his Mile End seat in 1945, only to lose it in a 1950 election. Piratin, whose parents were Russian Jews, was a fighter against British fascism and a London city counsellor for 12 years before entering parliament. In the early 1950s, he was circulation manager of the *Daily Worker,* the organ of the Communist party. In his latter years, he prospered in business. Piratin's role in politics and the working-class movement was analysed in a recent book, *London Jews and British Communism 1935-1945,* written by Canadian academic Henry Srebrnik.

Israel Cohen helped develop the concept of the supermarket in the United States. He was president of Giant Food, Inc., which his father, Nehemiah, founded in Washington in 1936. Under Cohen's direction, the food store chain expanded. Last year, with 164 stores from New Jersey to Virginia, Giant racked up revenues of almost $4 billion.

Stanley Shure was the world's largest manufacturer of microphones. As head of Shure Brothers Inc. in Chicago, he was a leader in the audio electronics industry.

Leon Schwab and his three brothers were the proprietors of a chain of Los Angeles drugstores known as a meeting place for Hollywood stars, starlets and starry-eyed tourists. The flagship store closed in 1983 after a 52-year run.

Charles Denner, Polish by birth, was a French movie star who appeared in films by Truffaut (*The Man Who Loved Women*), Lelouche (*Robert et Robert*) and Costa-Gavras (*Z*).

Morris Bruckman, an engineer, led the Grumman Aerospace Inc. team which designed the landing gear for the first spacecraft to land on the moon in July 1969.

Nathan Rosen, one of Israel's greatest physicists, was the founder of the Israel National Academy of Sciences and Humanities and of the Technion Institute of Technology in Haifa. For two years during the 1930s, he was an assistant to Albert Einstein.

Rudolph Peierls was an atomic physicist whose calculations paved the way for the A-bomb. A native of Berlin who fled Germany in 1937, he settled in Britain, establishing the department of mathematical physics at Birmingham University.

Sidney Hurwitz elevated the treatment of diaper rash and infant skin disorders into a medical specialty. In 1974, he and several colleagues founded the American Society for Pediatric Dermatology. In 1981, he wrote *Clinical Pediatric Dermatology,* which is still the last word on the topic.

Dick Steinberg was a sportsman par excellence, a general manager of the New York Jets football squad and a talent scout who had a hand in building the Los Angeles Rams and the New England Patriots into Super Bowl teams.

Jack Weiler, a real estate tycoon whose company has five million square feet of commercial space in New York, was a philanthropist whose pet cause was Israel. The Bezalel Academy of Arts in Jerusalem was renamed the Jack Weiler College of Architecture and a town near Israel's capital was named Kiryat Jack Weiler.

Ioann, the Russian Orthodox Church's prelate in St. Petersburg, was an arch anti-Semite who blamed Russia's ills on Jews. His source was the infamous *Protocols of the Elders of Zion.*

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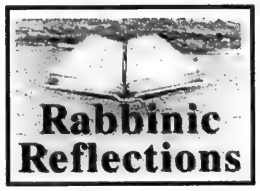


Rabbinic Reflections

Family seders

By RABBI LIONEL MOSES

One of the classic barometers of the vitality of the Jewish family and by extension, the Jewish community has been the Passover seder. The seder has been for generations the quintessential family meal and home celebration. Indeed, the biblical ordinance that instituted the very first Passover, the very night the Israelites were liberated from Egyptian bondage, enjoins the people to select a lamb, "one lamb for each household, a single lamb for each family." (Exodus 11:3) Only if there were too few people to consume the lamb in one family did the Torah permit families to join together, so that nothing would be left over or wasted.

Among contemporary Jews, the Passover seder often fulfils the vital task of bringing families together, especially those families who are no longer all residing in the same city. In our times, this is not insignificant nor secondary in importance. Family integrity has long been a hallmark of Jewish continuity and as families have become more mobile and spread out across the expanse of our country and continent, the ties between sisters and brothers, grandparents and grandchildren, have been loosened and weakened, making families more vulnerable to assimilation and alienation. Passover seders remain a significant vehicle for bringing families back together.

Passover seders, however, serve a second vital function. The seder provides an opportunity for parents and grandparents to assume the role of teachers. The goal of the seder is for parents and grandparents to tell the story of Pesach, the story of the Exodus, through a unique combination of ritual and narrative. Repeatedly, the Torah reminds us that as adults, as parents, we have a responsibility to be Jewish educators. On a daily basis, most of us delegate this responsibility to a dedicated corps of professional educators. But once a year, the responsibility to teach, to educate, to explain, falls on each of us as individuals.

Leading a Pesach seder may appear to be a daunting experience, one from which we shy away. Few of us are teachers by vocation. Even fewer among us are Jewish educators. Lack of training as educators, combined with an inherent fear of inadequacy that we might not know enough, often frighten the most intrepid among us and discourage us from seizing the pedagogic opportunity provided by the seder. The results are that the seder is often reduced to four unanswered questions, a cup or two of wine and some matzah and horseradish that precede an elaborate family dinner.

The reality, however, is that it is much easier than most of us imagine to create a seder that is at once educational and engaging and also age-appropriate for our children. The number of Haggadot with detailed, step-by-step instructions on conducting a seder and interesting, engaging commentaries and explanations has grown exponentially over the past decade or two. Tapes are also available that record all the melodies — from the familiar *Dayenu* to the less familiar passages and hymns — which can transform the seder from a ho-hum evening to a delightful, engaging experience, fun for young and old alike. There are even books that describe craft projects that can involve parents and children in the weeks leading up to the seder, so that the seder becomes a sharing ceremony that culminates all the weeks of preparation.

Ron Wolfson, professor of Jewish Education at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, presents the seder as a play in four parts. Critical to "performing" the play is that participants at the seder be assigned roles that they "act out."

In his book, *The Art of Jewish Living: The Passover Seder*, published by the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, Wolfson describes over 50 different ways to make the seder more educationally creative and fun for all participants. Many are simple, such as lighting one yom tov candle for each member of the family or distributing nuts or dried fruit to children during the four questions. Others are more involved, such as creating individualized seder plates or preparing posters for each of the 14 steps of the seder. The results can be electrifying, transforming the seder into an educational experience that engages old and young alike.

This year, I urge you to be a bit daring and experiment. Begin by acquiring enough copies of the Haggadah for everyone at the table. Choose the Haggadah carefully, making certain that the instructions are clear, that the English is comprehensive and that the commentaries and explanations are appropriate for people of a variety of ages. Buy a tape of Passover melodies and introduce a new song or tune at the seder. And consider some creative crafts and rituals that might add a new and unique dimension to your seder.

And finally, don't be afraid of being a teacher. You and I might not be able to answer all the questions our children ask. That does not matter, because your family will discover that all of us still have something to learn about this, the richest home ritual and celebration of the Jewish year. If you believe in yourself, you can do it.

Rabbi Moses is the spiritual leader of Shaare Zion Congregation in Montreal.

Japanese village recalls Rabin

By JACQUES BENDAVID
Special to The CJN

KYOTO, Japan — The long-lasting efforts of Yitzhak Rabin were recently remembered in a quiet Japanese village when a famous temple bell rang in his memory.

The large bronze bell measuring 1.8 metres and weighing 1.5 tons, located in a solitary corner at the Daikakuji Temple in Ukyo-ku in Kyoto, was rung by a senior Buddhist monk dressed in the grey-colored cloth of the order.

As a Jewish tourist, I was naturally so touched that I had a lump in my throat.

In Kyoto for over a week, I had not heard any temple bells before hearing this one. So when the evenly-spaced and gentle-sounding thump reverberated in this city of 1.5 million, I was surprised and curious.

It was not until the next day that I saw published in the *Mainichi Daily News* a photo with a caption proclaiming that the event had been in honor of Rabin.

It was a good deed and I wanted the temple elders to know that their kind gesture was appreciated.

With a copy of the newspaper in my hand, I asked a clerk at the Ana Hotel, where I was staying, to help me with the direction to the temple.

I did not want to take a taxi. It was a moment that I wanted to share with Japanese people. I travelled by bus and reached the Daikakuji Temple.

A young, English-speaking Buddhist monk appeared, smiled at me very politely and noticed the picture I was clutching in my hand.

"You know Rabin?" he asked, reverently.

"Not personally," I replied, softly. "But I have heard of his efforts for peace. Do you think I could see the bell?"

He eyed me appreciatively and said, "Yes."

I took off my shoes and wore slippers in keeping with manners of the religion. We walked together, very gently, to where the bell stood.

Below the bell was a thick layer of fresh snow to symbolize the purity of the event that had taken place the day before.

The bell is engraved with the words for peace — words Rabin had uttered in Jerusalem.

Jacques Bendavid is a journalist who lives in Toronto.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Konin comes alive

Konin: A Quest by Theo Richmond, Random House $38

This is the story of a man with a consuming passion. It is at the same time a stunning recreation of Konin, a Polish town, 125 miles west of Warsaw, where Jews lived, worked and dreamed for 500 years. It's where the author's parents were born and where the Jewish population of 3,000 was destroyed in the Holocaust.

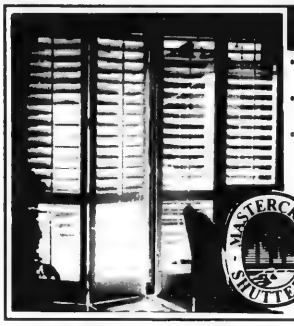
Richmond tracks down every Koniner he can find. His travels take him from his native England to the United States and then to Israel. He interviews Jews in the most unlikely places: Dallas, Tulsa, Orlando.

What emerges is an immensely moving story, composed of the oral testimony of elderly witnesses, archival material and the author's visit to Konin itself, now a concrete industrial town. Not even one Jew remains.

A lost time and place are found again. Everything is restored with pungent life. It's all here, from the slithering fish in the market to the hectic preparations for Passover. How the Jews of Konin spent their leisure time, how they prayed, married and buried their dead. "How they got their water from the wells, and how a milkman had revolutionary newspapers in a milk churn. It's also about the small *cheders* or religious schools, the grand onion-domed synagogue and the numerous *shtiebls*, or little congregations, that accommodated all shadings of religious belief. It's about how tailors struggled night and day to eke out a living."

Of special interest is the biographical sketch of Leopold Infeld, the renowned physicist, who left Konin in his early years, became a colleague of Albert Einstein and furthered his career as a professor of mathematics at the University of Toronto. When he visited Poland in 1950, the Canadian Embassy in Warsaw, suspicious of his leftist political ideas, asked him to surrender his Canadian passport. Later, his two young children born in Canada were stripped of their nationality. The family never returned to Canada.

This work revives a way of life that, when another generation has passed, will be truly irreversible. Sadder and wiser, the author concludes: "Now the journey was done. Curiosity was satisfied, an ache assuaged. To say I felt regret at leaving this place would be false and sentimental. I felt no emotion. Maybe it was spent. Or maybe the town was releasing me from its grip, for I knew now that it was not the place that held meaning for me but the people who once lived here. Their Konin would stay with me always, a persistent echo."



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The lawyer who stepped forward

By EVELYN BROOK
Special to The CJN

It is four years since I first spoke with Gita Goldstein, an observant Jew who follows Halachah and will not deviate from the course of Jewish Law.

Guest Voices

About three years ago, she told me that a number of people were helping her to secure a *get* from her husband, Israel.

She had knocked on many doors, entreating rabbis in Montreal and New York to help her. They told her that, regrettably, there was nothing they could do. Goldstein's husband would have to willingly come to give her a *get*.

I offered her support and she replied that she was confident the divorce problem could be resolved quietly. She did not want to hurt her children by putting them in the public eye and making their lives difficult.

How ironic then, that it was Israel Goldstein, the man Gita protected with her silence, who placed the family in the public domain. He swore before a rabbi and two witnesses that he had betrothed his minor daughter, then 11½ years old.

But the declaration was odd because this father did not state the names of the prospective groom nor the witnesses to the bethrothal, and the rabbi, Rabbi Yosef Taussig, did not insist that the names be recorded.

The outrage in the world Jewish community was expressed loudly. Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach reviewed the Goldstein case of *kedushei katanah* and prior to his death, he rendered an oral decision, a *p'sak*. Rabbi Auerbach invalidated the betrothal and the story appeared in the *New York Times*.

But other rabbis were slow to endorse the oral decision and some refused to comment. In general it was accepted that Rabbi Auerbach's decision, though oral, was verified and would receive compliance. The Goldstein child would be free to wed as if the betrothal had never occurred.

But what of Israel Goldstein, and what of his confederates who tutored him regarding the steps to be taken for the anonymous betrothal? What about the *get* for Gita?

David Stern, a lawyer in New York, stepped forward and began to make a civil case against Israel Goldstein and Rabbi Taussig. The case was on the court docket for Feb. 28. On Feb. 9, Stern was in a train accident. He did not survive. Gita's daughter asks: "Mamma, who will help us now?"

Gita responds as a mourner who also seeks to comfort others. She strongly feels the world should know the merit of her late lawyer. The following are her words:

If it was 'only' the terrible tragedy of a devoted father being struck down in the prime of life — *dayeinu*: it would be tragic enough for us to mourn.

If it was 'only' the terrible tragedy of a beloved husband being struck down in the prime of life — *dayeinu*: it would be tragic enough for us to mourn.

If it was 'only' the terrible tragedy of a dedicated lawyer being struck down in the prime of life — *dayeinu*: it would be tragic enough for us to mourn.

How much more so when the *niftar* (the deceased), David Stern, was a human being with all those qualities and many more. Ignoring social convention and waiving any fee, he worked tirelessly and compassionately for the joint causes of *kedushei ketanah* and *agunot*.

How he rejoiced when the slightest bit of positive information became available to him. How he lifted my spirits and fed me hope as my trials and tribulations and those of my young daughter threatened to overwhelm me.

It comforts me to know that Mr. Stern will surely reap his rewards for all the *chesed* he did, championing the causes of the downtrodden in this world.

But now we are bereft, without our earthly advocate. Who will fight our battles? Who will take our side? Who will have the righteous temerity to step into David Stern's shoes? His passing leaves a gaping void.

May HaShem comfort the widow and orphans of this blessed man and may He send comfort to us all speedily and in our times.

When we respond "Amen" we should also become a part of the answer to Gita Goldstein's prayer. We should all respond, "I will take your side."

Evelyn Brook is the president of Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get (ICAR/Canada).

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ADMISSION FREE

Greater Toronto Area

Cookbook's proceeds to aid Mount Sinai Hospital

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The popular new *Vitality Cookbook* is going to provide more than just good eating. Part of its proceeds will go to Mount Sinai Hospital's Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute.

Frances Berkoff, a dietician at the hospital, and Monda Rosenberg, food editor of *Chatelaine* magazine, as well as publisher HarperCollins, *Chatelaine* and Mount Sinai itself are taking part in the Vitality Cancer Research Fund. It will be used for studies already underway at the institute which aim to understand the root causes of cancer.

Calgary-born Berkoff, who does outpatient and ambulatory care nutritional counselling, said she has always been interested not only in food, but in the clinical aspects of nutrition, especially the role food plays in preventing disease.

"Nutrition is connected to illness, well-being, even to athletic performance. It connects to weight, diabetes, cardiac and cholesterol problems, food allergies and pregnancy."

There is a growing awareness of nutrition among the general public, she said, although she questioned whether this concern is translated into practical terms.

"A study in the United States, shows that although there are more messages about good eating and more low fat food available, the population is growing fatter," she said, adding that there is no similar study in Canada.

One of the reasons, she suggested, is that in most cultures, including the Jewish one, food is central. "We often define our culture by the food we eat, especially on holidays."

Adolescents often go the other way, she said, putting too much emphasis on weight. "This reflects what society is saying about weight in young women."

Nutritionists are "trying to get away from the notion of 'good' or 'bad' food. It's the total diet, which should concentrate on less fat, more fibre and lots of fruits and vegetables."

When she and longtime friend Rosenberg decided to write this cookbook, they had certain goals: it should be user friendly, with lots of extra information; have easy and low fat recipes and it should be affordable — which it is at $12.95.

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Beth Habonim spiritual leader Eli Rubenstein poses with the synagogue's representatives to this year's March of the Living (from left) Naomi Zittell, 16; Ashley Morris, 15; Rae Berger, 15; and Etan Muskat, 15. [Rosemary Goldhar photo]

Congregation builds a bridge

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Beth Habonim is a small congregation in the Bathurst-Glencairn area of North York that was founded on the principles of liberal German Judaism.

Its name, *habonim*, builders, reflects its original members, Holocaust survivors who were "rebuilding" their lives in a new land.

Current spiritual leader Eli Rubenstein feels that its success is based on its smallness, its liberal theology ("that means it's tolerant to diverse views") and "a wonderful cantor, Esther Ghan-Firestone and an equaly wonderful choir."

The choir, which has recorded several tapes, "has had a major impact," Rubenstein feels.

The synagogue, in accordance with Rubenstein's own philosophy, bridges the line between tradition and liberalism.

"Tradition and ritual give an intense meaning to life, and a sense of community. The trick is to integrate it with life, not just once a week."

Liberalism, on the other hand, stresses an egalitatian, universal outlook on humanity. "It is the ability to take rituals and traditions and make them meaningful to us."

There must be "intelligent" change, he believes, not just for its own sake, but to make the synagogue experience and Judaism itself more meaningful.

The synagogue has grown since he took over in 1988. It now has a membership of 285, with a closed waiting list of 125. Its composition has changed as well, from older people to "tons of young families with kids."

Four of the synagogue's young people are going on this year's March of the Living, for which Rubenstein, director of young leadership development for UIA, is national director. One of the choir's stars, Rae Braeger, will be one of the singers at Birkenau.

There are children's services on Friday night, and high holy days, and special celebrations on Purim and Chanukah. Their religious school is full.

Rubenstein is constantly working to get more people to come to services, by making them more participatory, contemporary and spiritual.

"We keep the traditional songs, but I also come up with prayers that speak to people."

Instead of a sermon, there is a discussion. "It is more a dialogue," he explains.

One Friday night a month, Beth Habonim sponsors Yedidei Shabbat, a participatory, very informal erev Shabbat program.

The synagogue has not forgotten its roots in the Holocaust. It is one of the few institutions that has a Kristallnacht commemoration every year.

"We are very *heimish*," Rubenstein sums up. "And that's nice."

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Two interpretations of biblical texts

TORONTO — Interpreting biblical texts is a necessary but sometimes confusing task, two scholars recently agreed, though they approached the subject from different points of view.

The annual Leonard Wolinsky Lectures on Jewish Life and Education attracted a large audience to York University to hear Prof. James Kugel of Harvard and Bar Ilan universities and Prof. Nehama Aschkenasy of the University of Connecticut at Stamford address the theme of Text and Tradition in Tension.

Both speakers explored the ways in which biblical texts have been understood by different communities over the years.

Kugel suggested that interpretation was a necessity, given the importance of understanding revelation correctly.

His first example of a perplexing text was Abraham's odd behavior in telling Pharaoh that Sarah was his sister. How were Jews to understand the patriarch's apparently cowardly deed?

Kugel then showed how a seemingly craven act has been interpreted as divinely ordained and how such a "misreading" of the text has stood the test of time.

James Kugel

Nehama Aschkenasy

He reviewed the history of interpretation, which culminated in what he called "vicious," late 19th-century attacks on the traditional readings of scripture by "scientific" Bible critics.

He noted that scholars today have returned to a greater appreciation of tradition in relation to sacred texts.

Aschkenasy's talk further illustrated Kugel's description of the interplay between text and interpretation as sometimes harmonious, but sometimes hostile and tense. Her thesis, first stated in her book *Eve's Journey*, is that most biblical texts are not patriarchal, but later tradition demonized women.

Aschkenasy tried to counter both anti-feminist traditional readings and radical feminist condemnations of the sacred texts. She finds women's dignity and power in the language of the Bible, a notion which she illustrated through a close reading of the account in Genesis of Adam and Eve and the serpent.

The Wolinsky Lectures, presented by York's Centre for Jewish Studies, are endowed by the Leonard Wolinsky Foundation, in cooperation with the Toronto Board of Jewish Education.

Greater Toronto Area

Children get taste of helping others

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

You are not required to complete the task, but neither are you free to neglect it. (Pirke Avot 3:19-20)

TORONTO — On a recent Sunday morning, students and teachers at Temple Emanu-El stopped all their regular activities and took part in the Temple's second annual Mitzvah Day.

Under the guidance of facilitators who represented various city-wide organizations, students, teachers and parents were given a glimpse of what they can do to make the world a better place.

Martha Rosenberg, chair of the Temple's social action committee says that last year's event "was such a success, people asked for a repeat. We presented workshops geared to different age groups and different levels. People came away very impressed and ready to do some good."

Facilitators included representatives from Eva's Place, a North York emergency home for youth, who discussed what could cause a young person to become homeless. After the discussion, young people were urged to volunteer on the youth for youth committee for ages 14 to 24, which raises awareness and funds through special events geared to youth; or to join the community relations committee or make a donation (financial or otherwise) to the home.

Holocaust survivor interviewed

In another workshop, teens had the opportunity to informally interview a Holocaust survivor, who later asked them to visit the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, see a production of *The Dairy of Anne Frank* or arrange an outing to the Photo Passage at Harbourfront entitled Remain Silent: Auschwitz/Birkenau, by photographer Jack Burman.

Children from kindergarten to Grade 3 and their parents attended a workshop led by Community Builders, an organization that offers programs intended to help schools set up workshops on welcoming diversity, anti-violence programs in which young people work on reclaiming their personal power as an alternative to violence, or leadership training. Facilitators encouraged parents and teachers to talk to children about community — who is in theirs, what differences exist, what it means to be friends and allies to people from different groups and welcoming them to bring home someone from a different background.

In an arts and crafts room, young children constructed greeting cards which were later sold to raise money for the Hospital for Sick Children.

"It makes me feel good to do art, but I feel even better that my art can help someone," said one paint-splattered child.

Other workshops included understanding people with disabilities, responding to anti-Semitism and other bigotry, friendships and relationships, how kids can be agents of change, and Voices for Children, in which kids learned how everyone, no matter what age, can get involved in the community to improve the lives of children and young people.

LEGION HONORS ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

Representatives of the Royal Canadian Legion visited the Danilack and Hurwich branches of Associated Hebrew Schools to present awards to Jordana Talsky and Jonathan Hillel. Seen (from left) is Sam Romberg, Jordana Talsky and Al Labovitch. Talsky received her award for a poetry composition and Hillel received his for placing first in the prose division.

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Greater Toronto Area

Beth Tzedec marks its 40th anniversary

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jack Grossman has vivid memories of entering Beth Tzedec for the first time. A third-generation member — now president of the congregation — he was 11 years old when the stately Bathurst Street edifice first opened its doors in 1955.

"I [experienced], as I do today, grandeur ... and awe," Grossman reflected recently. "The synagogue has not changed in that respect."

But a lot *has* changed, and as the shul marks its 40th anniversary this year (1995-96) with celebratory events and a retrospective display, the differences are both tangible and intangible.

The creation of an AIDS committee, an alternative participatory Shabbat service and expanded opportunities for women (allowing more family members to be honored together) have fostered a feeling of greater warmth.

"We are mindful of the importance of creating a community here. It doesn't mean that it didn't happen before, but there's more effort now," said Grossman.

The changes at Beth Tzedec — North America's largest Conservative congregation with 2,700 member families — reflect the evolution of Toronto's Jewish community in size and spiritual need.

In 1950, there were 40,000 Jews here; the population has since grown to 164,000. The shul's location reflects Toronto Jewry's ongoing shift northward.

Beth Tzedec resulted from the merger of downtown congregations Goel Tzedec and Beth Hamidrash Hagadol (the McCaul Street Synagogue). Both were established in the 1880s and eventually switched to Conservative Judaism.

In fact, Canada's first Saturday bat mitzvah was held at Goel Tzedec in 1950.

Goel Tzedec artifacts include a magnificent half-moon stained-glass window rescued from Beth Tzedec's boiler room. The eight-foot-wide piece, with two griffin-like creatures studded with chunks of glass, once hung over the ark.

Reflecting on today's Jewish population, Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, who has headed the congregation since 1993, noted that "Jews don't live in a compact neighborhood any more [and] people in many cases live farther from their homes of origin."

In response, he is leading members in "seeing the synagogue as a community [where] the congregation cares ... and tries to provide spiritual resources. I think people are more aware of a need for that now."

In 1955, Beth Tzedec was on the cutting edge of different trends.

It was very advanced architecturally, noted Jack Orenstein, Beth Tzedec's longtime executive vice-president. At least two synagogues were modelled on it.

"I think we were one of the first to use Israeli marble," said Bert Godfrey, a former president of Goel Tzedec who travelled in search of building ideas as part of a committee.

The shul set a local precedent by featuring high-profile speakers, such as Israeli prime ministers, in its adult education programs.

The late Rabbi Stuart Rosenberg, who became Beth Tzedec's spiritual leader within months of its opening, was the driving force behind those lectures.

"It used to be that the synagogue was only a house of prayer," said cantor emeritus Joseph Cooper. "Rabbi Rosenberg changed the face of the synagogue to a house of study and a house of prayer."

The rabbi was also a force in establishing an on-site congregational day school, a forerunner of the United Synagogue Day Schools branch still housed there.

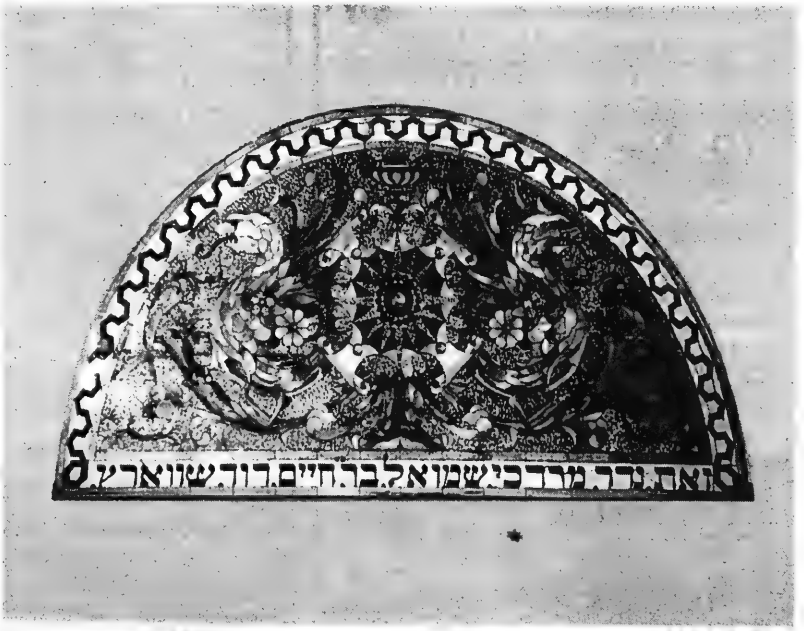
Rabbi Rosenberg, a charismatic leader, was fired in 1973 following a bitter contractual dispute that created unprecedented dissent.

The congregation began to regroup under the leadership of Rabbi Benjamin Friedberg, who preceded Rabbi Frydman-Kohl.

"I think whenever you have experiences of conflict, you can look for ways to learn from them," said Rabbi Frydman-Kohl.

"If when you leave synagogue, you feel you have connected with other people and with G-d ... out of that experience should be a sense that one's life has more meaning, more focus. That's a big goal, and it requires a lot of work."

From left: Bert Godfrey, Morris Kaufman, Ben Hillman and Judge Samuel Factor took part in the May 1953 ground-breaking ceremony for Beth Tzedec synagogue.



A decorative stained-glass piece from one of Beth Tzedec's parent congregations now stands at the ... synagogue's museum entrance awaiting a permanent location.

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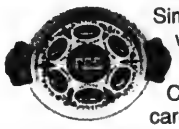

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Greater Toronto Area

Jerusalem's the secret of Jewish survival: Druckman

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Jewish people have survived because of Jerusalem, according to Rabbi Chaim Druckman, founder and rosh yeshivah of Yeshivat Hesder Or Etzion and newly elected chair of Igud Yeshivat Hesder.

Rabbi Druckman was speaking at a recent Mizrachi adult education program at Shaarei Tefillah congregation.

Like the ancient Persians, Greeks, Babylonians and Romans, the Jewish people should have faded away, Rabbi Druckman said.

"In the *zchut* (merit) of Jerusalem, HaShem kept us alive, split our sea of troubles, brought us out of *galut* (exile), and saved Eretz Yisrael, in order that we can fulfil our goal, that 'Out of Zion will come the Torah,' " he said.

The eternal nature of Jerusalem, he said, lifts us above temporary problems and troubles. "Without that perspective, temporary problems can lead us to despair."

When at the end of Yom Kippur and of the Pesach seder we say "*L'shanah Haba'ah b'Yerushalayim*" (Next year in Jerusalem), "it is not just a longing," Rabbi Druckman said. "It is a real belief that we will be back in Jerusalem, in our eternal state."

During the time of the second Temple, he said, we fasted during Tisha b'Av, the commemoration at that time of the destruction of the first Temple, even though it had been rebuilt.

That is because "others were ruling us," he said, adding that several rabbinic sages ruled that we must tear our garments in mourning over Jerusalem, not only if the city is physically in ruins, but if it is under the control of others.

"In all those years [that we were outside Jerusalem], we always believed that Israel is our country, that Jerusalem is our capital and that we will be back there."

Many Jews do not realize the eternal significance of Jerusalem, he said.

"The real reason for all our troubles is that we are far from our Jewish roots, far from HaShem," far from the "eternal soul" that is Jerusalem.

In response to a question from the audience, Rabbi Druckman said that maintaining Jerusalem as the Israeli capital "depends on our own spiritual strength. If the world knows that we won't give in and that pressure won't help, then the pressure will stop.

'Educational revolution'

"The question is whether we will be weak or strong morally."

When an audience member asked what Prime Minister Shimon Peres will do about Jerusalem, the rabbi shot back: "The answer is that he shouldn't be the prime minister after the next elections."

The way to strengthen the Jewish people in Israel is through "an educational revolution," he said.

It used to be, he said, that when religious children finished elementary school, "they took off their kippahs."

Now, he said, "you see youngsters with kippahs all over — our youngsters [those from Bnei Akiva schools and Ulpanat schools for girls] are a model all over Israel, including in the army."

New cooking classes coming for spring

TORONTO — The Kashruth Council of Toronto, affiliated with Vaad Harabanim of Toronto, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and Canadian Jewish Congress, has announced its lineup of spring cooking classes.

Three new classes will be offered and one class will be repeated by popular request. Two classes will be held before Passover and two after.

The demonstrations will be given by Vivian Anhang, a teacher and graduate home economist with many years' experience in presenting food-related programs to all segments of the community.

The classes will once again be held at the Shaarei Tefillah Congregation on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. There is ample parking and convenient public transportation. The fee for each class is $15, $10 for students under 18 years of age.

The classes include Elegant Dinner Buffet — Meat (V37) on March 12; Passover Demonstration — Dairy (V38) on March 20; Baking and Other Treats for the Sweet Table (V39) on May 15; and Gourmet Cooking Made Easy (V2) on May 21, a repeat of last year's highly successful class.

Classes are open to males and females. Enrolment is limited, with registration on a first-come first-served basis.

To register, send your name, address, postal code, phone number (home and work) and a postdated cheque for the day of the class to: Cynthia Gasner, Information and Public Relations, Kashruth Council of Toronto, 4600 Bathurst St., Suite 240, Willowdale, Ont., M2R 3V2. If registering for more than one class, please send a separate cheque for each class and for each participant. For more details, call 416-635-9550.

Feuerstein to lecture

TORONTO — World renowned educator and psychologist Dr. Reuven Feuerstein will be giving the Susan Michelle Fogle Memorial Lecture at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, on March 14 at 8:15 p.m.

His topic will be Thinking in New Ways: New Ways of Thinking.

Feuerstein's theories about intelligence and thinking have had a major impact on the understanding of the learning process. He has developed the Learning Potential Assessment Device (LPAD) and Instrumental Enrichment, a practical remediation system aimed at developing cognitive strategies fo logical thinking and independent problem solving.

Feuerstein is the founder and director of the International Centre for the Enhancement of Learning Potential and the Hadassah-WIZO-Canada Research Institute in Jerusalem.

Dori Levine, principal of the Dr. Abraham Shore Academy, She'arim Hebrew Day School, which is sponsoring the lecture, told *The CJN* the school uses Feuerstein's methodology extensively in both the Jewish and secular studies programs.

For tickets and information, call She'arim at 416-633-8247.

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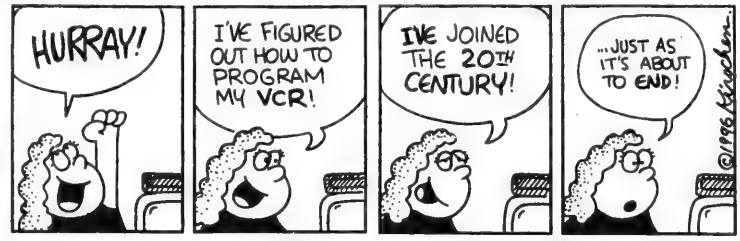
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די מעשה פון פורים, וועלכע איז פאַרשריבן אין מגילת אסתר, איז פאַרגעקומען אין צייט פון קעניג אחשורוש פון פערסיע (485-464 פ.ק.).

דער מלך אחשורוש האָט געלאָט רופן די מלכה ושתי, כדי צו באַ-וויזן איר שיינקייט פאַר די פערסישע נאָבלייט, וועלכע זיינען שוין געווען היפשלעך בגילופיד'יק ביי דעם קעניגלעכן באַנקעט. די מלכה ושתי האָט זיך אָפּגעזאָגט, ווייל עס איז געווען קעגן דער עטיקעט פון יענער צייט. דער מלך איז געוואָרן אין כעס, וואָס די מלכה האָט אים ווידערשפּעניקט און ער האָט זי פאַרטריבן פון פאַלאַץ. נאָך לאַנגע זוכענישן האָט מען פאַר דעם קעניג געפונען אַ נייע מלכה — די שיינע אסתר, אַ קוזינע פון מרדכי'ן. מרדכי, אַ געלערנטער און שטאָלצער ייד וואוינט אין דעם קעניגלעכן פּאַ-לאַץ, אָבער אחשורוש ווייסט ניט, אַז אסתר איז זיינע אַ קרובה.

מרדכי געפינט אויס וועגן אַ פאַרשווערונג קעגן דעם מלך אחשורוש. ער לאָט וועגן דעם וויסן דעם קעניג דורך אסתר'ן. אַזוי אַרום ראַטעוועט מרדכי דעם קעניג'ס לעבן. דאָס ווערט פאַרשריבן אין די קעניגלעכע כראָניקעס.

המן, דער הויפּט-מיניסטער פון מלך אחשורוש, אַ צורר היהודים, טראָגט אַ כעס אויף מרדכי'ן, ווייל ער וויל זיך פאַר אים ניט בויגן. המן פאַרטראַכט אַ נקמה-אַקט אומצוברענגען מרדכי'ן צוזאַמען מיט אַלע יידן. ער וואַרפט גורל און עס פאַלט אויס אויפן 13-טן טאָג פון חודש אָדר, דער טאָג פאַר אומברענגען די יידן.

המן קומט צום קעניג אחשורוש און דערקלערט אים, אַז ביי אים אין לאַנד וואוינט אַ פרעמד פאָלק צעשפּרייט איבער אַלע פּראָווינצן פון זיין גרויסער מדינה. זיי פאָלגן נישט די געזעצן פון לאַנד, נאָר לעבן לויט זייערע אייגענע מנהגים און געזעצן. המן בעט דערלויבעניש ביים קעניג צו פאַרניכטן די יידן און זאָגט אים צו אַריינצוברענגען זייער גאָלד און רייכ-טום אין דער קאַסע פון קעניג. דער קעניג, וועלכער ווייסט ניט, אַז אסתר המלכה איז אַ טאָכטער פון יידישן פאָלק, גיט המנ'ען די דערלויבעניש, און אַ באַפעל גייט אַרויס צו פאַרניכטן אַלע יידן דעם 13-טן אָדר.

מרדכי לאָט וויסן אסתר'ן וועגן דעם באַפעל און בעט איר זיך משתדל זיין ביים קעניג אָפּצורופן די גזירה. כאָטש עס איז פאַרבאָטן פאַר דען קעניגין צו גיין זען דעם קעניג, סיידן ער רופט זי אַריין, שטעלט אסתר איין איר לעבן און גייט צום קעניג. זי דערציילט אים דעם סוד, אַז אויך זי איז אַ יידישע טאָכטער און בעט אים ער זאָל ראַטעווען די יידן און אויך איר. אסתר פאַסט דאַן 3 טעג און בעט צו גאָט, אַז די גזירה זאָל אָפּגערופן ווערן.

אחשורוש איז איבערראַשט פון דער צוגעגרייטער פאַרשווערונג קעגן אים. ער רופט אָפּ דעם באַפעל צו פאַרניכטן די יידן און אָנשטאָט דעם באַפעלט ער הענגען המנ'ען אויף דער זעלבער תליה, וואָס המן האָט צו-געגרייט פאַר מרדכי'ן.

דער קעניג באַשטימט דאַן מרדכי'ן אַלס דעם קעניג'ס מיניסטער. אַ רוף ווערט אַרויסגעשיקט צו אַלע יידן איבערן לאַנד זיי זאָלן זיך פאַרטיי-דיקן קעגן זייערע אָנפאַלער. די גזירה ווערט אָפּגעשאַפן און די יידן פייערן דאַן אַ גרויסן יום-טוב — דעם נס פון פורים, דעם נס פון רעטונג. די יידן, וועלכע האָבן געוואוינט אין דער פּראָווינץ שושן האָבן געקעמפט ביזן 15-טן אָדר, דערפאַר איז דער טאָג באַוואוסט אַלס שושן-פורים.

די מעשה פון פורים אַנטהאַלט אַ סך דראַמאַטישע מאָמענטן. בשעת די הויפּט-ראָלן ווערן אויסגעשפּילט אין קעניג'ס פּאַלאַץ, איז אויך דאָ דער אַנטייל פון די מאַסן, כאָטש אין אַ קלענערער מאָס. זייער אַנטייל זעט זיך אין זייער ווענדונג צו מרדכי'ן און אין דעם דערפאָלגרייכן קאַמף, וועלכן זיי האָבן אָנגעפירט קעגן זייערער שונאים, וואָס האָט זיך פאַרענדיקט מיט אַ זיג דעם 13-טן אָדר.

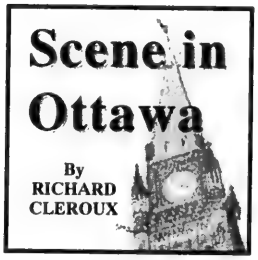
שוין איבער צוויי טויזנט יאָר ווי דער יום-טוב ווערט געפייערט אין די פאַרשיידענע לענדער, וואָו יידן האָבן געוואוינט און וואוינען נאָך איצט. די פורים-פייערונגען זיינען שטענדיק באַגלייט געוואָרן מיט פורים-שפּילן און מאַסקאַראַדן.

פורים איז גאָר באַזונדערס געווען אַ פריילעכער יום-טוב פאַר די קינ-דער. דאָס לייענען די מגילה אין שול און דאָס גרעגערן יעדעס מאָל ווען המנ'ס נאָמען איז דערמאָנט געוואָרן, האָט פאַרשאַפן פאַר די קינדער גרויס פאַרגעניגן. דער מנהג פון טראָגן שלח מנות און דאָס פאַרשטעלן זיך קען פאַרגליכן ווערן היינטיקע צייטן מיט דער פרייד פון קינדער דאָ-הי אין האַ-לאָווין אָוונט.

Clever people are like fragrant roses;
When you smell one rose it's delightful,
but smelling a whole bouquet
you may get quite a headache. -*Moritz G. Saphir*

From coast to coast

Keegstra conviction restored by top court



OTTAWA — The whole thing was over surprisingly quickly for James Keegstra and his lawyer Douglas Christie in the Supreme Court here last week.

After an hour and a half in court, the nine judges decided they had heard enough. And in a 9-0 ruling they overturned an Alberta Appeal Court decision that had thrown out a 1992 hate charge against the former Eckville, Alta., high school teacher.

They restored the original lower court conviction against Keegstra for spreading hatred and promoting anti-Semitism for 14 years in his classroom. Now Keegstra goes back to Alberta for sentencing on that charge. He could get up to two years in jail. He has already been fined $3,000, but the Alberta attorney general is seeking a heavier penalty from the Appeal Court in that province.

The Supreme Court decision brings almost to an end 14 years of court cases over whether Keegstra had a right to preach hatred against Jews in his classroom, even if he was wrong.

Keegstra was originally charged and convicted in 1985 with "wilfully promoting hatred against an identifiable group" but the conviction was later overturned and sent back for another trial in 1992.

In court last week, the judges heard only from lawyer Christie. They didn't even bother to listen to arguments from the government lawyers, nor from the two B'nai Brith League for Human Rights lawyers, although the judges most likely had read the written briefs filed with the court.

Christie began his presentation by trying to convince the court of what a fine upstanding man his client is, and how he really believed what he expounded to his students.

He began to stray off after awhile into an argument about how the whole business was really about whether it was possible to prove history or not, and whether Keegstra had really maligned Jews, since no one could really define a Jew.

"Those who call themselves Jews practise in such different ways," Christie continued, that Jews couldn't really be identified by their religion. Nor could they be called an identifiable group, since "many Jews are Zionists, but some Zionists are not Jews."

Then Christie went further and began trying to expound what he called "the foundation" of what Keegstra believes. Some Jews are "extremely" anti-Christian, he said, and there is reason to doubt the links between "Ashkenasism" and "the Old Testament."

Christie evoked "the slaughter of Cypriots by Jews" and noted that Leon Trotsky was a Jew and that the King David Hotel in Jerusalem had once been bombed by Jews.

If the judges were beginning to doubt what all this could possibly have to do with what Keegstra did, they hid it well.

However, Christie might have had doubts himself. He kept looking up and occasionally asked the judges if they wanted him to go on.

Chief Justice Antonio Lamer replied with a smile that of course they did.

"We want to hear you out," the judge said, adding Christie should take all the time he needed.

Christie launched into an explanation of how his client really didn't want to promote hatred, just "stimulate" his students by making them question their beliefs.

Christie described Keegstra as "the antagonist of the great power of government."

'Unpopular views:' Christie

Keegstra, who was sitting in the front row in the visitors benches, smiled in approval.

Christie continued. Keegstra had been persecuted merely because of his "unpopular views," he said.

At this point, Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé had had enough. "It bothers me that you use the term "unpopular views," she interjected. "We are dealing with something different here, with the promotion of hatred," and not merely with unpopular views.

Christie replied: "It isn't hatred if it's true."

Christie then advanced the constitutional arguments the judges had wanted to hear. He said the law should not force an individual to have to prove the truth of what he advances in a democratic society.

"Can the possibility of truth be overlooked because of the possibility of hatred?" Christie asked. If Keegstra is convicted, Christie said, "Heaven help" people in this country who expound unpopular views on such subjects as "sexual orientation."

Christie said a lot of what Keegstra had said was not religious bigotry because it dealt, not with religion, but with "world finance" and "the international control of money."

Finally Christie announced he was through.

The judges adjourned for 15 minutes and returned.

Speaking for all of them, Lamer thanked Christie for "a highly professional presentation ... as usual ... nonetheless your appeal will be failing." There it was in 12 words exactly, all of eight seconds.

It was all over for Keegstra.

Christie's face was drained. Keegstra sat motionless, a smile still plastered on his face. The press paused from their writing. No six-month wait, no long elaborate judgement this fall.

Justice Frank Iacobucci added that the decision of the lower court was "a complete answer." That meant it was all over. He added so Christie might understand, that these arguments had been heard the last time Keegstra had been before the Supreme Court in 1990.

The judge explained that sometimes the Supreme Court reverses its judgements, but not often within "the same generation."

"The conviction stands," he added.

Marvin Kurz, the B'nai Brith lawyer who never got to make his presentation, was thrilled. "This was a historic decision," he said, explaining that the decision shows that Canada's highest court upholds the constitutionality of Canada's hate laws.

It means that in the future hatemongers can no longer hide behind freedom of speech to spew hatred with impunity.

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897 EGLINTON AVE. W.
WILL NOT BE MOVING!
In spite of the renovations taking place all around us, it is BUSINESS AS USUAL.
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(416) 256-1010

Come celebrate with us!

TORONTO JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

We're the Toronto Jewish Film Society and we're 18 years young.

To commemorate this occasion, we're co-presenting a Spotlight Series March 23 to 31, 1996 featuring actress Gila Almagor, "the Queen of Israeli cinema."

Gila Almagor will be at the screenings on March 23, 24, 27 and 28.

Celebrate with us at our Saturday, March 23 reception honouring Ms. Almagor, following the screening of **Passover Fever.**

- Tickets for **Passover Fever** and reception are $36, and must be purchased in advance by calling (416) 924-6211 (the Bloor Jewish Community Centre). Tickets for the screening only will be available at the door or by calling (416) 923-FILM.
- For series tickets and details, call Cinematheque Ontario's Box Office: (416) 923-FILM.
- All films will be screened at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall.

18 years of presenting the best international films with Jewish content.

Passover Fever
Saturday, March 23
8:30 pm
Wednesday, March 27
6:30 and 8:45 pm

The House in Chelouche Street
Sunday, March 24
1 pm

The Summer of Aviva
Sunday, March 24
4 pm

Under the Donim Tree
Sunday, March 24
7:30 pm

Sh'Chur
(Toronto Premiere)
Thursday, March 28
6:30 pm

Life According to Agfa
Thursday, March 28
8:45 pm

Siege
Sunday, March 31
7:30 pm

The Gila Almagor Spotlight Series is presented by:
CINEMATHEQUE ONTARIO
AIR CANADA
BloorJCC
CONSULATE GENERAL OF ISRAEL

Tel Aviv University
(416) 787-9930

What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, March 7, is deadline for March 21 issue, and Thursday, March 14, is deadline for March 28 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, March 7

AIDS EDUCATION

Jewish Campus Services Jewish Awareness Month program about AIDS education with **Sue Johanson**, 7:30 p.m., North York Memorial Hall, Burgundy Room A, 5110 Yonge St.

Saturday, March 9

TZAVTA PURIM PARTY

Evening of line dancing, door prizes, dessert table; casual attire; 8:30 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre. $10. 736-1339.

PURIM DANCE PARTY

Purim Dance Party with Israeli dance instructor/choreographer **Marco Ben-Shimon**, includes Israeli folkdancing for all levels plus salsa and country line dancing with guest teachers, 9 p.m., Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. $10. 905-771-0363.

Sunday, March 10

BREAST CANCER

Aish's Chayil sisterhood program on Breast Cancer: Prevention, Detection and Management features a slide show and presentation by **Dr. Esther Libman**, 8 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. $5.

HALACHAH & TRADITION

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl speaks on Halachah and Tradition: A Conservative Perspective, 10 a.m., First Narayever Congregation, 187 Brunswick Ave.

TALENT SHOW & DANCE

Night of a Thousand Stars talent show and dance at Comedywood, 800 Steeles Ave. W., show 8-11 p.m, dance 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sponsored by Jewish Student Federation of York University. $12, proceeds for Alzheimer's research. For tickets 736-5178.

FUNDRAISING TEA

Sha'aron chapter, Jewish Women International, fundraising tea, 2-4 p.m., Promenade Towers, 7440 Bathurst St. Admission by donation.

Monday, March 11

BASKETBALL POOL

New Leadership of Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University March Madness U.S. College Basketball Pool with $10,000 in prizes (first place $5,000) kicks off at Wayne Gretzky's Studio 99, 99 Blue Jays Way, pre-registration 7 p.m., party at 8. Participation in basketball pool $125, party only $25. Proceeds to neurological disease research at Hebrew University of Jerusalem. 485-8000.

A DIABETIC PASSOVER

Jewish Diabetes chapter, Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA), meeting focuses on A Diabetic Passover Celebration Made easy with **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich**, Pride of Israel Synagogue, and **Sharon Zeiler**, director of Wellness Series, Bernard Betel Centre, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. CDA members $1, non-members $2. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2172 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

NUTRITION & PASSOVER

Topic of Beth Sholom sisterhood general meeting is Nutrition and Passover, with guest speaker, nutritionist **Lisa Weinberg**. Admission is a Passover food for the needy or $2. 783-6103.

Tuesday, March 12

YAD BEYAD PROGRAM

Information night, 8 p.m., for Yad BeYad program which is seeking adult volunteers to teach conversational English to recent immigrants in Israel this summer.

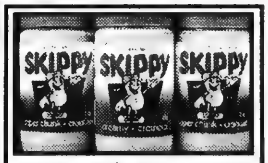
[Cont'd. on page 21]

food city Brings The Cost Of Keeping Kosher Down

Sun. 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., MON. - WED. 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., THURS. 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., FRI. 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., SAT., 8:00 A.M. - 10 P.M. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

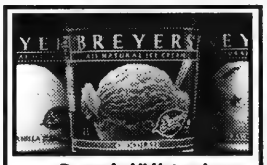
Kosher MEAT

Kosher Fresh Chickens
Canada Grade A
Everyday Low Price, 4.39 kg
1.99 lb.



Skippy Peanut Butter
Creamy or Crunchy
1 kg jar
1.99

Lay's, Murphy's or O'Gradys Potato Chips
Assorted Varieties
150 g bag
.99



Breyer's All Natural Ice Cream
Assorted Flavours
2 L tub
3.99

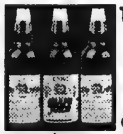
PRODUCE

Florida Grown Strawberries
Product of U.S.A.
pint box
.99

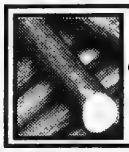
Dill Pickles
Mrs. Whytes Original
1 L jar
1.99

Cheese Pizza
Philly's
10 oz. box
2.99

Snack Crackers
Snackers, Assorted Varieties, 350 g box
.99

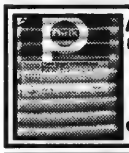


Tiroch Grape Juice
Concord or Muscat
650 mL btl.
2.29



Cucumbers
Product of/ Ontario, Canada No. 1, Greenhouse, Seedless
.99 ea.

Kosher DELI

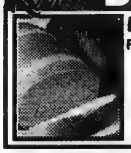


All Beef Wieners
Peri's Kosher, Regular
450 g pkg.
3.49

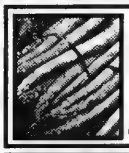
Coleslaw Salad
Rachel's, Creamy
.33/100 g
1.49 lb.

Tradition Pasta
Spaghetti & Tomato Sauce or Pasta & Vegetables 7.5 oz. tub
.99

Kosher BAKERY



Fresh Rye Breads
Plain, Dark or Caraway
450 g loaf
.99



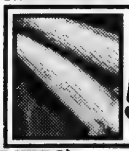
Asparagus
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade, 6.59 kg
2.99 lb.

Atlantic Salmon
Fresh, Whole
11.00 kg
4.99 lb.

Chopped Liver
Rachel's
.55/100 g
3.99 lb.

Mini Rice Cakes
Chef's Fancy, Caramel Corn, Buttered Popcorn or Apple Cinnamon, 25 g bag
.99

Cholate Fudge Layer Cake
Freshly Baked, 700 g
5.99



Corn
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade
5/2.49

Prices effective until closing Saturday, March 9, 1996. at CLARK & HILDA FOOD CITY, 441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

221-7384 or 445-4554. Yad BeYad is under the auspices of Canada-Israel Forum.

PASSOVER HAGGADAH

Rabbi Moshe Stern begins the series on the Passover Haggadah analysis, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue. Series runs Tuesdays to April 2. No charge.

Wednesday, March 13

ISRAELI MINISTER

Recently-appointed Israeli minister without portfolio **Rabbi Yehuda Amital** addresses the community on The Importance of Unity Within the Jewish People in Israel and the Diaspora, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Under the auspices of the Consulate General of Israel in Toronto, event is co-sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada; Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University; Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region; Canadian Zionist Federation; and Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. **Daniel Fine**, CJC, 635-2883, ext. 147.

OPERATION EXODUS

Baruch Gur, architect of Operation Exodus, discusses the process of bringing hundreds of thousands of Jews from the former Soviet Union to Israel, as well as what is in the future for Jews still living in the former Soviet Union; 5 p.m., Sidney Smith Hall, Room 1085, University of Toronto.

PASSOVER KITCHEN

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich's two-part series on Make Your Passover Kitchen Kosher! begins at 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. Series continues Wednesday, March 20. 226-0111. No charge.

PESACH PILLOWS

At the Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting, **Harriet Lieberman** leads a design workshop for Pesach pillows, 8 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. **Haya** 633-2664 or **Malcah** 866-8142.

TORAH INSIGHTS

Rabbi Barry Schneider concludes the series, Insights From the Torah, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Thursday, March 14

THINKING IN NEW WAYS

World-renowned educator/psychologist **Dr. Reuven Feuerstein** delivers the Susan Michelle Fogle Memorial Lecture, Thinking in New Ways: New Ways of Thinking, presented by Dr. Abraham Shore Academy She'arim Hebrew day School, 8:15 p.m., at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. $15 pre-paid. $20 at door. 633-8247.

And What Else Is New...

KABBALISTIC INSIGHTS

Kabbalistic Insights Into Prayer, a new course for beginner and advanced students, covering history, translation, significance and mystical interpretation of basic daily and Shabbat prayers, with **Rabbi Avraham Plotkin**, Tuesdays, 8 p.m., beginning March 12 at Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, 55 Guardsman Rd., Thornhill. No charge. To enrol 905-886-0420.

MUSIC AND WINE

Celebrate spring with music and wine at Beit Rayim Synagogue, 9711 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill, Sunday, March 17, 7:30 p.m. Concert features Metro String Quartet followed by wine tasting of exclusive kosher wines. $20 advance, $25 at the door, $15 seniors. Synagogue office 905-770-7639 to register.

SINGLES BRUNCH

Adath Israel Synagogue Singles Group, 35-55, Sunday brunch March 17, 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker **Milt Berger**, counsellor, Ward 6, speaks on Municipal Politics and the Impact on the GTA: The Pros and Cons. $8 prepaid reservations at synagogue office 635-5340 until Friday, March 15. $10 at door.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Morning Service Connection, Monday-Friday 6:45 a.m., Sunday 8 a.m.; Shabbat Service, morning prayers 8:30 a.m., lecture on weekly portion 9:15 a.m., Torah reading 9:45 a.m., children's service; Sunday School, ages 3-12, register for 1996 now; Kabbalah Youth Course, ages 13-15; Kids Summer Camp, ages 3-11, Aug. 19-30; The Power of Kabbalah lectures every second Sunday, next lecture March 17, 7:30 p.m.

WAGMAN CENTRE

The Entertainers of Wagman Centre are in rehearsal for the musical revue, *Another Openin' Another Show*, featuring songs from Broadway and special songs for Jerusalem 3000. New performers and new audiences welcome. 785-2500, ext. 2267.

BETH ZION-OSHAWA

Beth Zion Congregation, 144 King St. E., Oshawa, holds rabbi-led services in the Orthodox tradition Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. Kiddush following. Synagogue, established over 70 years ago, has a mixed age membership of 70 families. 905-723-2353 (**Mort Marder**). Messages returned.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel, Mississauga, events: Brotherhood breakfast Sunday, March 31, with **Craig Mark** discussing his experiences on becoming a Jew; Family services Friday, March 29, 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, March 30, 10 a.m.; Regular services Friday, March 22, 8:30 p.m. and Saturday March 16 and 23, 10 a.m. 905-820-5915.

CLUB BEERSHEBA

Club Beersheba, Na'amat, now in its 41st year, raises funds for a Women's Shelter and Counselling Centre in Tel Aviv and helps support nursery schools and high school training facilities in Israel. Meetings offer speakers, discussions, socializing. **Judith Ross** 491-8913 or Na'amat 636-5425.

Shmuel Fish

ETROG HONORS FOUNDER

A large party was held recently at Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the Israeli club, Etrog, and to honor the club's founder **Shmuel Fish**. During the six years of Etrog's existence, Fish has taken care of its activities, Jewish national contents and Israeli culture. Annual functions were held to mark Israel's Independence Day, the reunification of Jerusalem, Jewish religious and traditional holidays, as well as concerts, lectures, Israeli movies.

AISH HATORAH

Calvin & Hobbes: A Post-Purim Look at the Wisdom of Humor, Monday, March 11, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W.

First Impressions of Jewish Thought and Identity: The Long Walk to Freedom, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamensky**, Tuesday, March 12, 8 p.m., Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W.

Special Pesach Seminar: Freedom of the Soul, **Rabbi Yosef Chaim Myer**, Monday, March 11 and Wednesday, March 13, 8 p.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill.

For information on all programs 905-764-1818.

PLAYGROUP

Shaarei Shomayim Playgroup, ages 2 and 3, is now accepting applications for summer program and for September 1996. Curriculum offers programs of Jewish content through crafts, music and free play. **Ellise** 785-6638.

HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS

Jewish Hospice Program is looking for committed and caring volunteers to provide practical assistance and support to Jewish persons and their families during the final stage of a terminal illness. Training will be provided. **Renee Montpellier**, volunteer coordinator, 635-2900, ext. 419.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada is looking for volunteers to help with its upcoming special event, the Heel 'n' Wheel-a-Thon. **Wendy** 920-5035 or 1-800-387-1479, ext. 10.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue, 55 Ameer Ave., holds Shacharit services weekdays 8:30 a.m. and Minchah, Maariv 5:45 p.m. Shabbat services 9 a.m. preceded by Talmud studies with **Gershon Samonovits** at 8 a.m. **David** 256-1600

For Seniors

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). March 14 **Jack Moscow** speaks on The Israeli Soldier (in Hebrew), followed by a movie on the subject. 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dances with live band March 10 and 24; Spring Fair Sunday, March 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., all new merchandise; visit to Markville Mall, Markham, May 9; *Beauty and the Beast*, May 16; book now for Atlantic City (April 22) and Catskills Raleigh Hotel (July 22-28); ballroom and line dancing (free) with instructor Tuesdays 10-11:30 a.m. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club is taking reservations for Catskills Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

People Enjoying People (PEP) invites seniors, men and women, to a Purim general meeting at Oriole Community Centre, 2975 Don Mills Rd., Peanut Plaza, Thursday, March 14, 1 p.m. Entertainment by **Lenka Lichtenberg**. 638-4877.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La Briyut Wellness Centre presents Can Fruits and Vegetables Prolong Your Life? with **Linda Milthorpe** and **Nigel Harris**, Thursday, March 14, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club, meets Wednesdays 7 p.m. **Anna**.

at the JCC/BJC

Matzo Ball Run at the BJC Sunday, March 24, 9 a.m. **Grant Smith** 636-1880, ext. 374.

Centre Camp at BJC is accepting registration for 1996 season. Participate in instructional/recreational swim, dance, drama, sports, music, arts and crafts, nature, Judaica. 636-1880, ext. 378.

BJC Toddler and Preschool daycare spaces available beginning July 1996, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Limited spaces available for Nursery School in September. 636-1880, ext. 248.

Bloor JCC Good Age Club welcomes seniors to programs on Thursdays 2 p.m. **Judy** 924-6211.

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THIS WEEK ONLY!
Valid to Tues. March 12/96 with regular-price food purchase of $15 or more before taxes. Limit one per table. Dining room only. Cannot be combined with other offers.

18 courses Teriyaki Set Dinner
AKASAKA JAPANESE STEAK HOUSE
Business Lunch at $ 9.95
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日本料理
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MOUSAKA Potatoes, eggplant & ground beef topped w/bechamel sauce, served w/Greek salad & rice $7.95
LAMB CHOPS Four (4) pieces of lamb cooked to perfection, served w/ potatoes, rice & Greek salad $9.95
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From coast to coast

Alberta's Jewish heritage to be documented

EDMONTON — The Edmonton Jewish Federation/Jewish Community Centre (JCC) is forging a unique historic agreement with the Provincial Archives of Alberta, Federation president Len Dolgoy announced recently.

Federation's newly established Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta, chaired by Uri Rosenzweig, Federation vice-president for financial resource development, will gather material from the Jewish community and sort, catalogue and store it at the Provincial Archives.

Records will be gathered from individuals, organizations and institutions, and will be stored in the Provincial Archives under a Permanent Loan agreement, a privilege and service rarely accorded, according to Rosenzeig.

Major step

Under the terms of the agreement, Federation will own the material it acquires on behalf of the Jewish community, a provision which will allow it to determine any future relocation of its collection, such as in its own archives within the JCC or another facility. It will also allow the society to make decisions regarding access to such documents.

Sandra M. Thomson, director of the Provincial Archives, praised the initiative of Federation/JCC for its wish to acquire the documentary heritage of the Jewish community, noting that this will be a major step in the preservation of Alberta's history as well.

The costs of storage under proper condition, disaster planning and insurance will be paid by the Provincial Archives, she said.

Archivist Claude Roberto, head of the Private Manuscripts and Reference Services of the Provincial Archives and head of its business management team, will supervise and guide Federation/JCC volunteers.

The plan outlined by Rosenzweig will enable Federation/JCC to reach out to all segments of the community in a unified effort to gather and preserve personal papers, diaries, photographs, minute books, audio and video tapes, much of which is now stored in homes, basements and institutional buildings.

In addition, the Archives and Historical Society will engage in recording oral histories, so that the total Federation/JCC collection will be available for research, genealogical study, publishing the history of the Jewish community of Edmonton and northern Alberta and periodic exhibits.

Rosenzweig reports that a similar agreement will be pursued with the Provincial Museum of Alberta.

For more information, contact Rosenzweig at 16413 89 Avenue, Unit K, Edmonton, Alta., T5R 4S1, 403-481-1997.

Seen discussing plans for the Jewish Federation/Jewish Community Centre Archives and Historical committee are (from left) Dr. Sandra Thomson, director of the provincial Archives of Alberta; Uri Rosensweig, federation vice-president for financial resources development and chair of the Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta, and Dr. Claude Roberto, head of the Private Manuscripts and Reference Services of the provinciual archives of Alberta. [Photo courtesy of Provincial Archives of Alberta-Dennis Hydnk]

New shul for Burquest

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The presentation of a new Torah by Morris and Dena Wosk to the Burquest Jewish community marked the beginning of a capital campaign by the members to build a shul for the Torah.

The Burquest Jewish Community Association was founded in 1974, but has never had a permanent home. The association has 175 members comprising about 60 member families. However, it is estimated another 1,700 Jews live in the area, says Mark Winston, association president.

Burquest serves neighboring Burnaby, New Westminster, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody.

The association hopes to raise close to $2 million to build a community centre which will include a synagogue, classrooms and other facilities.

At present Shabbat and High Holy Day services are held in an Anglican church in Coquitlam. Hebrew classes are held in a college in New Westminster. Social events are held in the homes of members. The spiritual leader of Burquest is Rabbi Yosef Wosk.

CORRECTION

In the obituary for Max Zeifman (*CJN*, Feb. 29), his survivors were listed incorrectly. Predeceased by his wife Lilly, he is survived by his children Esther, Sol and Sam, as well as four grandchildren.

The CJN apologizes for the error.

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Soccer	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Tues. April 2, 6:30-8 p.m.
Tennis	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Mon. March 25, 7-8:30 p.m.
Track	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Swimming	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Golf	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Boys' Baseball	Sun. March 31, 12-1:30 p.m.
Girls' Softball	Sun. March 31, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Since the maximum Toronto contingent is 90 athletes, it is possible that some of the above sports or gender/age groups may not be represented on the final team attending the Games. Notwithstanding the formal and fair tryout format, the final decision for inclusion on the team is at the discretion of the coaches and committee.

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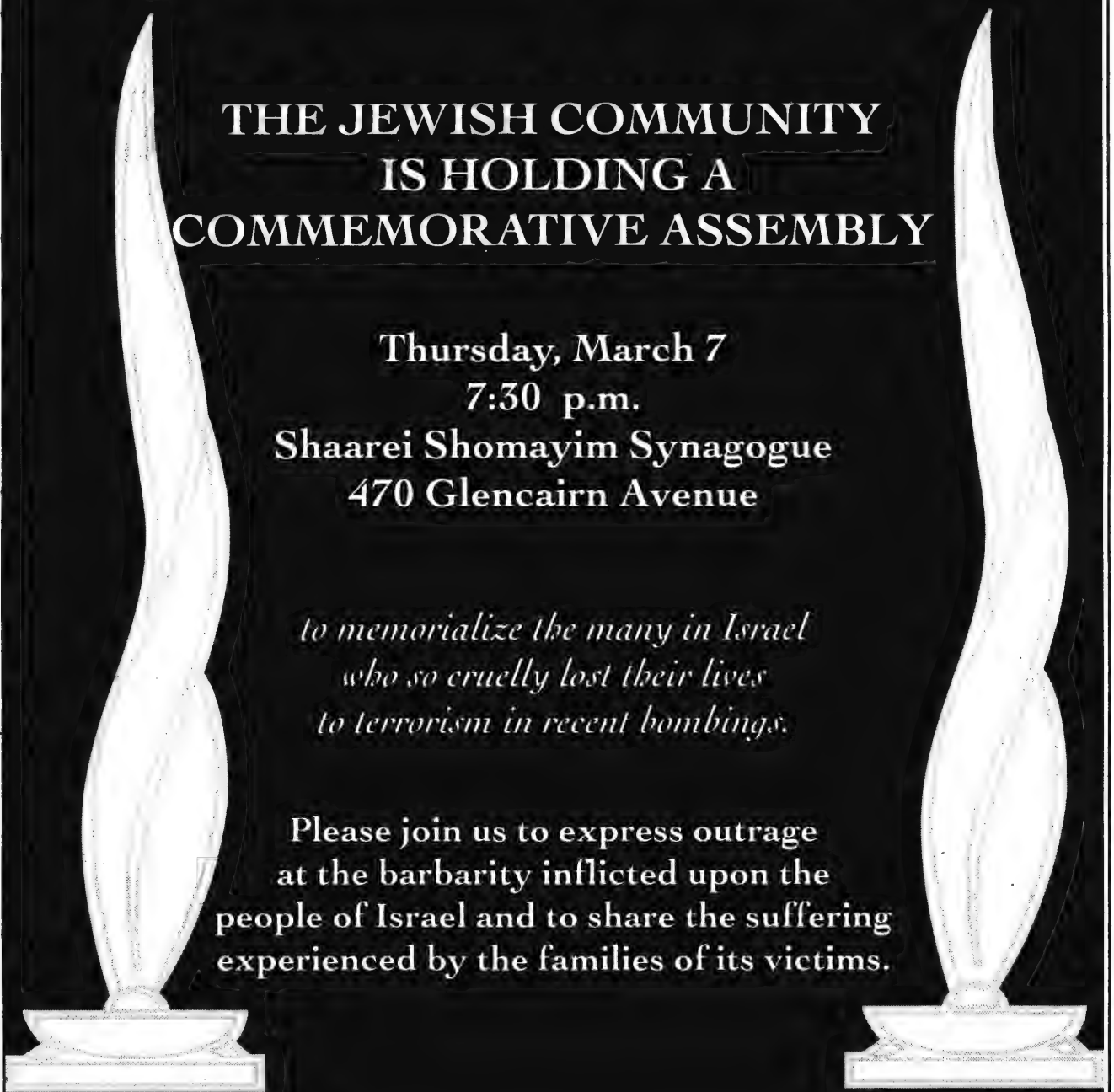

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IS HOLDING A COMMEMORATIVE ASSEMBLY

Thursday, March 7
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Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue
470 Glencairn Avenue

to memorialize the many in Israel who so cruelly lost their lives to terrorism in recent bombings.

Please join us to express outrage at the barbarity inflicted upon the people of Israel and to share the suffering experienced by the families of its victims.

This critical community event is sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario Region and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto in conjunction with B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Zionist Federation and United Israel Appeal of Canada.

From coast to coast

Winnipeg's largest shul to honor founding father

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Rosh Pina Congregation, north Winnipeg's largest synagogue, will honor the late Max Margolis and his family at its first annual tribute dinner, to be held in the synagogue on March 24.

"Choosing Max Margolis and his family as our first honorees was easy," says Mchael Kaufman, dinner chair. "He was one of the builders of the current Rosh Pina building, a past president and a dedicated worker."

Born in Russia, Margolis arrived in Winnipeg with his family, when he was 18. He and his brother Hymie began their business career with a fruit and vegetable store in Transcona (now in east Winnipeg, but back then still an independent community). In 1932, they opened a second produce store in downtown Winnipeg, where their younger brother Murray joined them in business.

In 1949, Max Margolis changed direction and bought a small lumber yard. By the time he and Hymie (who joined him in the lumber business) sold Dominion Lumber in 1987, they had built the business into Winnipeg's largest privately owned chain of lumber yards.

Although Max Margolis supported a large number of community organizations and causes, his greatest love was the Rosh Pina Synagogue. He served as president in 1965-67 and was continuously involved in the congregation's activities for the rest of his life.

Max and Ida Margolis had three children — Sheldon and twins Gary and Gail. Two of them have been Rosh Pina board members and all three have served on numerous synagogue committees.

Kaufman says there will be a memorial dedicated to Max Margolis and his family.

News from Kelowna

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

KELOWNA, B.C. — Sandy Dore, a member of the Okanagan Jewish Community (OJC) will be part of a B'nai Brith study tour of Germany in July.

Dore, an educator in the Kelowna school district, "is one of the foremost advocates of dealing with hate literature in the Okanagan and is working with the school system to address problems as they arise," says an OJC press release.

The knowledge he gains through the trip will help him — and the OJC — in their efforts, the release adds.

In other news from Kelowna, the OJC welcomed the Jewish National Fund *shaliach*, Itzhak Fuchs, his wife Daphna and their children to the Shabbat service on Feb. 23. Fuchs led the service.

The JNF official encouraged OJC members to attend its cantorial concert in Kelowna on March 26 and also invited members to attend Vancouver's Negev Dinner honoring Jerusalem 3000 on March 31.

Fuchs said several members of the Vancouver Jewish community will be coming to Kelowna for the concert.

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Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

****Purim Party, Sun., March 10** New Image 50 + Singles** is having a party and short meeting at **Adath Sholom Synagogue.** 864 Sheppard Ave. W., (lower hall, side door entrance) 7:30 p.m. Tapes by Murray Jacobs. Members $3, guests $4. Everyone Welcome! Trip to Granit, Sun., Aug. 4 to Mon. Aug. 12.

April fool's dance. Not your usual party. Save the date, March 31. For info. Call Ruth 905-731-5204.

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Men & Women, 40 + Jewish Singles, coffe night, March 16th, 8 p.m., RSVP: Marika 905-731-2914.

Snowbirds attend Hadassah conference

By MAURICE LUCOW
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — More than 250 snowbirds attended Canadian Hadassah-WIZO's "chai" conference held in mid-February in Boca Raton, Fla., national president Judy Mandleman reported.

Prior to the southern gathering, Mandleman had attended the World WIZO conference in Israel.

At the Florida session chaired by Marcia Shapiro, past Hadassah-WIZO president Clara Balinsky reviewed the 18 years of southern conferences, stating the annual event was launched because so many members were wintering in Florida that "we felt we needed a day together to keep us informed of our work in Israel and raise the consciousness of our achievements."

Keynote speaker, Montreal MP Sheila Finestone, told of her role as an international observer during the recent Palestinian elections. She said she was impressed with the manner in which the voting was conducted, "in an orderly and meticulous way."

Many women were in key roles in the election process, she added.

Finestone also represented Canada at Yitzhak Rabin's funeral, "a scene I'll always remember."

Mandleman paid tribute to the late Blanche Wisenthal, a past national president.

"She was a creative and elegant woman," said Mandleman, "and left a wonderful legacy of her achievements." A moment of silence was observed in her memory.

Reporting on the World WIZO conference, Mandleman said that although Israel's economy is thriving, its obligations cannot be met without financial help from the Diaspora. She visited many institutions supported by Hadassah, she said, "and I saw the urgent need for our continued help, made necessary by government cutbacks."

She said WIZO will support whatever government Israel elects because "Israel is our spiritual homeland."

The conference, attended by 600 delegates from 38 countries, with 15 coming from Canada, elected Michal Modai as president of World WIZO and Helene Glaser as chair of the World executive; Ruth Tekoah was re-elected treasurer.

Finestone was one of the members on a panel on women's political and economic struggles.

The Canadian delegation included, among others, Mandleman, Esther Matlow, Rochelle Levinson, Diana Shadowitz and Marion Mayman.

Mandleman said the conference was followed by a mission to Jordan "where the group spent two exciting days and was briefed at dinner by the Israel ambassador to Jordan, Shimon Shamir."

Blum Devor helps children in Israel

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — "As soon as you have mastered the language, you will no doubt be mothering the whole of Israel," wrote the clinical director of the Catholic Children's Aid Society to Mary Blum Devor in 1980.

Blum Devor had resigned as clinical director of Child and Adolescent Services, Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Health Unit, and was preparing to move to Israel with her husband, Berko Devor.

Until her husband became ill in 1990, the couple divided their time between Jerusalem and Hamilton, but since his death two years ago, Blum Devor told *The CJN*, she now spends the greater part of the year here. And she is still "mothering" the troubled and depressed in both cities and by long-distance phone, former clients on three continents.

A native of Montreal, Blum Devor is a University of Toronto graduate with an MA in psychology, specializing in child studies and abnormal child development. In 1962, she settled in Hamilton with her late first husband, Sid Blum, and their five children.

Soon involved at the clinic as a volunteer, then as part-time staff and from 1967, working full time, Blum Devor pioneered the use of volunteers in the treatment of emotionally disturbed children.

In Israel, a talk on child rearing problems to a women's group at the Jerusalem Women's Health Organization led to weekly meetings on psychological theories on personality development, and before long, Blum Devor was a very busy volunteer.

"It was my intention to be a volunteer in Israel," she explained. "I wanted to help the country."

She worked with drug addicts returning to their families after serving their jail sentences, complementing the social workers who were helping the families to adjust; helped establish a brief family therapy program; and trained a number of people who are now teaching at the Hebrew University.

Meanwhile, she also built up a private practice, but donated her earnings to Ezrat Nashim Community Mental Health Centre, where she did volunteer work.

Much of her private practice in Israel was devoted to work with depressed *baalei tshuvah* and with children of Holocaust survivors.

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Peres vows 'all-out war' to destroy Hamas

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Within hours after a suicide bomber blew up a Jerusalem bus last Sunday, the Israeli Cabinet voted to implement a plan to separate the Israeli and Palestinian populations.

The decision to separate Israel from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip comes as the Peres government, reeling from a series of attacks by the fundamentalist Hamas group in the past week, vowed to root out the terrorist cells and destroy them.

"This is an all-out war, which requires unilateral measures" that must be "implemented immediately," Prime Minister Shimon Peres said after Sunday's blast, the third bombing in eight days.

"We have decided to give the war on terror top priority," Peres said. "We will use every means and will not be deterred."

The separation plan adopted by the cabinet at its weekly meeting Sunday includes constructing a perimeter fence along the line between Israel and the West Bank and Gaza and creating 18 crossing points to monitor travel between the two areas. Peres said $100 million had been allocated for the separation plan.

In addition, the cabinet approved the creation of a special force of 800 security guards to protect public buses. The guards will be drawn from former members of Israel Defence Force combat units.

A plan to deploy additional police and security reinforcements in Jerusalem, also approved by the cabinet, "has already begun," Peres told reporters. "We will fill this city with the security forces needed to ensure its security."

Police and soldiers will also be stationed at bus stops and hitchhiking stops throughout the country to check passengers, Peres said.

In a measure seen as an effort to deter suicide bombers, the ministers approved steps against the families of bombers, which would include sealing their homes and demolishing them.

Peres said this would bring an end to the "celebrations of the martyr bombers."

He said the homes of the two Hamas militants believed to be responsible for the Feb. 25 twin bombings would be sealed. The attackers were from the West Bank village of Al-Fawwar, near Hebron.

Peace negotiations with the Palestinians, suspended after the twin attacks, will not resume until Palestinian Council President Yasser Arafat takes sufficient measures against the fundamentalist groups, Peres told the cabinet.

But President Ezer Weizman, seeking stronger action, called on the Peres government to suspend immediately all negotiations with the Palestinians.

"The peace process will not run away; we must suspend it, until we find a solution," he told Israel Radio.

Weizman also urged all political parties to put aside their campaigns for the May 29 Knesset elections and join in working toward a solution to the security challenges.

Peres held consultations Sunday with opposition leaders, but he ruled out the possibility of establishing a national unity government.

At a time like this, "I do not differentiate between parties," he told reporters. "The entire country is right and left, young and old. I am convinced that we must first focus on this war against terror and I believe this is the first priority of all parties."

The attack came as public opinion polls showed a shrinking gap between Peres and Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu in the race for the premiership.

Peres, who once led Netanyahu by as much as 15 percentage points, has seen that lead drop to virtually nothing after the wave of Hamas terror attacks.

The Likud distanced itself from the anti-government demonstrations that erupted Sunday after the attacks and called for unity.

"I met this morning with the prime minister and told him we would support the government if it takes intensive measures against terror," Netanyahu said in the Knesset. "I hope he adopts some of the measures I proposed."

Netanyahu called for imposing a total closure on the areas where terrorist organizations operate, closing down Orient House — the Palestine Liberation Organization headquarters in eastern Jerusalem — and giving Israeli security forces freedom of activity in all areas.

A member of the burial society looks for flesh and blood from the victims as he wipes blood off the roof of a building above the scene of the explosion in Jerusalem. [RNS photo]

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Arafat vows clamp-down on radical groups

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Palestinian Authority (PA) President Yasser Arafat said Sunday he would ban all armed groups inside Palestinian controlled territory, agreed to intensify efforts to disarm them and vowed to arrest gunmen in the radical Islamic movements.

He was responding to the three demands of Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

At a press briefing, he described the situation as "very serious and dangerous. This awful terrorist activity is not against Israelis only, it is against Palestinians, Israelis, and the peace process ... We will take serious steps for banning these persons and groups ... We will follow up with all our means," he said.

Arafat listed opposition armed groups including Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas.

It was the first time Arafat had agreed to ban such armed groups, although they have already been outlawed. Pro-Arafat groups like the Fatah Hawks have mostly disarmed. Arafat has preferred to reach an understanding that Kassam gunmen would keep their weapons at home.

Following the Feb. 25 bombings, Arafat arrested close to 300 Islamic activists, according to Hamas officials, and ordered that unlicensed weapons be handed in. But police had arrested only two of 30 hard-core cases from a list provided by Israeli chief of general staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak last week.

Sunday's attack was claimed by a group called the Yehiya Ayyash units, after the slain bomb maker.

The Hamas and Kassam link was clear from a leaflet issued in Jerusalem, which said: "With this operation, we will stop our armed activities starting this morning, to give the Israeli government and the Hamas political leadership a chance to reach a ceasefire in the Palestinian National Authority. They have three months."

It added: "We will violate this immediately if the feeble General Security Service hurts Hamas or the wanted heroes of the Kassam units."

In a telephone call to Israel Radio's Arabic service an anonymous voice said, "The martyr was Islam Mohammed Abdu, 24, from Hebron. He has gone to heaven. The bomb was 16 kilograms. Hamas will carry out other operations."

However, the family of Abdu could not be traced in Hebron. The anonymous caller, who claimed responsibility in the name of Hamas did not mention the "Ayyash units" or the written statement's offer of a three-month cease-fire.

The attack also contradicted a joint statement issued last Thursday, in which Hamas and Izzadin Kassam offered Israel one week to respond to a conditional ceasefire offer and even repeated the offer after the government rejected it out of hand.

Most Hamas officials could not be reached for comment. Sayed Abu Musameh, a senior Hamas official in Gaza, who participated in the PA-Hamas dialogue in Cairo three months ago, said, "I am against the killing of civilians, but what happened today was a reaction," referring to the killing of Ayyash.

Palestinian clergy mainly kept silent. On Saturday, 25 newly elected Palestinian Council members condemned the closure imposed by Israel without condemning the bombings which provoked it, on the grounds that the bomber came from the Hebron area, not Gaza.

However, plans were underway by the PA to have a peace march in Gaza tomorrow condemning the bombing, a source in the PA Planning Ministry said.

Fawar refugee camp, south of Hebron, where last week's two suicide bombers lived, was placed under curfew. Peres ordered the two bombers' homes sealed, after the families accepted "congratulations, not condolences" at a wake they held after the bombers were identified.

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4. Awards will be announced in late May 1996.

War on Hamas

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The Likud leader called for a total closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, cancellation of all talks with the PLO, deportation of terrorists and closing all PLO offices in Jerusalem.

Both Netanyahu and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert repeated their appeals to the public to show restraint. But many were unable or unwilling to maintain the clenched teeth posture of last week.

"We want revenge, not restraint," chanted a crowd of demonstrators near the central post office on Jaffa Road, site of Sunday's bombing. Dozens of Jewish teenagers rioted near the Old City on Sunday night, beating an Arab bystander and damaging Arab cars and businesses.

Despair descended on Katamonim, as obituary notices were posted for another eight residents of this working class neighborhood where the Bus #18 route begins. Many residents faced a cruel dilemma, unsure whether to attend the memorials for those killed in last week's attacks or the funerals of this Sunday's victims.

Leila Shamshivili lost her uncle in the Feb. 25 attack and her husband in this Sunday's bombing. Other residents like Haim Amedi, Anna Shingeloff and Maya Birkan had just celebrated their luck in narrowly escaping last week's doomed bus, only to die in this Sunday's blast. Many noted the bitter irony of the number of the cursed bus route.

"Eighteen doesn't mean life — *chai* — in this neighborhood, does it?" said one resident.

Neighborhood council head Yamin Suissa warned that people in Katamonim would soon "rise up in arms" if something was not done.

Among the dead were nine new immigrants killed in last week's blast and another four in Sunday's.

"What did we come here for?" asked a new immigrant from the Georgian republic who lost a member of his family in Sunday's attack. "We thought we would be safe in Israel."

Some of the measures announced by Peres seem designed to boost sagging morale rather than provide a foolproof way to stop bus bombings.

"It's not clear how the deployment of soldiers and the formation of a new bus security force will stop suicide bombers from blowing themselves up," said one military expert. "The bombers will just take the security forces along with them."

"The presence of soldiers and police gives the public a greater sense of security — and that's important too," countered Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer.

Peres' decision to adopt the Separation Plan, which he has vigorously opposed in the past, sparked opposition from both the right and left. The plan calls for the installation of an elaborate network of fences and eleetronic surveillance equipment to prevent Palestinians from sneaking into Israel from the territories. Some 10 to 20 checkpoints will be constructed to process workers and goods.

Jewish settlers fear that the arrangement will make them more vulnerable to attacks by Palestinians in the territories, while left-wingers argue that the only way to enforce a separation effectively is through the establishment of a Palestinian state with clear borders and passport control.

Critics note that in Jerusalem no separation is possible because the Israeli and Palestinian populations are so intertwined.

"Even if the measures prove effective, we will not feel these effects until a year from now," said military expert Gen. (res.) Menachem Digli. "It's an illusion to think that there will be an immediate change in the situation tomorrow."

Digli also warned that the government was fighting "a war of the past, instead of looking ahead." Buses are just one possible target, he said, noting the potential damage that terrorists could wreak on schools and other targets.

Much of the real battle against terrorism will take place behind the scenes — through intelligence-gathering and infiltration of terrorist cells, culminating in the type of operation that saw the liquidation of Hamas "engineer" Yehiye Ayyash in December. Peres hinted on Sunday that Arafat's failure to crush the Hamas terrorist infrastructure would trigger similar acts.

Whether Peres is successful or not in stemming this wave of terror will determine his own political future and that of the peace process — which have both sustained stunning, some say fatal, blows in the last week and a half. Most analysts agree that neither the prime minister nor his peace plan can afford another bloody Sunday.

Rabbi Amital 'thinking...weighing the issues'

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM— A framed picture of Rabbi Avraham Yitzhak Kook and dozens of volumes of Jewish religious texts attest to the fact that this is not your typical government office. But then Rabbi Yehuda Amital is not your typical government minister.

The 71-year-old yeshivah head, who was appointed minister without portfolio by Prime Minister Shimon Peres, seems to relish the fact that he has no parliamentary power. "I am responsible to no party," he declares proudly.

Ask his views on specific issues and he'll casually tell you what no true politician is ready to admit: he doesn't know. "I am not a politician," he says, uttering the word with disdain. "Politicians have a clear answer for every question. I'm still in a period in which I am thinking and weighing issues," says the gray-bearded rabbi, who clearly prefers the scholarly way of approaching problems to the political one.

Meimad, the dovish religious movement he helped found, is to vote this month on whether to become a political party. Rabbi Amital's disdain for politics is such that he hopes Meimad stays out of the electoral race. He has already declared that he will not run for office under any ticket.

What's wrong with politics? "Politics is, well, politics," he says, and adds in an almost embarrassed aside: "It's not all that pure."

So what is a man who shuns politics doing heading a government ministry? Why did he accept Peres' offer? Rabbi Amital is a man with a message. And he is willing to go to great lengths — even entering the murky world of politics — to get it across.

"My membership in the government is a statement that support for the Oslo accords and commitment to Torah and Halachah are not incompatible," says the man who founded the first West Bank yeshivah to combine religious studies with military service.

That message — religious support for peace — is not new to

Rabbi Yehuda Amital

Rabbi Amital. It's what prompted his failed bid to run for the Knesset in 1988 as head of Meimad, a breakaway of the National Religious party. But today, in the aftermath of the Rabin murder, the rabbi says he feels an even more urgent need to make his voice — and that of his movement — heard.

"I felt there was a need for some sanctification of the Lord's name ... after the appalling murder of the prime minister ... by someone who claims to be religious and uses halachic language to justify his dreadful act.

"I was also afraid that the general public might completely estrange itself from Judaism and the Jewish people."

On the surface, Rabbi Amital's political views sound much like those of the Labor party or Meretz, its left-wing coalition partner.

"I support the peace process as a way of preventing bloodshed. I believe that the majority of Palestinians have finally adopted the pragmatic approach. They may still dream about the destruction of Israel, but they realize that it's not feasible. And I see no other alternative to the peace process."

Interviewed by *The CJN* just hours after the Feb. 25 double suicide bombing, Rabbi Amital remained resolute in his support for the peace process. He rejected the claim that the peace process is in some way responsible for the spate of terror attacks that have claimed so many lives in the last two years.

"It's simplistic to think that if you stop the peace process you solve the problem of terror. It's true that the dangerous phenomenon of the suicide bombings began during the period of the peace process. But the peace process did not bring that about. These attacks are another facet of Arab fundamentalism, which is rearing its head all over the world. It's primitive to link the whole problem to the peace process."

But it would be wrong to mistake Rabbi Amital for just another dovish politician. The co-founder and head of the Har Eztion yeshivah in Alon Shvut has had only four years of general education; the rest of his study years were spent in yeshivot. His political views, like everything else about him, are steeped in religious tradition. His spiritual mentor is Rabbi Avraham Yitzhak Kook, first Ashkenazi chief rabbi of pre-state Israel and founder of modern religious Zionism.

"My order of values places the people of Israel first, the Torah of Israel second and Eretz Yisrael third," says Rabbi Amital, who believes that in this respect, he is maintaining the tradition of his mentor, whose picture is prominently displayed in his office.

Here Rabbi Amital is at odds with most members of the national religious camp, who maintain that Jews are commanded to hold on to Greater Israel at all costs — a view, espoused by Rabbi Zvi Yehuda Kook, son of the chief rabbi.

Rabbi Amital also takes issue with the growing tendency, particularly among right-wing politicians, to invoke the Holocaust in political debates. A survivor, whose family perished at Auschwitz, Rabbi Amital believes that the constant usage of Holocaust imagery plays into the hands of Holocaust deniers.

"If every act is a Holocaust, then what the Germans did is not really so terrible. Using such expressions as Nazis and Judenrat in relation to Eretz Yisrael belittles the Holocaust."

Rabbi Amital also believes that this practice ultimately led to Rabin's assassination.

"We've seen what happens when people call the government Nazis. It leads to murder."

Religious ministers are nothing new in Israeli politics. But Rabbi Amital is a novelty because of the way he sees his role. Unlike other Orthodox ministers, he is not out to obtain more funding for yeshivot. He does not regard himself as a reresentative of any interest group, but rather as a bridge-builder — between secular and religious, right and left wing, Israeli and Diaspora Jews.

"My appointment is a statement by the government that despite the fact that there is no religious party in the coalition, it does not want to alienate Orthodox Jews in Israel and abroad."

He also hopes to inspire a more positive attitude to tradition among secular Israelis. "The way my appointment was received in the secular camp was very heart-warming," says Rabbi Amital. "It seems that many non-observant Israelis do wish to have an authentic Jewish voice and seek a Jewish message that is relevant to them."

He rejects the view common among many Israelis that the answer to Diaspora Jewry's problems is aliyah.

"It's important to have Jewish communities in the Diaspora," says Rabbi Amital, who is head of a new Israeli government ministerial commission on the Israel-Diaspora relationship. "But Diaspora Jewry faces a struggle of survival today. Israel can and must do something to help in this battle by disseminating educational programs and providing more meaningful content to Jewish life."

When asked about recognition of Reform and Conservative Judaism in Israel, Rabbi Amital seems uncomfortable and reverts to the aliyah answer.

"If you want to make a difference in Israeli society, come live here and build synagogues," he tells North American Jews.

His unorthodox views, particularly on the peace process, have angered many in the national religious camp. Like him or loathe him, you'd better take a good look at this maverick minister now, because he won't remain in office for very long.

Rabbi Amital says that even if Peres wins the next election, his own prospects of being appointed to the cabinet are dim.

But if this reluctant politician will soon be out of government, he will not necessarily be out of sight. "I hope that even if I am not a minister I will be able to have some influence. I think that it will now be easier to get our message across."

(Editor's note - Rabbi Amital is scheduled to speak next week in Montreal and Toronto.)

Israelis hold up stickers which read, in Hebrew, "Peace is a nightmare," during a violent protest near the site of the early morning explosion March 3. [RNS photo]

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Political career ends as Aloni bows out

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

There will be one less politician running for re-election this year and her name is Shulamit Aloni, one of the most controversial and outspoken figures on the Israeli political scene.

Aloni, the science and communications minister, announced last month that she would neither run for the Knesset nor form a new party. It thus appears that she is bowing out of politics for good.

An avowed secularist and the bane of the haredi community, Aloni was one of the founders of the Citizens Rights party, which merged with two other left-wing parties — Mapam and Shinui — in 1992 to form Meretz. With 12 seats, Meretz is the third largest bloc in the Knesset, just behind the Labor party and the Likud.

By all accounts, Aloni is leaving politics because her rival in Meretz, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, who is more moderate, defeated her in a power struggle for dominance of the party.

Their rivalry goes back nearly four years. When Meretz joined the Labor party in a coalition government, Aloni took a seat in the cabinet as education minister, while Sarid was left out in the cold.

But within about a year, Yitzhak Rabin removed Aloni from her position, forced to do so under pressure from Shas, a religious party and a member of the coalition. Shas despised her liberal and iconoclastic opinions, and threatened to break up the fragile coalition unless she was banished from the Education Ministry.

Amnon Rubinstein — her Meretz colleague — replaced Aloni, who was shifted into the less influential science and communications portfolio. Shortly afterward, Sarid was invited into the cabinet, where he wasted no time in making a mark, particularly in Israel's peace talks with the PLO and as a Rabin confidant.

As this happened, Aloni drifted farther from the centre of power, both in the cabinet and in Meretz itself.

A lawyer, teacher and civil rights activist, Aloni, like Sarid, was first elected to the Knesset under the banner of the Labor party. Following a dispute with Golda Meir, who was then prime minister, Aloni left the Labor party in 1973 to establish the Citizens Rights party, whose chief objective was to curb the influence of the rabbinate over marriage and divorce.

In 1974, Aloni was appointed minister without portfolio in Rabin's first government. But before the year was out, she resigned, disgusted with the concessions Rabin had offered the religious parties in exchange for their support.

In the interval between her resignation in 1974 and her return to the cabinet 18 years later, Aloni burnished her reputation as a champion of women's rights and a critic of Israel's occupation of the territories and its building of settlements there. She was also an advocate of an independent Palestinian state and a proponent of separating the powers between state and religion.

When Rabin named her education minister, there was a great outcry from the *dati*, whose representatives had previously controlled the ministry. One haredi newspaper branded Aloni a "wicked person," while Rabbi Eliezer Schach — the eminence grise of Shas — labelled her an enemy of Judaism and an opponent of Jewish moral values.

Aloni said she respected Orthodox Jews, but resented their attempts to control the lives of the non-Orthodox segment of the Jewish population.

As education minister, Aloni fulfilled the *datis'* worst expectations of her. She disparaged their belief that the world was created by God. She described Israel's two chief rabbis as "popes." She called into question the necessity of maintaining kashrut laws in Israel. She referred to the Tomb of Joseph in Nablus as that of an Arab sheikh. She criticized Rabin for having recited the Shema Yisrael prayer at a ceremony in Warsaw marking the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

And she was photographed munching on a pita during Passover.

Aloni's views and her personal behavior outraged the Orthodox. "When she dies, I'll drink a toast," Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the spiritual leader of Shas, was quoted as having said.

In addition, Aloni offended another constituency, secular Jews who believe that Israel should retain the Golan Heights. In March 1994, she angered this group by advising Israelis "to start getting used to the idea that Israel will have to totally withdraw from the Golan."

This statement came back to haunt her in May 1995, when a man, reportedly a supporter of right-wing causes in Israel, assaulted Aloni at a breakfast meeting in Manhattan.

Much to the relief of some Israelis and Diaspora Jews, Aloni is leaving politics. But it is doubtful whether she will refrain from voicing her views during the election campaign.

Feb. 26

• The names of the victims of the two weekend bombings: Massouda Amar, 59; Sgt. Hofit Ayash, 20, of Ashdod; Master Sgt. (Reserve) Arye Barashi, 39, of Jerusalem; Sgt. Yonatan Barnea, 20, of Jerusalem; Daniel Biton, 42, of Jerusalem; Sarah Duker, 23, of Teaneck, N.J.; Matthew Eisenfeld, 25, of West Hartford, Conn.; Yitzhak Elbaz, 57, of Jerusalem; Cadet Arik Gabi, 16, of Jerusalem; Peretz Ganz, 61; Svetlana Greznick, 26; Sgt. Sharon Hanocha, 19, of Jerusalem; Michael Ivgen, 15; Anatoly Koshnirov, 36; Geula Koshnirov, 37; Staff Sgt. Gabriel Kraus, 24, of Jerusalem; Cpl. Merav Nahum, 19, of Jerusalem; Cpl. Ilya Nimotin, 19, of Jerusalem; Cpl. Moshe Reuven, 19, of Jerusalem; Navon Shabo, 21, of Bnei Brak; Boris Sharpolinsky, 64, of Jerusalem; Staff Sgt. Gadi Shiloni, 22, of Jerusalem; Simon Tarakashvili, 60, of Jerusalem; Yitzhak Yachnis, 54, of Jerusalem; Michael Yarigin, 16, of Ukraine.

Feb. 27

• The car incident at French Hill junction in Jerusalem on Monday, which claimed the lives of two people and injured some 20 more, was deemed to be a politically motivated act of terrorism.

Feb. 28

• The Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee approved first reading of a bill providing "alternative", non-religious burials.

Feb. 29

• *Yediot Aharonot* reported that an Israeli company is developing a new remote-controlled airplane, "Rotostar," that will remain airborne for years at a time and be an inexpensive substitute for a communications satellite.

March 1

• The Friday poll shows Labor winning 40 seats and Likud-Tsomet winning 43 seats.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• A floral display of tens of thousands of flowers planted by experts from the Netherlands depicting the Jerusalem 3000 logo will soon be in blossom!

Israel Election notebook

Peres Losing Ground After Attacks

JERUSALEM — An opinion poll published Feb. 26 showed Prime Minister Shimon Peres losing ground to Benjamin Netanyahu after 27 people died in two suicide bombings the day before.

The Dahaf poll of 501 Israelis for *Yediot Aharonot* showed Netanyahu narrowing Peres' lead in four days from 15 percentage points to three.

The new poll showed 46 percent would vote for Peres, 43 percent for Netanyahu and five percent for David Levy. Six percent had yet to decide or did not respond.

Another veteran pollster said it was too early to conduct a poll unaffected by the emotions of the moment.

Labor Prepares To Take To Streets

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Shimon Peres instructed his party's ministers to explain Labor's stance on personal security in every public appearance they make. He also implored them to see to it that pro-Labor demonstrators appear on the streets so as not to "leave the streets to the Likud."

Levy Considers Likud Offer

JERUSALEM — David Levy promised to "study and consider" a new offer from the Likud last Thursday night, after he was about to close the door on any agreement.

This in effect marks the beginning of formal talks on creating a three-way bloc with the Likud, Tsomet and Levy's new Gesher Party.

The entire effort was revived at the last minute by a Tsomet concession which made it possible for Likud chair Benjamin Netanyahu to make a new proposal to Levy.

Labor Unfazed by Levy Withdrawal

JERUSALEM — Labor party leaders expressed no concern over the possibility of David Levy's return to the Likud, stressing the advantage of having only one election round for prime minister. Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said that if Levy ran in the first round, "he could hardly order his supporters to vote for Labor's candidate, Shimon Peres, in the second round. The large majority of his people would vote for Benjamin Netanyahu anyway, so it makes no difference."

Arab Party Applies For Registration

JERUSALEM — The Arab Movement for Change, led by Dr. Ahmed Tibi, an adviser to Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat, has applied to be officially registered as a political party.

Likud MK Dov Shilansky is asking Attorney General Michael Ben Yair to disqualify the new party and prevent it from running in the elections.

Shilansky maintains that there is a conflict of interest in Tibi's role as adviser to Arafat and his intention to run for election to the Knesset.

Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (left) and Foreign Minister Ehud Barak visit Jerusalem's Mahane Yehuda market. [Israel photo]

A wounded Israeli is rushed to the hospital in Jerusalem after the early morning blast. [RNS]

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Girls seek cure for genetic disease in New Zealand

By LENN ZONDER
Connecticut Jewish Ledger

WEST HARTFORD — Roger and Helene Karlin and Mark and Eileen Mushin are going to the ends of the earth to save the lives of their daughters.

They hope that an innovative neurological procedure in Auckland, New Zealand, will deliver the miracle they have worked so hard to make come true.

The girls, 2-year-old Alyssa Mushin of Derby, Conn., and 19-month-old Lindsay Karlin of Danbury, Conn., suffer from a genetic illness called Canavan's disease.

A little-known, congenital brain disorder that ends in death, normally before the child's 10th birthday, Canavan's is a leukodystrophic disease that destroys the myelin, a white, fatty substance that forms a sheath over the brain.

Afflicted children — mostly descendants of Ashkenazi Jew from Lithuania, Poland and Russia — have limited ability to move their hands, play or feed themselves. Loss of sight is also common and the children are never able to sit, crawl, walk or speak.

The disease occurs when both parents carry the mutated gene.

In Auckland, the two girls will be the first to undergo the new surgical procedure. A small hole will be drilled into their skulls and a synthesized "normal" gene, mixed with a third-generation liposome, will be injected into the ventricular cavity of the brain.

It is hoped that the injected substance will be carried to the affected cells of the brain and the normal gene will take over the mutated genes.

The operation will be performed by Dr. Matthew During, the newly appointed chair of the Department of Molecular Medicine at Auckland University. During began his research on Canavan's at Yale University Medical School.

The entire procedure will take two weeks. Afterward, the children are scheduled to return to Connecticut and be monitored by doctors at Yale-New Haven Hospital and the Yale University Medical School.

"Obviously, we are hoping for a total cure," Mark Mushin said.

"We don't know if the disease will be frozen in place or reversed," he added. "If that's all it accomplishes, the procedure will have been successful."

There are about 500 diagnosed cases of Canavan's in the United States.

Roger Karlin, who is also an internist in Danbury, said he believes the number of known cases is low and that it is the kind of disease neurosurgeons learn about in school, but rarely see in their practices.

Many children, he said, probably die from Canavan's, but have their deaths attributed to other causes.

Spreading the word about Canavan's, urging people to be tested to see whether they are carriers of the gene and finding a cure have become a passion of the Karlins and Mushins.

"We want a cure for all children," Helene Karlin said. "It's more devastating than you can imagine to watch your child deteriorate and die. If you have any kind of heart, you can't want any other parent to go through it."

The two families have raised almost $150,000 for the Yale Canavan Research Project, turning a nonexistent research project into a clinical procedure in less than a year.

"For ourselves, we're hoping for a miracle," Mushin said. "But we need to keep the project going so other children can profit from it even if Lindsay and Alyssa do not."

Dr. Paula Leoni, co-director of the Gene Therapy Laboratory at Yale, said all the toxicology studies related to introducing the compound to the brain have been completed.

"We have collected enough data to prove the safety of the reagent that will be injected into the children," Leoni said. "At this stage we can perform the surgical procedure."

While During will continue to be the principal investigator in New Zealand, Yale's research will continue, searching for a more improved and efficient gene.

Leoni said the best that researchers can hope for is that the delivery of the reagent will increase the level of a missing enzyme in the children's brain and that this will decrease the "demyelination" of the organ.

Normally, children older than one year do not produce myelin. The researchers hope that the process can be stimulated again.

"It is innovative work, never before tried. I'm excited about the possibilities and hopeful for the children," Leoni added.

Leading liver specialist opens medical series

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The House of Ashkenazi is celebrating its 75th anniversary and Dr. Laurie Blendis of the University of Toronto Medical School was on hand to help get the celebration started.

One of the world's leading liver specialists, Blendis gave the first presentation in the synagogue's Doctor In The House program, a monthly series of lectures featuring medical experts talking about their area of specialty. The series was organized by Winnipeg liver specialist and Ashkenazi member Dr. Gerry (Yossl) Minuk, to honor the old time north-end synagogue's anniversary.

Speaking to about 50 synagogue members and doctors following the Minchah and Ma'ariv services, Blendis described the liver as the essence of the body. "When it starts to go wrong, everything goes wrong," he said.

Blendis spoke at length of the effects of alcohol on the liver and the research that has taken place. The good news, he noted, is that the liver is a hardy organ that can regenerate itself given half a chance.

He also spoke of the different forms of hepatitis and their long-term effects. While hepatitis A is very contagious, there are no long-term side effects. Hepatitis B and C, however, can result in chronic liver problems resulting eventually in cirrhosis and liver cancer.

For hepatitis A and B, vaccinations are available that are safe and foolproof, he said. He and other doctors are advocating universal innoculation against the two forms of the disease.

British Columbia insists that all children be vaccinated, while Ontario has recently made the vaccinations compulsory for all Grade 6 students. (Incidentally, he noted that the vaccination for hepatitis A was first tested in an Orthodox Jewish community in Williamsburg, N.Y.)

Before the lecture, longtime shul member Dave Silverberg made the first in a series of presentations on the Ashkenazi's history which will complement the medical lectures.

The synagogue was founded by a group of 27 Lithuanian Jewish families, he said.

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Lufthansa

Dark dance based on survivor's experiences

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If you were to meet Allen Kaeja, chances are you'd find him affable, warm, friendly and good-humored.

A choreographer and dancer of some repute in Toronto's "new dance" scene, Kaeja is also the architect of a dark, haunting piece whose foreboding mood and intense theme seem so out of character with his personality.

Titled *The Old Country Trilogy*, the piece is based on the experiences of Kaeja's late father, Munniac Nossal, a survivor of the Holocaust. Though segments of the trilogy have been performed separately at Harbourfront Centre's Du Maurier Theatre Centre and the Winchester Street Theatre as part of the fringe Festival of Independent Dance Artists (fFIDA), the work will be performed in its entirety on March 30 for the first time as part of Peterborough's New Dance Series.

After that, Kaeja will take it to North Vancouver's Norman Rothstein Theatre and later will perform it in Halifax in early 1997.

Set just before World War II, *The Old Country Trilogy* examines European Jews' "environment, premonitions, the state of the community they're in," Kaeja said.

Part one of the trilogy, *Sarah* is based on the life of his father's first wife, who did not survive the Holocaust.

The piece combines a sense of loss and the struggle for survival, said Karen Resnick Kaeja, Allen's wife and dance partner and a choreographer in her own right.

The *In Blood* segment of the trilogy features two male dancers and tells a story Kaeja heard from his father, who after surviving Auschwitz found his brother-in-law, who'd lost his entire family. Felled by a disease, the brother-in-law died in his father's arms. "That story has always been strong in my mind," Kaeja said.

Old Country, a sextet about his father's village of Kutno near Warsaw, focuses on "a community that had been together for generations with layers of friendship and trust suddenly moving to a time of betrayal and loss," Kaeja said.

Although his work tackles serious themes, Kaeja said it "doesn't beat you over the head."

"I do the lighter stuff," Karen said. "Allen's an incredibly jovial character and the intensity of his work surprises me."

Between the two, the husband and wife team are a virtual dance industry, choreographing new works, training dancers, holding workshops for dance and theatre students and soliciting grants.

They're practitioners of "contact dance, a non-partnering dance [style] that's different than the (straining) 'ech' and 'uk' dance form where man lifts woman in the air and woman takes shape in the air," Allen says.

Allen teaches contact dance at the National Ballet School of Canada and the Canadian Children's Dance Theatre, while the two teach the technique at the School of the Toronto Dance Theatre, as well as at many performing arts schools and workshops.

They estimate that in the past nine years, they've taught a variety of courses to more than 11,000 dance and theatre students in Ontario, New York, Europe, Mexico, Venezuela and Thailand.

Their company, Kaeja d'Dance, has also produced Vancouver's Dancing on the Edge Festival, DanceWorks, Spring Rites, the Canada Dance Festival and fFIDA, among others.

Karen and Allen Kaeja are a quirky couple interested in life, in the show *Auro Choreda*. [Cylla Von Tiedemann photo]

On March 2 and 3, the Kaejas will host a public workshop at Dancemakers Studio on Dupont Street, and Karen is preparing to launch *Estrogen*, a duet she co-choreographed that honors female choreographers in Toronto. It will premier at the Damn Straight Studio and will run from April 9 to 14.

A former wrestler and judo fighter, Allen came to dance indirectly. While he loved "the all-encompassing physicality" of the sports, he hated their traditional training regimens. For relief, he headed to the dance floor, where he'd get a workout by boogying to the disco beat for four or five hours a night.

A friend introduced him to ballet and he "got hooked on the energy and the physicality of the dance."

Afterwards he went "headlong into dance" and trained at the School of the Toronto Dance Theatre.

Karen, meanwhile, was studying modern dance at York University. They met at rehearsals for a show.

When they married six years ago, they created the name Kaeja, using one letter from each of their six given names and surnames.

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TAB news

Young entrepreneur the Sy Sperling of the Generation Xers

By AMY ROSEN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If Steve Mincer gets his way he'll soon be known as the Sy Sperling of the Generation Xers.

A few years ago Mincer, 25, became concerned when he noticed his hair was thinning. His older brother told him about a woman named Mariana De Oliveira whom he had gone to see with a similar problem. She worked with herbal remedies and scalp treatments that brought about new hair growth. Noticing the difference De Oliveira had made on his brother's hair, Mincer tried the system himself.

"I tried it, hooked up a half-dozen friends, they tried it and everyone boasted great results," says Mincer. "I realized this was the real deal."

So, like Sperling, not only did he buy shares in the company — he's also a client.

Mincer spent months on marketing and research before finally opening up Inhairent Solutions Hair Treatment Centre at 2066 Avenue Rd. about a year ago. Customers come to the modern facility to have the treatments and learn how to do it themselves. There's also a massage therapist on hand and soon Mincer hopes to bring a hair stylist on board.

The De Oliveira Hair Care System helps provide the nutrients, cleansers and stimulators needed to improve the condition of the scalp and hair for some of the 55 million North Americans who are affected by male/female pattern baldness. The system sells for about $500, but people are buying it and getting great results. The products are not aimed at those who are already bald, but more towards men and women in their 20s, 30s and 40s whose hair has begun thinning.

Mincer has client testimonials and a slew of before-and-after pictures — including his own — for those who doubt.

"I don't just have before-and-after pictures of the backs of heads, I have customers who are happy to talk about their results with potential clients," says Mincer. "That's been my best advertising."

One such customer is Allan Hambaz, a Toronto student, who is thrilled with his new hair growth.

Steve Mincer may not have found the elixir of youth, but some would say it's a nice start.

Steve Mincer is also a client

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JERUSALEM – Israel Credit Cards (ICC) plans to issue Visa Cash credit cards in the fourth quarter of the year as the first stage in the company's plans to introduce electronic money, ICC general manager Zvi Meshi announced recently.

Meshi said card holders will be able to carry up to NIS 300 on one card, which will look like a credit card but will work like cash. The cards, which will be accepted at grocery stores and newsstands, will be "refillable" at banks' automatic teller machines.

The card will first be tested in limited areas, but Meshi said he hopes to distribute the cards nationally by 1997.

According to a market survey conducted for ICC in November 1995, 71 percent of the population use credit cards.

HAPOALIM A LEADER IN CUSTODIAL SERVICES

TEL AVIV – As a result of client surveys, Global Custodian recently awarded Bank Hapoalim the highest ranking for custodial services, says Rafi Ben-Ami, chief representative for the bank in Canada.

Hapoalim, the largest custodian in Israel, was the only Israeli bank to receive "rave reviews," as "clients cited a responsive and helpful staff" at the bank, the Global Custodian report said.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Jolson Sings Again: What was it like to see Jewish show business legend Al Jolson at his best in front of an adoring public? A high-budget musical profile of Jolson, now on stage at the historic Victoria Palace Theatre in London's West End, seemingly rekindles that quintessential and electrifying spark that this most famous cantor's son was able to generate between himself and his audiences.

Jolson: The Musical succeeds largely because of the substantial talents of its lead, British actor Brian Conley, whose dynamic stage presence and distinctive singing voice are at once plausible and pleasing. The man born as Asa Yoelson in Srednik, Lithuania, about 1885 is well known even today, thanks to the legacy of film and recorded music that he left behind after his death in 1950. Conley's rousing portrayal has an authenticity that easily persuades us to suspend our disbelief. Sally Ann Triplett is also appealing as Jolson's wife, entertainer Ruby Keeler.

This is a glossy, polished production, complete with the quickly moveable sets, intricate staging and large cast that seem requisite elements of modern commercial productions. In the Radio City Music Hall sequence that is the grand finale, an orchestra is actually lowered onto the stage from above, section by section. Fortunately, most of the special effects add to the bedazzlement. Also fortunately, writers Francis Essex and Rob Bettinson have provided a sufficiently strong plot line upon which to peg the 32 – count 'em, 32! – musical numbers. *Rock-a-Bye Your Baby, Swanee, You Made Me Love You, April Showers* and *Sonny Boy* are only some of the immortal favorites performed.

Al Jolson

Jolson is depicted realistically as a gifted but highly egotistical performer, who, as his agent Louis Epstein (John Bennett) generously puts it, was not the easiest man to get along with. Unlike the two movie biographies starring lip-synching imitator Larry Parks, this version of the Jolson story reveals that his mother died when he was a boy of eight, and that all of his determination and drive and wilful stepping on other people's toes was in response to her heart-rending deathbed wish that he make a success of himself.

Although musically progressive, Jolson, like many Jewish entertainers, was fundamentally a romanticist with a strong bent for nostalgia. "It's my Mammy I'm talking about, nobody else's!" he shouts in the final number, *My Mammy*, unabashedly and soppily sentimental as he tugs on the collective heartstrings of the audience, who are by this time singing, clapping, jumping to their feet and dabbing tears from their eyes.

Jolson: The Musical, directed by Stephen Waley-Cohen, at the Victoria Palace Theatre, London. Tickets, $25 to $64. 0171-834-1317.

* * *

Chapter Two: While on the subject of London theatre, I would be remiss not to mention the fine production of Neil Simon's *Chapter Two* now in performance in the West End. This is Simon at his best, as he combines his trademark witty dialogue and intrinsically funny set-ups with the pain and problems that come with courtship and marriage after a first wife has died.

Tom Conti and Sharon Gless star as the two romantic leads in this production, directed by David Gilmore. Gielgud Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave. Tickets, $21 to $48. 0171-494-5520.

* * *

Judaeo-Spanish Music: Temple Emanu-El Willowdale presents a program of Judaeo-Spanish music at the Shabbat service, 8:30 p.m., March 8; the public is invited.

Included in the program is *La Rosa*, a new work for solo cello by Canadian composer Milton Barnes, performed by concert artist William Findlay. As well, cantor Anna Trubashnik, flautist Beth Zeitlin and guitarist Elliott Sairan present Manuel Valls' *Sefarditas Canciones*, and the Temple choir sings Ladino folksongs arranged by Sid Robinovitch and Joshua Jacobson, under the baton of music director Amy Gilbert.

* * *

In Brief: Tribal Productions Inc. presents *Dangerous Liaisons* March 13 to 31 at the Theatre Centre East, 142 George St., Toronto. This highly acclaimed play by Christopher Hampton (*Mary Reilly*, *Carrington*) is a gripping story of passion, seduction and betrayal in the high society of pre-revolutionary France. Directed by Sam Rosenthal, produced by Danny Webber, and featuring Eli Lukawitz. Adults, $15.

A banal journey around the world

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

The 1996 edition of the *Jewish Travel Guide* (Sepher-Hermon Press, $13.95 US) whisks a reader on a journey around the world in some 400 pages.

The book, published in association with the *Jewish Chronicle* of London, takes us from Afghanistan (which has less than a dozen Jewish families) to another Third World country, Zimbabwe (whose Jewish population hovers around the 1,000 mark).

But if you expect to find elegant, insightful essays in this volume, forget it.

Apart from a rudimentary preface describing the evolution of each Jewish community, the *Jewish Travel Guide* presents pared-down facts only — banal but informative listings of synagogues, organizations, hotels, kosher restaurants, supermarkets and bakeries, libraries and so on.

And since this is a British publication, Britain takes pride of place, followed by Israel and the United States. These countries gobble up 218 pages, leaving less than 200 pages for the rest of the universe.

Canada, for example, is summed up in in about 15 pages. Strangely enough, the Czech Republic, with about 6,000 Jews, gets a bigger historical introduction than Canada.

The *Jewish Travel Guide* is well worth consulting, but you should be aware of its limitations.

Ambassador for peace to perform at Pantages Theatre

TORONTO — Enrico Macias, outstanding guitarist and singer and indefatigable ambassador for peace, will be performing at the Pantages Theatre, 244 Victoria St., March 11 at 8 p.m.

Recently appointed to the UNESCO mission for peace throughout the world, Macias has for 33 years used his songs to promote friendship and tolerance.

Since he left his native Algeria in 1962, Macias, a Sephardi Jew, has continued to advocate rapprochement between Jews and Arabs.

Although Egypt is the only Arabic country where he has been permitted to perform, Macias is one of the most popular French singers in North African and Middle Eastern Muslim countries and is preparing for a concert in Jordan.

In Toronto, Macias will be performing songs from his latest album, *Et Johnny chante l'amour*.

For more information, call 416-636-4719 or Ticketmaster at 416-872-2222.

Business Profile

Jane Corkin: Toronto's first lady of photography

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — At five o'clock in the afternoon there are no signs that the Jane Corkin Gallery is gearing down for the day.

The gallery staff buzzes around the back offices getting promotional material ready, invoicing, cataloguing and answering a phone that rings non stop, while Jane Corkin, who has been called "Toronto's first lady of photography," fields phone calls from New York and Paris.

On this day, everyone's reeling with excitement. They've had a visit from a rock superstar whom Corkin declines to name. In an effort to protect his privacy she's cagey with the *Toronto Star* gossip columnist who phones to say the rock star has been spotted at the gallery. "Maybe he came to use the facilities," Corkin cracks.

It's no surprise that celebrities come knocking at her gallery door. The 40-something Corkin has developed an international reputation in the art world and is among the top six photography dealers in the world.

Corkin buys and sells vintage and contemporary photographs. Since becoming a private art dealer in 1977, she has amassed thousands of photographs worth anywhere from $200 to $325,000 (US). Serious collectors all over the world from as far as away as Australia will visit her gallery if she has what they're looking for, she says.

Compared to other visual art forms, photography is relatively affordable, she says. "It is still something where you can buy the very best in the field."

And it's also a good investment. Many of the works she has dealt with have gone up in value, she notes. "A vintage Kertész which I originally sold for $1,500 in 1974 recently sold for $250,000 (US)."

Corkin is also the Canadian agent for internationally known photographers like Richard Avedon, Irving Penn and Nan Goldin, and she represents a stable of Canadian artists which includes Robert Bourdeau, Carol Morino and Prof. Thaddeus Holownia.

They are top Canadian photographers who "have already created important bodies of work," she says. "My job is to get it out to the world ... The work speaks for itself."

Her marketing strategy is to maximize the photographers' exposure on the world market and on the home-front by getting their works into exhibits at major galleries and shows — "to get them seen a lot."

In 1989, Jane Corkin set the world record for the highest price ever paid for a photograph, paying $116,000 for an Edward Weston. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Artists whom Corkin represents are in three shows now running concurrently in Toronto: Goldin's works are part of American Trip at the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery at Harbourfront Centre; Headlighting, Holownia's show, is on at the 360 Revolving Restaurant on top of the CN Tower; and Four Days in the Life of Quebec, a Serge Clément show is included in the O'Canada Project at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO).

And there are always two shows — one contemporary and one vintage photography — at her own gallery, located in a renovated shoe factory on John Street just north of Queen. The 6,300-square-foot space designed by architect Barton Myers is bright and inviting with its bleached wood fixtures, sliding floor-to-ceiling room dividers and eight-foot windows overlooking a medieval-style bell tower in Grange Park.

Corkin is reluctant to put a dollar value on the net worth of the photographs in her gallery, but she estimates they're worth several million. That's a far cry from the gallery's humble beginnings 17 years ago.

Corkin opened the gallery, originally located on Front Street, with a $10,000 bank loan. But getting this money wasn't easy, she recalls.

"I went to seven banks. I understood how to run an art gallery. I had worked for two of the best art dealers — David Mirvish and [the late] Alkis Klonaridis — but I didn't speak in their [the banks'] language."

She says she did $250,000 worth of business in the first year and it doubled every year until the recession hit in 1982. There were many sleepless nights, she admits. "I had no idea where the money was coming from. I was always maxed out on my line of credit."

But she survived that recession and weathered a second one in the '90s to become one of the longest-standing photography dealers in the world. She attributes this longevity to her ability to predict trends and make business decisions accordingly.

The decision to represent a particular artist may be based on esthetics, but ultimately it translates into a business decision, she says. "Art dealership is a capital-intensive business. You can't buy the best in your field unless you put up money. The right to represent often involves putting up capital."

One of the most important decisions Corkin made was competing for and winning representation of the estate of photography pioneer Andre Kertész, she notes.

"His work was brilliant and complicated. Some of his pictures have brought some of the highest prices in the world market."

She credits David Mirvish, whom she describes as "a great mentor" for giving her her start and teaching her the ropes of the art business.

After graduating from Queen's University with a degree in art history and political science in 1972, the Boston-born Corkin, a photography buff since she was a teenager, was hired to assist Klonaridis and photograph the art and guests at the gallery openings.

Corkin piqued Mirvish's interest in photographs and in 1974, he opened a photography department, which she headed until the gallery closed three years later.

Working for Mirvish gave her access to the top art dealers, she notes.

She also followed his example as an art buyer, she says. "We were aggressive — buying the best. I learned from David it was never wrong to pay the highest price if you buy the best piece."

She obviously learned this lesson well. In 1989, she set the world record for the highest price ever paid for a photograph at an art auction, paying $116,000 U.S. for a 1927 Edward Weston photograph of a sea shell. "The room broke out in applause," she says, laughing at the memory. A year later she sold the picture at a 10 percent mark-up.

She reports that the most recent world record for a photograph purchased at a public sale was $398,000 (US) for an Alfred Stieglitz work. She possesses two great photographs by Stieglitz which she's saving for local collectors, she says.

"Just to sell them doesn't make sense unless the person does something important with them.

"My interest is in creating Canadian collections that have top world pieces. One day the AGO will own some of the great photographs that pass through my hands."

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U.S. coach aims to slay the Canadian giant ...

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's hard to imagine the United States playing the role of David to Canada's Goliath, but in the world of hockey, it may take the efforts of one or more goaltending Davids to slay the Canadian hockey giant.

David Littman and David Israel are two puck-stopping netminders toiling in the International Hockey League (the I) who could form the backbone for the U.S. hockey entry in the 1997 Maccabiah Games in Israel, says Sam Greenblatt, the man charged with putting together the American team.

Greenblatt, 62, said he plans to recruit the best available athletes for the competition — and that includes "pros and the top U.S. college players."

He's already elicited considerable interest from Mike Hartman, a former NHLer who played for Buffalo, Winnipeg and the Rangers and who now skates for Orlando in the I.

And he expects he'll be able to convince other top Jewish players, perhaps including Islander defenceman Matthieu Schneider, to participate. And why not?, he says. "It's a historical moment because it's part of the Maccabiah Games for the first time...It's playing for a national team. It's playing for your heart. It's a great feeling."

When it comes to putting on national colors and playing for your country, Greenblatt knows of what he speaks. From 1987 to 1995, he served as coach-in-chief for U.S.A. Hockey, the governing body for amateur hockey in the Excited States. A master's coach (he coaches the coaches), he's served with the U.S. national program since 1977 and helped put together the 1980 and 1988 Olympic teams.

The 1980 team that beat the favored Soviets in the fabled "Miracle on Ice" was a career highlight for Greenblatt, especially since Detroit-area players, including defenceman Ken Morrow, played such key roles in the upset win.

A resident of Southfield, Mich., a Detroit suburb, Greenblatt says a victory in the first-ever Maccabiah Games hockey competition would be the crowning glory of his hockey career.

His co-chair for the U.S. Maccabiah hockey program is Ilene Kent, who works in merchandising and marketing for the NHL in New York.

Originally from the Dundas/Runneymede area of Toronto's West End, Greenblatt's family moved to the Detroit area when he was 10. He got his start playing bantam-age hockey and continued to the senior level.

Known as one of the builders of community hockey in Detroit, 20 years ago Greenblatt envisioned icing a local Jewish hockey team with players' jerseys emblazoned with a menorah. He was told at the time, however, that hockey wasn't a sport for Jewish boys.

Things have certainly changed since then and with the inclusion of hockey at the Maccabiah Games, Greenblatt's got his work cut out for him, recruiting prospects, staging tryouts and trying to raised the $250,000 needed for the team and staff.

In addition to recruiting a Maccabiah team, Greenblatt said he hopes to form a 20-and-under squad and challenge Canada in a friendly competition in North America.

Sam Greenblatt

...but not if Lee can help it

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Gideon Lee knows what it's like to start an organization from the ground up.

A few years ago, he got a call from his son Ido in Israel, who informed him the coach of Israel's national hockey team had resigned about a week and a half before the team's first-ever international tournament and, ahem, did he know anybody who would take the job?

Ido had called the right guy. Lee the elder happened to know someone who was available — himself. A native Israeli who'd coached and managed kids' teams at various levels in the Metro Toronto Hockey League (MTHL), Lee joined the team in South Africa for its hockey debut.

He coached the Israeli nationals for its first three years and points with pride to the fact that it improved with every outing.

Now he's been handed another hockey assignment and, as before, it means starting something from ground zero. Lee has been named Maccabi Canada's chair of hockey for Ontario and the West. He's been asked to help put together the team that will represent Canada when hockey makes its debut at the 1997 Maccabiah Games in Israel. But unlike the situation of a few years ago, he's got a year and a half, not a week and a half, to get the team ready.

Still, it's a formidable task, considering that hockey is a new sport for Maccabi Canada and has no organizational history, he said.

He's started by trying to recruit a three-person committee to take over the crucial fundraising aspect of the venture (the goal is $150,000), while he beats the bushes for talent.

He's also trying to recruit volunteers to help with the administrative aspects of the organization. Tryouts must be arranged, ice time booked and player leads followed up, he said.

So far, in the two months since Maccabi Canada touted the inclusion of hockey in the games, about 35 players have approached Lee requesting tryouts. Lee expects "a flood of applications" from across the country when the first tryouts are announced. He hopes to have a core of players selected by the end of the summer and he hints there's even a chance pro players and junior stars might be included.

Thirty-one years ago when he moved to Canada from Israel, Lee couldn't have imagined becoming a hockey czar. In fact, he'd never even seen a game being played.

But when winter came, his sons Ido and Uzi wanted to skate. As youngsters — tykes or mites, Lee doesn't remember which — they joined MTHL clubs and "somebody had to take them and bring them.

"That's how I first saw hockey. I figured that if someone is giving time for my kids, I'll give something back."

Lee eventually became manager of a house league and took MTHL coaching courses at the same time. He then began coaching a house league team.

During his coaching career, he coached a Goulding Park AA peewee team at a tournament in Quebec, where they knocked of higher-rated competition.

Eventually he served as president of the Goulding Park hockey association and he also coached and managed the (now defunct) Downsview Beavers midget entry in the MTHL.

"I got hooked on hockey," he says.

Although he no longer coaches (he was replaced as coach of the Israeli nationals two seasons ago), he readily accepted the Maccabi offer, which he considers a labor of love.

For more information, Lee can be reached by fax at 416-223-4041.

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BAYVIEW RIDGE — $4,600,000.
Breathtaking contemporary with grand entertaining space in ravine setting. Pool. **Elise Kalles***.

PARKLANE CIRCLE — $3,280,000.
New Presentation – Magnificent 2.6 acre lot – Ready to renovate or build your dream home. **Elise Kalles***.

THE BRIDLE PATH — $1,680,000
Stunning California contemporary on secluded 95' x 295' lot. Pool/cabana/tennis crt. **Elise Kalles***.

YORK MILLS GARDEN 1/4 ACRE
4800 sq. ft. new home. $1,250,000. or live in renovated side split $659,000. or build new. **Cheryl Graff***.

$539,000. CUSTOM BUILT YORK MILLS
Quiet street, quality location, large family size kitchen Windfields Estates. **Samantha Graff***.

BATHURST VILLAGE DREAM HOME
Reno'd 3 + 1 bdrms., bksplt., cust. kit. w/bit.-in appl., huge fam. rm., new baths, fin. bsmt. $318K. **M. Povering***.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD $139,900.
Unheard of value. 2 + b[SOLD]ndo, 2 baths, extra large living/dining rms., S. exp. **Maxine Povering***.

CENTRAL

BATHURST/BURTON ART DECO
$799,000. Oversized principal rooms, main floor family room, Frank Lloyd Wright style. **Samantha Graff***.

NEW PRESENTATION IN THE VILLAGE
Elegant centre hall plan, 5 bdrms., den, leaded glass windows, vaulted ceilings, pool. $735,000. **Elise Kalles***.

REPUBLIC OF RATHNELLY
$725,000. Fully renovated second floor family room, 9½ft. ceilings, double gar., fin. rec. **Cheryl Graff***.

BATH/HILLMOUNT NEW! $619,000!
Spectacular 5 bdrms., 5 [SOLD]am. rm., laundry rm., den on main. Must see! **J. Joseph*/A. Sussman***.

1ST AD! OTTER CRESCENT AREA!
$474,900.! Trendy reno.! White gourmet kit. + mn. fam. o/l's. 40' x 190' treed lot! **Sandon Schwartzben***.

1ST AD STUNNING HOME $449K
St. Clair/Avenue Rd. Totally restored 3 bdrms., new kit. & baths, gorgeous!. **M. Alberga*/S. Stern***.

1ST AD BATHURST/LAWRENCE $399,000.!
2 stry., 6 bdrms., fam. rm., lau. rm. & den on mn., 4 baths, good cond.! Amazing value! Act now! **Aron Sussman***.

BATHURST/GLENGAIRN! $309K!
Vendor says sell! Exec[SOLD] bdrms., 3 baths! Fam. 50' x 133'. Prestige cul-de-sac. **Sandon Schwartzben***.

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BATHURST - STEELES
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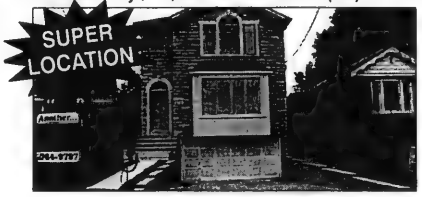

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Roommate wanted for renting house. Looking for Non-smoker, who like dogs . Male or female leave message. 633-3753.

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Petite blonde, outgoing romantic and cultured seeks affectionate, refined thoughtful professional male mid 40's for lasting relationship Box 6718 CJN.

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For these ads simply address your mail to:
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285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WISEBROD- WEISFELD - With much pride and joy Fern and Herbie, Sandi and Ron are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, **Stephanie** to **Adam**. Proud brothers are Jamie, Jeremy and Shane. Mazel Tov to grandparents Sylvia Berall, Freda and Yaakov Akerman (Tel Aviv) and Leo Binstock. Also excited is Uncle Allan. Sadly missed at this time are grandparents Ron Berall, Gertie and Hymie Wisebrod, Evelyn and Harry Weisfeld and great- grandparents Dora and Hymie Simon and Sara and Aaron Kunigis. Wedding to take place June of 1997.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Wedding gown size eight. French lace & pure silk. 661-7775.

330 OBITUARIES

Sadie Pearson on February 9, 1996, late of 62 Danby Avenue
Sylvia Bialow on February 10, 1996, late of 80 Searle Ave.
Isaac Goldman on February 12, 1996, late of 133 Torresdale Ave. #1108
Jacob Louis Epstein on February 12, 1996, late of 300 Ridley Blvd.
Mark Wallach on February 13, 1996, late of 64 Summerdale Drive
Leon Shupak on February 15, 1996, late of 88 Almore Ave.
Pamela Okorofsky-Simons on February 15, 1996, late of 18 Wickstead Way

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Guziker, Sam on February 22, 1996
Black, Norman on February 22, 1996, late of 67 Parklane Circle
Grossman, Rose Sarah on February 24, 1996, late of 135 Antibes Dr. #1806
Black, Philip on February 24, 1996, late of 605 St. Germaine Ave.
Caplan, Tillie on February 23, 1996, late of 20 Shallmar Blvd., #410

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Beyond the security issue

By SHLOMO AVINERI
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Two aspects of the debate over the closure of the territories need serious consideration.

The first concerns terminology, but its implications go much deeper than that.

The word closure is a misnomer. Israel

Opinion

could impose a closure on the West Bank and Gaza as long as these areas were under its military rule. But in the wake of the Oslo accords, it has become clear that the territories now under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority have a different status. Even though Israel retains overall security responsibility in a number of ways, these territories are no longer part of Israeli space.

When we refer to "closure" today, therefore, what we are really talking about is the nature of the border between Israel and the areas under the Palestinian Authority's control. And the issue isn't "closing off" territories under our military administration, it's what happens at those border crossings.

Like any sovereign nation, Israel has the right to determine the conditions of entry to and exit from its territory, according to security, political or economic considerations.

Second and more important: The issues involved in Israel's policies regarding its border crossings should not be considered purely under the rubric of security.

Even Sunday's bus bombing in Jerusalem should alert us to the fact that the issue transcends security.

The question goes to the heart of the nature of our relationship with the Palestinians.

Given so many decades of war and enmity, it is totally unrealistic to expect a swift transition to the kind of relations that exist among the Benelux countries.

That is why any analogy with Western European countries is, for the moment, irrelevant.

The enormous economic gaps between Israel and the Palestinian territories make any attempt at economic integration equally meaningless unless one is thinking in terms of a Bantustan emerging on the Israel's doorstep.

Surely this is not the shape of peace and reconciliation. Nor is unemployment the cause of terrorism.

The Palestinians need economic development. But making them the hewers of wood and drawers of water for a developed, modern Israeli economy isn't the right way to go about it. It should be the responsibility of the Arab world and of the Palestinian diaspora to help the emerging Palestinian entity develop economically.

To put it bluntly: Despite the obvious interest of some Israeli employers in cheap, non-unionized Palestinian labor, there is no intrinsic Israeli interest in this. Nor does Israel owe the Palestinians a living.

So long as they were under Israeli occupation, we had that responsibility but not any more. Once the Palestinians achieved self-rule, Israel's responsibility ceased.

This ought to be stated clearly and equivocally to Israeli employers, who parade their exploitative self-interest under the cloak of caring for unemployed Palestinians; and to Israeli and other civil rights advocates who are justly concerned about economic conditions in the territories. They need to be told that the address for their complaints is not Israel.

Last but not least, it needs to be stated to the Palestinians themselves. They finally need to realize that responsibility goes with self-rule. Their continuing gripes against Israel are a continuation of the dependency syndrome. They and those Israelis who would like to continue a relationship of hegemony toward the Palestinians, calling it "cooperation" now have to realize that we are at a crossroads leading toward a new kind of relationship between our two peoples.

Under difficult conditions, the Palestinians have achieved a measure of self-rule which will hopefully lead them toward complete emancipation from Israeli domination. But economic dependency mustn't replace political and military occupation.

Palestinian self-reliance must be enlarged with the help of Arab solidarity, and Palestinian leaders, who for decades were able to mobilize the whole Arab world on their behalf in their fight against Israel, must now rely on that same Arab solidarity in their moment of hope.

Even under the present complicated conditions, ending Israeli rule over two million Palestinians was a necessary step, and a great achievement.

It was a twofold emancipation, freeing Palestinians from Israeli rule and freeing Israelis from the political and moral burden of ruling another nation against its will.

The more separation that can now be achieved between the two populations and the two economies, the better the chances for cooperation with equality and mutual self-respect in the future.

Shlomo Avineri is a professor of political science at the Hebrew University.

Terrorist network restored: officials

By STEVE RODAN and BILL HUTMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Hamas has restored its terrorist network in Jerusalem and its members are believed to have provided support for the two suicide bombings in the capital over the last eight days, security sources said on Sunday.

The sources said that only weeks after the capture of a Hamas cell responsible for the planning of several bus bombings, including that in Ramot Eshkol last year, the organization has rebuilt its terrorist network in Jerusalem.

For several weeks, security officials had expressed concern that Hamas was returning to Jerusalem, but since the two suicide bombings, they are now said to be convinced that the organization's infrastructure has been restored.

Security sources said Hamas terrorists in Jerusalem are in close contact with those in the territories who sent the suicide bombers on their mission. The Jerusalem cell, the sources said, probably provided the suicide bombers with last-minute instructions and intelligence, and even the explosives necessary for the attacks.

"You just don't bring in 15 or 30 kilograms of TNT on your back or put it on your lap in a taxi cab," a security source said. "It is likely that these things are prepared the minute you are about to embark on your mission."

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Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Dear Ella,

Judy and I practically grew up together. We were best friends through high school and went on to university together. After we met our spouses, we started to grow apart. Judy and my husband did not get along. At one point there was a major blow up and Judy and I parted with bad feelings between us.

About 20 years have gone by and I've heard that Judy has a terminal illness. I suddenly feel that those 20 years that we've lost touch never happened. When I think of Judy, I think of all the fun times we had, not the end of our relationship, when things went sour.

I want to call her, I want to see how she is, I want to be there for her. Do you think I am being selfish? Maybe the last thing Judy needs, is me back in her life. Maybe her memories are not quite as fond as mine are. Do you think I want to call her just to relieve my guilt? I don't know what I would do if she refused to speak to me? Is it appropriate for me to call her after all this time?

Left Behind

Dear Left Behind

Try putting yourself in Judy's place. Do you think that you would object to a phone call from someone who was a close friend in the past? From the sound of your letter I think you would welcome it. When you are faced with a terminal illness, your priorities change. I'm not so sure the argument the two of you had 20 years ago will be important any longer. Judy and you have shared many years of closeness and fun together.

The worst scenario is that Judy will not speak to you...So? You will probably recuperate from that, however if you don't call her, you may regret it for many years to come.

Go with your gut instinct. Pick up the phone and give Judy a call. You may be able to rekindle something very special that the two of you once shared together.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems consult a professional.*

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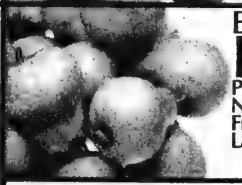

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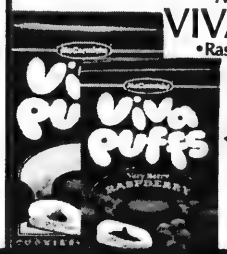

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Urgent appeal to fight terrorism made at community rally. ***Page 3***

Women gather across Canada to support women without *gittin.* ***Page 5***

"Kefiada" a cool experience for kids visiting Israel to teach English. ***Page 7***

Coast to Coast

Manitoba premier, Gary Filmon, overwhelmed by JNF honor. ***Page 20***

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Miami Heat's Dan Schayes carries on the family tradition in the NBA. ***Page 41***

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Shabbat: Vayakhel-Pekude
Candlelighting 6:06
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Canada to act against terror

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canadian government has promised to undertake a series of initiatives that would put it in the forefront of the international effort to support Israel in its battle against Islamic terrorists, the head of the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) said last week.

On the domestic front, Canada has pledged to investigate whether funds are being raised in Canada to support Hamas terrorists, said CIC national chair Steven Victor. Victor and a CIC delegation met separately with Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Solicitor General Herb Gray shortly after three suicide bombings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv claimed about 60 lives.

On the international scene, Axworthy and Prime Minster Jean Chrétien were to represent Canada this week at a hastily-convened Summit of the Peacemakers in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. About 30 countries were to participate in the summit, which was co-chaired by U.S. President Bill Clinton and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

The summit was aimed at showing solidarity with Israeli and Arab peacemakers during the current crisis, maintaining the momentum of the peace process and discussing cooperative measures to counter terrorism, a government official told *The CJN*.

Though the summit was to last only three hours, Canada planned to urge other states to show support for the anti-terrorism measures approved by the P-8 nations (the G-7 plus Russia) at a Dec. 12 ministerial meeting in Ottawa, the official stated.

The international meeting will also have symbolic value for all those trying to cope with international terrorism and give Israel "a shot in the arm," said Foreign Affairs spokesperson Rodney Moore.

"Canada has been active in both the peace process and the struggle against international terrorism," Chrétien said. "We will not stand idly by and let terrorists attempt to destroy the peace process and everything that has already been accomplished."

Shortly after the terrorist bombings, parliament unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the attacks and stating that "Canada and the people of Canada [will] make every effort to ensure that the enemies of the peace process will not prevail."

Representatives of all major parliamentary parties took turns expressing their outrage at the bombings and affirming their solidarity with the people of Israel.

In his remarks to parliament, Axworthy noted that "the issue of terrorist funding was raised in question period regarding the extent of the problem in Canada. We do not know how far, how modest or how great, but whatever the amount, we know they can be important to the groups themselves. Therefore, we are committed to doing all we can to deprive terrorists of this funding."

Continued on page 32

ON GUARD IN HEBRON

A soldier keeps a rooftop watch in the wake of the recent suicide bombings. Israel has linked IDF troop withdrawal from Hebron to the amendment by the PLO of its charter. *[RNS photo]*

'I am convinced we shall prevail'

BY CHAIM HERZOG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Commentary

Forty-eight years ago I experienced the bombing of the Jewish Agency building, in which my wife was very seriously injured. Twelve people were killed and many wounded. It came in the wake of two other major explosions in Jerusalem within the same month: One destroyed the building of the *Palestine Post*, as the *Jerusalem Post* was then called, the other, on Ben-Yehuda Street, killed over 50 people and left large numbers wounded.

In the *Palestine Post* explosion, I was one of the rescue workers. My wife and I survived the Ben-Yehuda explosion miraculously. We passed the truck loaded with dynamite exactly one minute before it blew up.

These tragic events recall many others. At the onset of the War of Independence, as we struggled literally for our very existence, we faced many harrowing trials and tribulations.

We had endured a siege in Jerusalem without water and food, as 10,000 shells landed in the city. But we survived it with determination, and in most cases succeeded in brushing off the feeling of danger, both national and personal.

I do not remember any case of publicly expressed fear or hopelessness perhaps because we experienced reality firsthand, and not through television at home.

Today, our capabilities are more extensive and our situation bears no relation to that which we experienced then. But much can be done to lift the nation's spirit, to strengthen its faith in the righteousness of its path and bolster its ability to meet challenges.

Continued on page 32

NEXT WEEK

In next week's isssue of *The CJN*, we will be publishing the rules of our next contest: The Yom Ha'atzmaut teen cartoon festival.

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Arafat meets with CIA to combat Hamas ... 1

The News In Brief

International

ISRAEL

Haifa U's New VP

HAIFA – Haifa University's executive committee has named Yael Metser as vice-president for public relations and resource development.

She is the first woman to be appointed to the vice-presidency at the university and one of the few women to occupy an administrative postion at this top level in Israel's higher education system.

WORLD

Aid For Jordan

WASHINGTON – Jordan came one step closer to receiving promised U.S. fighter jets when President Bill Clinton asked Congress to set aside part of the defence budget for the military hardware.

Under the proposal, the Defence Department would shift $140 million slated for research and development to pay for the jets. An additional $60 million would come from aid already slated to go to Jordan.

Economic Accord Adopted

BRUSSELS — The legislative branch of the European Union has given its formal approval to a new association agreement signed last November by Israel and the union's 15 member states.

The new accord replaces a 1975 trade and cooperation agreement between Israel and what was then known as the Common Market.

Dealing with the Holocaust

CINCINNATI – An international symposium examining the experiences of Germany and America in dealing with Holocaust memory will take place in Cincinnati on March 31 to April 1.

The symposium will explore how should we remember and will we remember the Holocaust in Germany and America.

Fighting Anti-Semitism

MAMARONECK, N.Y. – After a series of anti-Semitic graffiti incidents stunned this suburb north of New York City, residents of varying faiths gathered to declare their solidarity in combating hate.

Martinique Shul Opens

PARIS – The 500-strong Jewish community on the Caribbean island of Martinique has obtained a synagogue, the first Jewish temple on the French island in 350 years.

The chief rabbi of France, Joseph Sitruk, and Jean Kahn, the secular leader of France's Jewish community, inaugurated Kenaf Aretz Synagogue last week in Fort-de-France, Martinique's capital.

Haftorah Commentary

NEW YORK – The first English-language Haftorah commentary – a work dealing with the weekly selections from the Prophets that have been read by Jews down through the ages – will be published in June by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, central body of 850 Reform synagogues throughout Canada and the United States.

TERROR IN ISRAEL

Redeployment On Hold

JERUSALEM – With the future of peace with the Palestinians thrown into question by a rash of closely spaced Hamas suicide bombings, Israel has imposed stringent security measures in an effort to stave off the wave of fundamentalist terror.

And in a departure from previous policy, Prime Minister Shimon Peres last week linked an Israeli redeployment in the West Bank town of Hebron scheduled for later this month to a demand that PLO officials revoke those portions of their charter that call for the destruction of Israel.

Coalition Considered

JERUSALEM – Political trial balloons were floated by the dozen last week, with suggestions ranging from the resignation of the government prior to the establishment of a short-term emergency cabinet, to the setting up of a "consultative forum" – with opposition representatives invited to join.

Cease Fire Offered

JERUSALEM – Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, last week issued a statement offering to suspend attacks against Jews until July.

The statement came several hours after Hamas leaders in Gaza gave a press conference demanding an end to the attacks "until a position can be developed for serving the interests of our people."

(The offer was subsequently withdrawn.)

Clinton's Pledge

WASHINGTON – Pledging to "step up the struggle for peace" and to "counter the threat of terror with unshakable resolve," President Bill Clinton joined Washington's Jewish community at a memorial service for the victims of recent terror bombings in Israel.

"Our faith may be shaken, but at times like this, it is all the more important to persevere," Clinton told an overflow crowd of about 500 people at the Israeli Embassy.

U.S. Anti-terror Bill

NEW YORK – Leaders of American Jewish organizations are calling for the immediate passage of anti-terrorism legislation that has languished for more than a year in Congress.

The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations made its call at a news conference convened to denounce the latest series of bombings in Israel.

Talks Suspended

WASHINGTON – Israel has indefinitely suspended peace talks with Syria in response to twin terrorist bombings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

At Israel's request, the United States canceled talks that were scheduled to resume March 4 at the Wye Plantation in Maryland. The parties met last week but reported no progress.

U.S. To Assist Israel

WASHINGTON – Israel has entered its war against Hamas with much more than American arms in its arsenal.

In the wake of last week's terrorist attacks, President Bill Clinton has authorized U.S. intelligence agencies to send long-sought sensitive information about Hamas activists to Israeli officials.

France Issues Rebuke

PARIS – France has canceled a visit by Iran's deputy foreign minister to protest Tehran's praise for the recent suicide bombings in Israel.

In addition to the cancellation of Mahmoud Vaezi's planned visit later this month, French officials summoned the ambassadors of Iran and Libya to "confirm our disapproval of the Iranian and Libyan reactions to the attacks carried out in Israel," a spokesperson said.

The Canadian Jewish news

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Community rally draws 1,500

Urgent appeal made to fight terrorism

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A ringing challenge to Yasser Arafat to "rip off his various masks" was issued March 7 at a solemn memorial to 57 victims of terrorist bombings in Israel, attended by 1,500 in the packed sanctuary at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

The challenge was issued by Rabbi Mark Dratch, as the Jewish community demonstrated its solidarity with Israel in its hour of pain and at the same time, broke into applause when Rabbi Dratch and Israel Consul General Jehudi Kinar said it was time for Arafat to curb the terrorists.

Full text of Rabbi Dratch's speech *page 9*

Both speakers urged Canadians not to cancel their trips to Israel because of the bombings, but instead to make long-planned trips now to show their strong links with Israel.

With fiery passion in his voice, Rabbi Dratch said Jews must observe the lesson of Purim, when Haman tried to spread disunity among Jews to weaken them. And he called eloquently for unity in the community. "This is not the time for political acrimony," he said.

"To the government of Canada, we say words are not enough. No terrorist should find a home in Canada. Support is flowing all too freely from North America to the terrorists."

The terrorists may enjoy some "short-term success," but they will never destroy Israel," Kinar said. They do know that killing a Jew in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv or Buenos Aires hurts all Jews, "but they should read the story of Esther and Haman. Hamas does not understand the resilience of the Jewish people."

Kinar drew a moving picture of the carnage at a Tel Aviv shopping mall on the eve of Purim when several children died. "How could these innocent children be the enemy of anyone?" he asked.

The mood of the dignified gathering was mirrored in Rabbi Dratch's address. "We say to the PLO: Now is the time for Arafat to rip off his various masks. Is he for peace ... or will he continue to offer whispered consolation to families of the likes of the 'Engineer'?

"The time is long past for ... changing those parts of the Palestinian Covenant calling for the destruction of Israel. The Palestinian people must show greater determination to control extremists. No more words, No more tokenism ... Only responsible action."

At another point, he challenged Hamas to reveal its true status. "Is it a social organization or is it a viper's nest of fanatics? It cannot be both, as it does in condoning terrorism and those who glorify suicide."

The reality of the shock to Jewish people everywhere and the need for action surfaced at Shaarei Shomayim time and again, even as grief was expressed in Hebrew Psalms by Rabbi Dow Marmur and when Cantor Paul Kowarsky recited K'El Maleh Rachamim, and in a poem *Each Person Has a name*, read in Hebrew and English by Candice Cooper, a young Toronto lawyer.

Kinar recalled how he was with the Canadian United Israel Appeal mission in Jerusalem when news of the first suicide bombing in Jerusalem reached them.

"The tenor of the room changed in a moment. That day I felt close contact with the Canadian community. We all felt as one."

The victims of the bombings included elderly Jews arising early in the morning to go to work to eke out their incomes, young recruits on their way to army training, children preparing for Purim and Russian immigrants on their way to make a bank loan, he said.

Who could not understand the 16-year-old army recruit who asked his mother to get off the No. 18 bus two blocks before it reached the central station, so he could appear independent? "But his mother, Chana, never saw him alive again."

The presence of Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick, Liberal M.P. Joseph Volpe, in whose riding the synagogue is located, and Bishop Terence Findley, head of the Toronto Anglican Diocese, was acknowledged by Moshe Ronen, chair, Ontario region, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

Rabbi Mark Dratch addressing the assembly at the rally. Inset is Israel Consul General Jehudi Kinar. [Barry Shainbaum photos]

The commemorative assembly was sponsored by the Ontario region of CJC and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (JFGT), in conjunction with B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Zionist Federation and the United Israel Appeal of Canada. Sandra Brown, JFGT president, chaired the assembly.

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Greater Toronto Area

Labor and Likud present their views

After the terrible events of the past weeks, my visit in Israel seems even further away than it already is. In the first emotional rush after the bombings, I questioned the relevance of continuing to share the notes of that visit.

But they are reminders that a mere six weeks ago optimism outweighed pessimism and cautious confidence was more prevalent than angry suspicion. The notes record statements and impressions from both public officials and private citizens which were valid at the time they were written. Readers will form their own conclusions as to their relevance in light of recent events. In this column, I will record the observations of the public officials who spoke to our group on the last full day of the conference, Feb.1.

Throughout the conference, organisers made sure that we heard from both sides of the mainstream political spectrum. Thus, two Labor and two Likud members of Knesset spoke to us. Deputy Foreign Minister Eli Dayan and Deputy Defence Minister Ori Orr represented Labor. Ze'ev Begin and Dan Meridor represented Likud.

Dayan addressed the topic After the Palestinian Elections. In his view, Yasser Arafat enjoys great support among the Palestinian people, support which has steadily increased over the past two years. Dayan believed this to be a good development for Israel, because it was evidence of growing support for the peace process among the Palestinian people in general. He had just returned from Gaza, where he saw tangible signs of an expanding, modern infrastructure being put into place, including new roads, houses, hospitals, and a modern port in Gaza City.

He stated openly that "Israel should assist in creating economic incentives for developing the Palestinian economy," for in his opinion, this would help to generate "greater interest among Palestinians to be at peace with Israel."

Of Yasser Arafat, he said that Israel has two pressing demands: He must change the Palestine National Covenant (PNC) and he must stiffen resistance against the Palestinian forces opposed to the peace process. In particular, he must destroy the infrastructure of the terrorist groups. Dayan concluded his remarks by stating that the government will not make any compromises about Jerusalem. Jerusalem will remain united and the sovereign capital of Israel.

Orr, besides being deputy defence minister in the government, is also a general (Res.) in the IDF. I suppose for that reason, illogically, I expected him to speak loudly and demonstratively. Thus, I found his mild, almost soft-spoken manner surprising. His message to us was delivered quickly, economically and matter-of-factly.

His years in the military have led him to understand that there are limits to the use of military power in achieving political results. In his view, the issue underlying the need for peace with the Palestinians is relatively cut and dried. Israel can no longer dominate – however benign that domination – two million people who do not wish to be dominated. The best way of moving the situation forward was through the step-by-step, confidence-building approach envisioned in the Oslo agreements. With good will on both sides, compromises could be found in security matters. But, in any event, Israel would not go back to the borders of the Six Day War.

Begin spoke assertively, in a loud voice, punctuating his energetic presentation with constant movements of his right hand. His topic was Negotiations with Syria. His thesis was that the notion of compromise, so deeply embedded in the western culture and way of life, was absent in the Middle East in general, and in Syria specifically. Thus, he was very skeptical about achieving peace with Syria. Syria's sense of national pride and national honor, he said, translates into a negotiating posture of "total intransigence." However, if peace with Syria is possible, it can only be based upon "total security for Israel."

Meridor, former minister of justice and present chair of the Likud party, spoke less energetically, but no less forcefully than did Begin. He provided The Opposition View of Making Peace. He urged us to avoid looking at the peace process within only a short range perspective, but rather to place it in a longer range context. To illustrate the wisdom in this, he pointed out that there have been three watershed events in the flow of Israel's recent history since 1970, all three of which converge into the present post-Oslo moment.

The first was the war by King Hussein against the PLO in "Black September" of 1970, as a result of which the PLO was expelled to Lebanon. The second was the trip by Anwar al-Sadat to Israel and the resultant peace treaty. The third was the Madrid Conference of 1991. Syria finally sat face-to-face with Israel, because it saw Israel growing stronger with every passing day. Israel must always be strong, he reminded us.

Meridor stated that peace is an important goal but it is not above all others. Peace, he said, must be accompanied by security and the fulfilment of Zionist goals. If brought to power as a result of the upcoming elections, the Likud would not abrogate the existing agreements with the Palestinians, but it would enforce them in a different, and he implied, better way. But he did not elaborate.

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Greater Toronto Area

Cross-Canada vigils support women without *gittin*

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

Laurie Lechner of Na'amat is seen lighting a candle of behalf of Israel's longest-term *agunah*. [Frances Kraft photo]

TORONTO — "How can an honor be given to somebody who is not an honorable person?" demanded an impassioned Joyce Eklove, chair of the Ontario region, Canadian Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get, at Toronto's third annual Vigil for Agunot, one of several held country-wide.

About 70 people, many carrying placards, gathered in the lobby of the Bathurst Jewish Centre on the eve of the Fast of Esther to support chained women whose husbands won't give them a Jewish divorce.

Vigils, under the auspices of the coalition, were also held in Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, and Winnipeg. Plans are under way in Ottawa and Vancouver to address the *agunah* issue as well. Montreal's vigil was postponed until March 19 because of a memorial for the victims of the Hamas bombings.

In Toronto, Eklove urged individuals and representatives of Jewish women's organizations to insist that their day schools, synagogues and other Jewish groups amend their bylaws to preclude any man who withholds a *get* (Jewish divorce) from holding a leadership position.

In fact, the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto has already amended its bylaws to that effect at the behest of Jewish Women's Federation (JWF), noted Jill Reitman, JWF's incoming president.

Reitman also mentioned the existence of Jewish prenuptial agreements to prevent a woman from becoming an *agunah*. They "should be mandatory for all couples," she said.

Telephone help lines for *agunot* have been established in Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal to offer confidential advice, said Sheva Medjuck at the vigil in Halifax.

Halifax, with limited funding, is establishing a post office box for women's inquiries about the *get*, added Medjuck, the Halifax area chair for the Canadian Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get.

Although Canada's Divorce Act was amended in 1990 to ensure that divorcing spouses remove all barriers to religious remarriage of their spouse before a civil divorce is granted, there is still much to be done, she emphasized.

When a Jewish man refuses to give his wife a *get*, his wife cannot remarry in accordance with Jewish law.

Should she remarry under civil law without obtaining a Jewish divorce, any children of the subsequent marriage are considered to be born of an adulterous relationship and are therefore *mamzerim* under Jewish law. *Mamzerim*, while halachically Jewish, are forbidden to marry nearly all other Jews.

As long as men have mothers, sisters and daughters, the *agunah* problem is not just a women's issue, stressed Etty Danzig, chair of the Community Vigil for Agunot in Toronto and president of Na'amat Canada.

Although the majority of vigil attendees were women, there were a few men, among them David Elman and his son Michael.

"I came in the hope of a better, kinder Jewish world for my granddaughters," said Pearl Elman, David's wife. Holding a 9-month-old in her arms and with two little granddaughters playing nearby, she added that the *agunah* issue did not affect her family directly.

"You read about child abuse and everyone gets up in arms," said another woman, who came in support of a friend. "Why aren't there more Jewish women who care [about *agunot*]? It's very upsetting."

Rabbi Mark Dratch of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, speaking at the vigil for the second consecutive year, expressed his solidarity with the cause. "I am with you, as many other leaders are as well, in trying to deal with this problem.

"Perhaps we don't deal with it forcefully enough or agressively enough," he admitted.

"We must find a way to free the *agunot* so we won't need any more vigils," said Medjuck in Halifax. "Hopefully this is our last one."

With files from Joel Jacobson in Halifax.

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Greater Toronto Area

Student delegates explain Israel to their teen peers

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A visit by two Israeli 16-year-olds to a Toronto high school last week was timely, given the recent spate of deadly suicide bombings in Israel.

"That's not what Israel's all about," Hadar Baharav told a Grade 12 World Religions class at Oakwood Collegiate Institute. "Israel has a lot of nice and neat stuff."

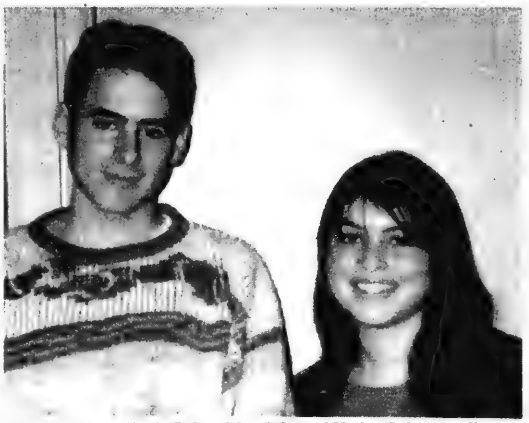
Baharav was one of about 76 Israeli teenagers to participate in this year's Israeli High School Delegation. The students, as part of a program sponsored by Israel's ministries of Education and Foreign Affairs, met with their peers in dozens of communities in Europe, the United States, Canada, South America, India, China, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa.

"We expect the Palestinian Authority to put an end to all the attacks," said Yaniv Belapolsky of Carmiel in northern Israel. "Terrorists walk freely with guns in the Autonomy. We expect the Palestinian Authority to catch them and put them in jail."

"Israel is taking a big risk with the peace process. We're giving a lot, and we want to get back our security," Baharav said.

The Israeli students, who also visited two Toronto private schools and met with Metro chairman Alan Tonks, showed the Oakwood teenagers a map of Israel superimposed on a map of Ontario. Israel's image was rotated to the right so that it stretched northeastward from Toronto to just past Ottawa.

"Oh my God, that's small," said one Oakwood student.



Israeli students Yaniv Belapolsky, left, and Hadar Baharav tell teens here about life in Israel. [Frances Kraft photo]

Baharav indicated the short distance from her home in Petach Tikvah to Tel Aviv, where a suicide bomber had struck the previous day outside Dizengoff Centre shopping mall. "You see how small Israel is. Imagine here [Petach Tikvah] to here [Tel Aviv]," she said.

In a year and a half, when they turn 18, both Israeli students will have to enter the army, Baharav told the class.

When a Toronto student asked, "Do you guys look forward to serving in the army? Is it a patriotic thing to do?" both visitors answered in the affirmative.

"And the guys in uniform look really good," added Baharav, with a twinkle in her eye.

Israelis don't serve in the army just to kill people, Belapolsky emphasized. "That's not the purpose. That's not my purpose." He hopes to become a doctor one day.

On a lighter note, the Israeli students talked about their high school subjects and extracurricular activities, passed around a 50-shekel bill for inspection and showed a video on Israel.

The students at Oakwood, who in the fall completed a unit on Judaism, were struck by how much like them the Israeli students were, said their teacher, John Scott, head of Oakwood's history department.

The purpose of the delegation is to establish a dialogue and foster better understanding between Israeli and Canadian youth, according to a news release from the Consulate General of Israel in Toronto.

By the time they return to Israel at the end of the month, Baharav and Belapolsky will also have visited Hamilton, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Two other pairs of students visited Canada — one in the Maritimes and the other in Montreal.

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PURIM MASQUERADE

Four young students of the United Congregational Schools of Greater Toronto display their Purim costumes last week.

Fund to aid terror victims

TORONTO — A fund to support families of victims of terrorist attacks has been set up by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, in the wake of the series of deadly bombings in Israel.

The federation has begun collecting funds to provide assistance for those injured and the families of those who died in the attacks.

A flood of phone calls from Jewish community members wanting to help led to the fund's creation, said Avrum Rosensweig, assistant campaign director with United Jewish Appeal, the federation's primary fundraising arm.

"When we are so far away, people look for ways of being connected and of helping in whatever way they can," said Dr. Harry Krakowsky, co-chair of UJA's Community Cabinet.

Receiptable donations can be made by calling 416-631-5709, or can be mailed or delivered to Victim Support Fund, United Jewish Appeal, 4600 Bathurst Street, 5th Floor, North York, Ont. M2R 3V2.

PEACE NOW
Annual General Meeting
שלום עכשיו PEACE NOW
Please join us for our 1996 Annual General Meeting with guest speaker Gary Rubin, CEO & Executive Director of Americans for Peace Now. Just returned from Israel, Mr. Rubin will be updating us on the current social climate and political situation. Don't miss this enlightening opportunity.
Gary Rubin has been Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of Americans for Peace Now since November 1993. He is directly responsible for overseeing the organization's advocacy and operations in the USA as well as its connection to Peace Now (Shalom Achshav) in Israel. Working together, both organizations seek to promote peace with security for Israel.
A frequent traveller to the Middle East, Mr. Rubin has represented APN on trips to Israel and on missions to Syria, Jordan and the Palestinian Self-Rule Area. On these trips he has interacted with top level Israeli, Palestinian, Arab and American leadership.
Currently, Mr. Rubin is Adjunct Professor of History at the School of International and Public Affairs of Columbia University, where he teaches a course in international refugee flows.
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Greater Toronto Area

'Kefiada' a cool experience for teens visiting Israel

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — What's a really cool way for a university student to spend the summer? If you ask some of the Canadians who went to Israel last year to work as day camp counsellors teaching English to Israeli children, they'll probably say, "Kefiada."

And you can take their answer literally, because the program derives its name from the Arabic word *kef*, which has worked its way into modern Hebrew vernacular as the equivalent of our "cool."

Kefiada, in English, might be called "a cool experience," according to Eli Rubenstein, director of young leadership development at United Israel Appeal of Canada, a co-sponsor of the program.

This year Kefiada is in full swing after a pilot project last summer. Co-sponsored in Israel by the Ministry of Education and the Israel Association of Community Centres, Kefiada offers students age 19 to 25 a unique and meaningful connection with Israelis at an affordable price.

In fact, the Ministry of Education is providing an airfare subsidy of about $600 (Cdn) to Diaspora participants, who are also given a small living stipend during their five-week stay.

Kefiada '96, which runs from June 19 to July 25, includes two weeks of training and three weeks of day camp activities at one of over 100 community centres throughout Israel. The Canadians — and other English-speaking Diaspora participants — work alongside Israeli junior counsellors with children age 11 to 14.

The ministry is investing a total of $1.25 million (US) into the program — a "new step in Israel-Diaspora relations," notes Rubenstein. "The people of Israel — through their government — is now funding Israel experiences for Diaspora youth."

Participants live with an Israeli family in the community in which they volunteer.

"My host family ... not only brought me into their home, but made me feel as though I were a member of their family. The community welcomed all the Canadian counsellors," said Sara Seaberg of Toronto, who participated last year.

"I've been to Israel many times, but this has been the most positive and personal experience of Israel yet," said Cammy Ulrich of Montreal.

For further information about Kefiada, call Zac Kaye in Toronto at 416-512-0184 or Simon Bensimon in Montreal at 514-345-2610. Elsewhere, call 1-800-567-4772.

MEGILLAH LULLABYE

Eleven-day-old Shlomo Jack Enkin Lewis and mom Jane Enkin share a quiet moment at last week's Women's Megillah Reading held at the Barbara Frum Library. Readers included Reena Zeidman, chair of Jewish Studies at Queen's University. [Frances Kraft photo]

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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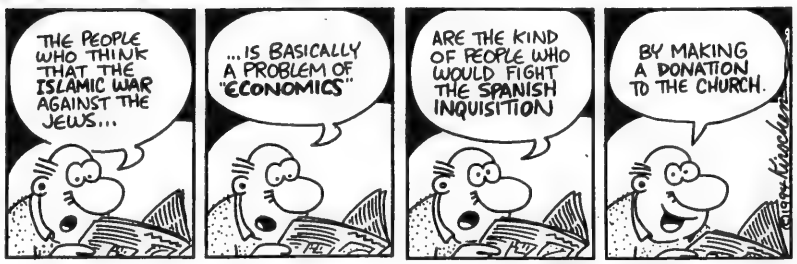
THE PEOPLE WHO THINK THAT THE ISLAMIC WAR AGAINST THE JEWS...
...IS BASICALLY A PROBLEM OF "ECONOMICS"
ARE THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD FIGHT THE SPANISH INQUISITION
BY MAKING A DONATION TO THE CHURCH.

Dry Bones

Apologia for Hamas

A mere five days after the bombing in Tel Aviv, the *Globe and Mail,* in its March 9 edition, published an article of almost 2,000 words by Paul Koring, entitled Dark truths in Gaza. The author purports to explore the living conditions of the people of Gaza because, as the headline writer wrote, "the recent suicide bombings turned the spotlight on the fact that two years after Yasser Arafat's triumphal return to a Palestine-to-be, life is far worse."

We hold no brief for Yasser Arafat. Life in Gaza is probably miserable for the majority who live there. But, as a journalist, Koring has an obligation to put the whole story before the reader to enable the reader to draw independent conclusions. Yet he simply never does this. Rather, he sweeps the reader into his own conclusions as he leads us to the predictable conclusion about the people's abiding loyalty to Hamas.

But as recently as March 1, Koring's account of the pulse of the people in Gaza was contradicted by Therya Rod-Larsen, the Norwegian emissary of the Secretary General of the United Nations in Gaza, who, in an open letter published in the Friday supplement of the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, wrote the following: "I have been living in Gaza more than a year and a half as the secretary general's emissary to Gaza. I have witnessed with my own eyes the changes, once unimaginable, in the opinion of the Palestinian people. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians, who once fought and even struggled violently against Israel, now seek peace." (Translation by *The CJN.*)

More offensive, though, than Koring's selectivity in presenting the "facts," was his complete failure to explain to the reader exactly what and who Hamas actually is. He associates Hamas directly with terrorism only once in the entire piece.

Lest the reader forget, Hamas does not limit its aims to a confrontation with Israel alone. It sees itself as the spearhead of a mass movement fighting against the "warmongering Jews" and "world Zionism." Killing is redemptive. One reference from Article 7 of the Hamas charter should amply illustrate who they are: "The Last Hour would not come until the Muslims fight against the Jews and the Muslims would kill them, and until the Jews would hide themselves behind a stone or a tree, and stone or a tree would say: 'Muslim ... there is a Jew behind me; come and kill him.' "

The timing of its publication aside, the article is transparent advocacy on behalf of the Hamas murderers. It purports to give facts, yet it mostly gives opinions. It purports to tell the whole story, but it leaves much of it out.

Although it lacks the honesty and the integrity to say so, it plainly attempts to justify the murdering ways of Hamas. It is thus nothing more than an apologia for Hamas. Any fair and objective reading of the piece leads ineluctably to that conclusion. Indeed, the very last words of the article leave its purpose plainly ringing in the reader's ear: "We have to understand why these men would chose (sic) to die, not just seal their houses and imprison their families," says Hazam Sarraj."

The men who "chose to die," choose at that very same instant and in the very same act, to kill. They killed indiscriminantly, with a horrible and macabre cruelty that left the pieces of children's charred flesh to be scraped from sidewalks and building facades.

Far be it for this newspaper to suggest to the *Globe and Mail* or to any other newspaper what subjects are appropriate for coverage in their pages. The freedom we treasure for ourselves we also treasure for others. But a newspaper that claims for itself national stature must be held to appropriate journalistic standards. The piece by Koring falls far below those standards.

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

March 15, 1933 the Jewish General Hospital of Montreal was incorporated. It opened its doors the following year and was the first such hospital in Canada. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Canadian Muslim condemns bombings

I would like to strongly condemn the cowardly and heinous acts of terrorism aimed at innocent civilians in Israel. These acts of war against a fragile peace process cannot be allowed to continue.

As a Canadian Ismaili Muslim, I especially abhor the actions of organized terrorist groups who commit acts of violence in the name of Islam. There is nothing Islamic about killing another human being.

As a former member of Canada's Refugee Board, I have heard the painful cries of innocent victims of terrorism. I appreciate the pain of the family members of the victims and of the Jewish community everywhere.

Finally, on my own behalf and on behalf of my many Muslim brothers and sisters, I would like to add our voice to the collective Canadian voice in condemning the recent acts of terrorism in Israel. Muslims, Christians and Jews must not allow fanatics among us to highjack the peace process.

I pray that Allah gives the family members of the victims the courage to bear their pain — we all share their grief.

Nizar Jiwan
Toronto

Peace is salvation for Israel

As North American Jews watch the recent Hamas bombings in Israel, it is increasingly difficult not to be emotional.

Notwithstanding the emotions we all feel, it is important to step backward and rationally examine how the latest destruction decreases the possibility that Israel's economy will become prosperous in the near future. While North American Jews have offered financial aid to Israel since its inception, our committed fundraising and charitable efforts will not offer stability to the Israeli economy. We must recognize that the only plausible manner in which Israel will receive stability is through peace.

This is the primary reason why we in the Canadian Jewish community must continue to support the peace negotiations. If there is any hope that Israel will create a stable and prosperous economy, that in turn could better the standard of living, it is through peace. As Jews we have suffered, and while retribution on Hamas is so very tempting, we must hold our heads high and recognize that our homeland will become economically stronger with the advent of peace.

Merick Gollan
Montreal

Overcome the bar mitzvah syndrome

Most synagogues insist that boys and girls preparing for their bar and bat mitzvah ceremonies must go to Hebrew school to learn about Judaism, in addition to merely learning how to read out their Torah and Haftorah portion. Although this is laudable, it falls down in one critical aspect. Hebrew school can only reinforce what is taught in the home. If the parents know very little about Judaism and/or show little interest in anything over and above the bar/bat mitzvah party, this is the attitude the child will learn.

Perhaps the synagogues might want to consider setting up adult education classes in basic Judaism (for those who may not have gone to Hebrew school when they were younger) or lectures on Jewish ethics, for parents to see that Judaism is more than attending shul three times a year plus weddings and bar/bat mitzvahs. It would be doubly interesting to see if, similar to requiring the children to attend Hebrew school prior to the ceremony. the shul also insisted that the parents must also attend classes.

Moishe Kinneret
Toronto

India wants Israel investments

India is the only country which has never persecuted Jews since their arrival after the Second Temple. Hindu Kings of Malabar, Kerala, have given them full religious freedom. Jews fought shoulder to shoulder with the Hindu army against Portuguese and other foreign invaders.

There are many similarities between Judaism and Indian (Hindu) social, religious and spiritual rituals, and customs. The Hebrew word for peacock comes from the South Indian Tamil language.

It is of interest that your two readers who recently travelled to India with Team Canada signed a contract for business worth $1.5 million. Today Israel stands second among top 10 foreign investors in India, but for some unknown reason, North American Jewish industrialists, except Seagrams of Montreal, do not show serious interest in investing in India.

Both Israel and India are facing the same external and internal problems.

Magan Shaw
Toronto

WISDOM OF THE AGES

Many have fallen by the sword, but more by the spoken word.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Responding to Hamas

By RABBI MARK DRATCH

Words are embarrassingly inadequate. Terrorist bombs shock us into stunned silence, as the now all too familiar images of Jewish blood and flesh and limbs, of bodies brought to burial draped in the blue and white of Israeli flags, and of scorched skeletons of public buses become part of our collective memories.

We can only repeat the anguished cry of a young child heard on a Tel Aviv street on Purim, "Enough, enough, enough."

And we can but echo the lament of Esther read that night in the Megillah (8:6), "How can we endure to see the evil that has come to our people? How can we bear to see the misery and grief suffered by our people?"

But we cannot remain silent. We *must* speak. We feel an inner compulsion to give expression to our sadness and grief. We must give voice to our fear and frustration, our anger and anxiety, our confusion and consternation. However inadequate our words may be, we *must* respond, because in the past two years, 14 suicide attacks have claimed the lives of 135 victims; 57 in the past two weeks. How can we not respond to the heart-rending loss of women and men, boys and girls, mothers and fathers, sons, daughters and friends?

But how? As Israelis themselves grapple with these events and face the challenges of determining their future actions against terrorists, they too are frustrated. They are dazed by the burial of their dead. They are confused, not knowing what will successfully address their security and safety needs. All this and more, while engaged in deciding the political future of their country.

For us in Canada, lovers and supporters of Israel with deep historical, religious and personal ties to the country and her people — for us, too, the situation is frustrating. We share all of Israel's concerns, but observe only from a distance. Because we live on this side of the ocean, we are not directly involved in determining the political posture of Israel — and many argue that we have no moral right to do so.

How, then, do we respond?

To Hamas we say, no more! We shall rally all civilized nations to tolerate terrorism no more! How morbidly ironic! The name of this terrorist organization, an acronym for "Islamic Opposition Movement," means courage in Arabic. What does it take to send befuddled and brainwashed teenagers to take the lives of innocent civilians — courage? What does it take to orchestrate the latest outrage whose victims included children — 15-year-old Bat-Hen Shahak, who was in Tel Aviv with friends celebrating her birthday, and 13-year-old Kobi Zaharon, who was to have celebrated his bar mitzvah the following Shabbat?

Hamas — courage? Its meaning in Hebrew, "violence," is more correct!

To the PLO the world must say: This latest outrage occurred on the eve of Purim. Many of the victims were little children dressed in masks in celebration of the holiday. Their masks were ripped off even as their bodies were torn apart by those Arab heroes.

And now it is time for Arafat to rip off *his* various masks and say clearly and unambiguously where he stands. Will it be real peace with Israel, as he tells us, or a continuation of jihad, as he tells them? Will he use his efforts to engineer a genuine peace for Israelis and Palestinians, or will he continue to offer consolation to the families and students of the likes of the "Engineer"?

A scene repeated nearly 60 times in Israel over the past 2 weeks - grieving for a victim of Hamas terror. [RNS Photo]

It is long overdue and the time is long past to expect responsible action from the Palestinian leadership by, once and for all, changing those parts of the Palestinian Covenant which call for the destruction of Israel. It is long overdue and the time is long past to expect them to live up to their responsibilities, to which they agreed when they signed the Oslo accords. And the Palestinian people must show greater willingness to protest terror and to curb and delegitimize, in serious and effective ways, their extremists. No more words! No more tokenism! No more empty consolations! No more expressions of sham sympathy! Only responsible and effective action!

To the government of Canada we say words are not enough! We are grateful for the words of condemnation and the encouragement offered to Israel. But we call upon our government to honor its pledge to join in the war against international terrorism in meaningful ways, by ensuring that no terrorist finds a home in Canada and by putting an end to financial support for terrorist organizations, support that flows all too freely and all too generously from North America.

And, if some will argue that Hamas is a social service organization that provides clinics and hospitals and financial support and education, we say that Hamas must determine whether it is a social service organization or a vipers' nest of armed fanatics. It cannot be both!

To our fellow Canadians, especially those of the Muslim and Arab communities, we say, make your voices heard — loud and strong and clear — condemning terrorism and condemning those who glorify suicide for terrorist means.

To Israel we offer words of heartfelt encouragement and fraternal consolation. We express our unwavering support and unequivocal solidarity with Israel and stand with you as you wage war against terrorism, "a war," as described by Prime Minister Shimon Peres, "in every sense of the word." We support you as you act to protect your safety and security. We pray that the shock of our pain will not be allowed to paralyze our minds and force Israel's leaders into wrong decisions. We encourage you, as we encourage ourselves, to face our fears with courage, and to calm our confusion with the certainty of our ultimate victory.

We Jews must show our unqualified support of the state and her people. We must show our confidence and trust by visiting Israel, especially at this difficult time. Israelis have no choice. They wake up every morning confronted by the possible threat of terror in their homes, on their buses and in their shops. The least we can do is not cancel or postpone our plans to visit the country. And if we have no immediate plans, then those of us who are able should certainly make them!

Hamas wages its attacks not just on Israel and the Peace Process, but against Jews as Jews and Judaism as Judaism. And so for every single young Muslim fanatic who blows himself up in the name of Allah for a free ticket to instant paradise by attacking our Torah and our people, we must encourage 100 young Jews to intensify their Judaism, their Jewish knowledge and commitment, and to be, not fanatics, but the guarantors of our future. Jewish continuity must be more than a slogan, it must be a reality!

Haman understood that we Jews are most vulnerable when we are divided. In describing the Jewish people, he said to King Achashverosh, "There is a people that is scattered and divided amongst the nations."

Not only were we *mefuzar*, scattered; Diaspora and exile are serious enough. More consequentially, we were also, *mefurad*, fragmented and fractionated. And it was this disunity and divisiveness that made us most vulnerable to Haman's nefarious plot. That is why on Purim we have the mitzvah of *mishloach manot ish lera'ayhu*, the obligation of sending gifts of food to friends. Our answer to *mefurad* is *ish lera'ayhu*. We must consider every Jew a dear friend.

Mordecai understood this lesson. He is introduced in the Megillah as *ish Yehudi, ish Yemini*.

Our sages ask why he is described as both a *Yehudi*, a Judean or a Jew, and *Yemini* from the tribe of Benjamin. I suggest it was because Mordecai knew that while he was a proud member of a particular tribe, it was no time for factionalism. Purim was a time to stand up as a *Yehudi*, a Jew, and to identify as a proud and loyal part of the whole. The crisis demanded a unified response and Mordecai *haYehudi* led the way.

We are all members of particular tribes, different religious groups and divergent political organizations. Our opinions have often divided us in the past. But this is not a time for politics of the past. We must realize what we stand to lose both here and in Israel if each of us does not identify and act respectfully as a member of the Jewish people as a whole.

If we identify only with a part of our people, we will be defeated. If we are only Orthodox Jews or Conservative Jews or Reform Jews, if we are only Labor or Likud, if we are only government or opposition, if we are only religious or secular, if we are unable to recognize the value inherent in the opinions with which we disagree and if we are unable to recognize the integrity of the people who hold those opinions, we will weaken ourselves; we will weaken our resolve; we will weaken our cause; and we certainly will *not* weaken our enemies. Each of us, all of us, must be *ish Yehudi*, a Jew above all else.

Of course we have a right to our opinions and positions and we have a moral duty to articulate them and pursue our causes to the best of our abilities. There may be significant principles that divide us. But we must never pursue our own positions in ways that may lead to wanton hatred and civil war, God forbid. Jewish unity is also an important principle, and respect for others, a supreme religious value.

We must learn the lesson of Mordecai and be, first and foremost, *ish Yehudi*. Whatever our "tribe," each of us is *ish Yehudi*. It is only by coming together, united on all fronts for the greater good of Israel and the Jewish people, that we can emerge from these troubling times with peace and security and with a brighter tomorrow for our people in Israel and for Jews everywhere.

And after all is said and done, we must turn to the God of Israel, whose Name is *Shalom*, in prayer, prayer for wisdom and guidance, prayer for consolation and hope, prayer for peace and redemption. As Isaiah prophesied, so we pray, (60:18): "Hamas, violence, shall no more be heard in our land, neither desolation nor destruction within our borders; but our walls we shall call Salvation, and Praise our gates."

Rabbi Dratch is the spiritual leader of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation in Toronto.

Opinions

What I meant was...

"So what exactly are you saying?" the exasperated caller asked me. "We spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on our institutions and it is getting harder and harder to raise that money. Should we be spending it on people who turn their backs on the community and marry out? We don't owe them anything. If anything, they owe us.

By Jean M. Gerber

I had another column in mind for this issue, but the above response to my last column made me change my mind. What *had* I been saying, after all? I admit that my position was unclear. But so is the community position. How much room is there in Jewish institutions for non-Jewish spouses and children? Some? None? Since that conversation, I have had to confront my own ambivalence.

I do not wish to embarrass individual Jewish organizations, as I may have done in my last article. But the question over what to do — when non-Jews show up at dances, or want to join sports teams or participate in campus-based activities, is not a theoretical one. It is a real one. Couples where one spouse is not Jewish want to join a synagogue. What is the answer?

I do not believe that by fencing ourselves in, we do our community a service.

I do not believe that our community dollars are wasted on outreach.

I do not believe that intermarried or interdating couples have turned their backs on the community.

I do not believe that if we only sit and wait, spend more on schools and camps, centres and synagogues, something will happen to turn things around for young couples deciding to marry without conversion. Not the building, but the people are the essence of Jewish experience.

Behind many assumptions about what to do with those precious community dollars, there is a fundamental misperception as to the shape of the Jewish community. Often we picture it as a series of concentric circles — a doughnut where the hole in the middle is the core of the community, the committed, the affiliated. The farther one is from that centre, the weaker one's affiliation and commitment, and the lesser the Jew. I utterly reject this picture.

Rather, our community is made up of many communities like an atom, dynamic, shifting, with people moving in a series of interlocking circles. Some move in more circles than others, some are on the outer edge at one time or another; but they move, they come closer, are attracted or repelled, never still, but always in potential touch with others around them. *That* is the community I am talking about.

Recently I spoke to a group of young people on the issue of Jewish identity. We talked about the ways in which each of us discovered our own attachment to Jewishness. I shared the experience of being a Jew by choice; they shared their individual reflections on when and how they began to realize their Jewish potential. *Not one* mentioned their synagogue, rabbi, bar or bat mitzvah as the vehicle or moment of insight. Family, community, *chevrah*, yes; but the Jewish religion and its associated institutions, no.

Figures in the last census indicate that for many Jews in Canada today, Jewishness has no religious connotation and therefore no hold on them when choosing a mate. There are, and will be, couples where one partner is Jewish.

And where will this couple go for their sense of belonging? I maintain that they want to go somewhere. Where in the Jewish community would they go to find that sense? Clearly not to a place where they feel shunned and rejected from the outset. Nor to a place where the philosophy is: "If you build it, people will come." (Baseball is not a metaphor for Jewish life.) They will go where they are accepted.

A former Vancouver colleague, Zac Kaye, director of Hillel Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, wrote in a recent *CJN* article: "Judaism has now to be brought to the people; it is not a part of the national environment." That is my point exactly. The natural environment is dominated by a secular approach to life. Judaism offers a great richness of history, culture and yes, religious values. But we need to get out of our chairs, out of our buildings, and tell people that it exists and that there is a place for them to begin to enjoy it and make it a part of their world view.

This is my last word on the subject. Next month, Passover. To all readers, a kosher and happy one.

Vienna finally to commemorate Herzl

The city of Vienna has always had a problem with its two major Jewish giants, Sigmund Freud and Theodor Herzl. Freud, of course, was hounded out of Austria's capital city by the Nazis in 1938 and died in London a short time later. Although the city does have a small Freud museum, it has never really celebrated Freud's connection with Vienna. The founder of psychoanalysis has been the proverbial prophet unrecognized in his own country.

By Arnold Ages

The same ambiguity informs Vienna's attitude towards the founder of modern political Zionism, Theodor Herzl. Much of Herzl's all too brief life took place in Vienna, where he worked as a journalist for a leading daily newspaper. It was in Vienna, moreover, that Herzl incubated the seminal ideas that were to burst upon the world in a book he published 100 years ago — *The Jewish State.* The city of Vienna, a late 19th century hotbed of anti-Semitism known, among other things, for having an openly anti-Semitic mayor, Karl Lueger, barely took note of Herzl or his ideas.

In the first decades after World War II, Vienna — and Austria in general — refused to acknowledge any special responsibility for its role in the Holocaust. In fact, Austrian spokespeople were fond of arguing that their country was the first to be victimized by the Nazis, when it was occupied in 1938. This reconstruction of history conveniently clouded the facts that a large number of Nazi functionaries were from Austria and that the majority of Austrians welcomed the German "occupiers."

Until recently, Austrian authorities adamantly refused to pay anything but token compensation for the loss of Jewish life, property and assets during the Nazi period. Some small accommodation on this issue has occurred in recent years.

In this context, it is refreshing to note that a century after the publication of the book which paved the way for the first Zionist Congress in Basel in 1897, Herzl is finally gaining a much more than honorable mention in his native city.

The city fathers of Vienna, in cooperation with the B'nai B'rith Zvi Peres Chajes Lodge of Vienna, have organized, under the patronage of Israeli, Viennese, American, English and United Nations institutions and individuals, a spectacular five-day series of events between March 17 and 21 to commemorate Herzl's contributions.

The idea for the international conference was suggested by Prof. Helmut Zilk of the Jewish Studies program at the University of Vienna and was immediately accepted, in order "to do justice to Herzl's epochal book and to his own historical importance."

In a brochure prepared for conference participants, Zilk comments that the city of Vienna wants to honor the memory of "this visionary genius, significant author and journalist, unwavering politician and statesman."

The Herzl centennial will feature more than a dozen political leaders, rabbis, priests and academics, who will give papers, not only on Herzl and his meaning for Jewish life and Zionism, but on contemporary political, social and religious issues.

The Archbishop of Vienna, Christopher Schoenborn, will give a presentation entitled What Does Eretz Israel Mean to Us? Conference organizers should be congratulated, moreover, for not hesitating to air controversial topics. Thus, a panel discussion will centre on the question of Austrian identity-Jewish identity, while Viennese author Robert Menasse will give a paper entitled Do I Have a Future in Austria Being a Jew?

Other topics to be covered by the symposium, whose participants include Shlomo Avineri of Tel Aviv University, Ludwig Erlich of Berne University and Dan Segre of Haifa University, include Herzl and Orthodoxy, Herzl and Reform Judaism, Messianic ideas in Herzl's vision, Zionism during the Nazi era and the Jewish contribution to European culture.

In addition to the addresses, the Herzl meeting will also feature literary and musical programs in conjunction with Vienna's Jewish Museum and other galleries. A conference, however well organized and attended, cannot, of course, erase the bitter memories associated with Jewish history in Austria, but small gestures such as this symposium can provide the building blocks to a renewed relationship between Austria and the Jewish people.

Has Arafat changed his spots?

From time to time, I am asked where I get my information about Israel. Certainly not from *Newsweek* or *Time* or the daily newspaper. I am a regular reader of the *Jerusalem Report* (liberal), the *Jerusalem Post* (middle to right wing), regular reports from the Israel Foreign Office (by way of Internet) and Arutz-Sheva (right wing, by way of Internet and otherwise).

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

When reading these various dispatches and analyses, I am not always sure I am reading about the same country — which is a good way of saying that Israel is a fascinating and multi-faceted nation.

I have been a longtime supporter of the peace process, but at the same time, I have harbored serious doubts about the political character and goals of Yasser Arafat. According to the Institute for Peace Education in Tel Aviv, Arafat's speeches during the recent election campaign were all but reassuring. In consequence, Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidor admitted at a recent cabinet meeting that Arafat was not assimilating Palestinian society to the acceptance of a peace concept. On the contrary, he spoke of his commitment to the continued armed struggle against Israel. On several occasions he told his audience that the Palestinian struggle is divided into two stages: temporary accommodation and the eventual destruction of Israel (a program that stems back to 1974). Tellingly, the head of the Palestine Authority did not mention peace in any of his electioneering appearances.

At first, I wondered whether these reports were accurate, but then they were verified by a Norwegian newspaper, which reported on Arafat's Stockholm speech on Jan. 30, when he spoke before 40 Arab delegates at a festive dinner.

The peace process would result, he said, "in the complete elimination of the Zionist entity." He noted that the deep divisions within Israeli society, brought on by the Oslo peace process, would produce an Israeli civil war. Israeli Muslims would join the Palestinian cause and the struggle to produce one single united Arab state over all of Palestine-Israel.

Arafat added that Shimon Peres and Yossi Beilin are prepared to accept this eventuality as long as the religious privileges of Jews are respected. This, said Arafat, would prove unnecessary, since most of the Jews would emigrate to the United States, after Israel pulls back from the Golan Heights. Finally he added, "We Palestinians will take it all, including all of Jerusalem."

Obviously, Arafat appealed to the worst of old-fashioned Arab nationalism, judging it to be most efficacious for his purpose. Aside from that, the failure to amend the Palestinian covenant, as agreed in the Oslo agreements, presents a new and serious roadblock. All of which explains the basic mood of the Israeli public. People are both optimistic and afraid. There can be no question that peace means taking a chance, but in their view (so the latest polls indicate) this is better than continued warfare, uprisings and political instability.

The Kirshner File

They left footprints in time...

Jews have made a singular contribution to American culture, be it in film, television, theatre, ballet, literature or music.

By Sheldon Kirshner

In recent months, death has claimed the lives of a number of these figures, who have left footprints in time.

Florence Greenberg was a pop record producer of considerable importance. During the 1960s, when she was most influential, her independent labels, Tiara and Scepter, released an avalanche of hit songs, notably *Dedicated to the One I Love, Tonight's the Night, Soldier Boy, Twist and Shout, Walk on By, I Met Him on a Sunday* and *Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head.*

Among others, she worked with the Shirelles (whom she discovered), Dionne Warwick, Burt Bacharach, B.J. Thomas and the Isley Brothers.

Lou Levy, a former ballroom dancer, parlayed his company, the Leeds Music Group, into a powerful publisher of pop songs. Leeds Music published the first songs by Bob Dylan and Gordon Lightfoot and was instrumental in promoting the work of Charles Aznavour and Antonio Carlos Jobim to the United States.

In addition to nurturing the careers of artists like the Andrews Sisters, Connie Francis and Bobby Darin, Levy supplied Frank Sinatra with *Strangers in the Night,* the Everly Brothers with *Let It Be Me* and Tom Jones with *It's Not Unusual.*

Minna Lederman Daniel edited the magazine *Modern Music* and thus played a role in shaping American music. *Modern Music,* which was published from 1924 until it closed in 1946, carried articles by the likes of Leonard Bernstein, Alban Berg, Bela Bartok, Aaron Copland, Virgil Thomson and John Cage.

With the magazine's demise, Lederman Daniel applied her talents in related fields. She edited an anthology entitled *Stravinsky and the Theatre,* and she established the Archives of Modern Music in the Library of Congress in Washington.

Howard Taubman was a major force by virtue of his position as the *New York Times'* chief music critic and then as its chief theatre critic. He performed these duties in the 1950s and 1960s.

A graduate of Cornell University, Taubman joined the newspaper in 1929. He wrote or edited 11 books, including a biography of Arturo Toscanini and a guide on how to build a record library.

Henry Roth, the novelist, was best known for *Call It Sleep,* published in 1934 and rediscovered three decades later. Often described as a classic of American literature, the novel — a lyrical portrait of Jewish immigrants as viewed through the eyes of a boy — firmly established Roth as a serious writer.

After this success, Roth fell silent, succumbing to a massive writer's block. For the next 30 years, he labored in a series of menial jobs, first as a precision tool grinder and subsequently as a pulp and paper worker, a maple sugar collector, a mental hospital attendant and a duck breeder.

In the 1970s, he returned to his original craft, publishing *A Star Shines Over Mt. Morris Park* in 1994 and *A Diving Rock on the Hudson* in 1995, both of which were respectfully received. A posthumous novel, *From Bondage,* is scheduled to be issued this year.

Joseph Brodsky, winner of the 1987 Nobel Prize for literature, was widely regarded as Russia's poet laureate. Denounced by the Communist authorities as "anti-Soviet," Brodsky was condemned to a labor camp in the Arctic. Released before his five-year sentence was up, he returned to his home in Leningrad. Expelled from the country in 1972, he settled in the United States.

The son of a photographer, Brodsky taught at several universities and wrote a number of books of poetry, notably *Less Than One* and *A Part of Speech.*

Marcia Gluck Davenport was a best-selling novelist and biographer. Her biography, *Mozart,* has been in print since 1932, while her novels, *Valley of Decision* and *East Side, West Side,* were made into star-studded Hollywood films.

Jack Rose, a comedy writer, produced skits and one-liners for standup comedians Bob Hope and Milton Berle. Later, as a screenwriter and producer, Rose was involved in movies. He was associated with such films as *Road to Rio* (starring Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour), *April in Paris* (with Doris Day and Ray Bolger) and *A Touch of Class* (which starred George Segal and Glenda Jackson).

Bob Barbash turned out scripts for some of the most beloved television programs between the 1960s and 1980s. His credits include *Gunsmoke, Playhouse 90* and *Starsky and Hutch.*

Joseph Youngerman was an assistant director in more than 100 Hollywood films, ranging from *Beau Geste* and *Sullivan's Travels* to *So Proudly We Hail* and *For Whom the Bells Toll.* Beginning as an assistant prop man at Paramount studios, he later worked with some of the finest directors in the industry: Cecil B. DeMille, Ernst Lubitsch, William Wellman and Rouben Mamoullian.

Fred Fehl revolutionized theatrical photography by insisting on kinetic rather than traditional static photographs. In this way, he was able to capture the verve and vitality of performers.

A refugee from Nazi-controlled Vienna, he photographed almost 1,000 Broadway and Off-Broadway plays from 1940 until his retirement in 1970. His photos, which constitute a pictorial history of the American theatre, appeared in *Life, Time, Look* and *Newsweek,* and were anthologized in several coffee table volumes.

Paul Lipson was Tevye incarnate, the central character in *Fiddler on the Roof,* Broadway's longest-running show of its time. Lipson, who made his Broadway debut in Ben Hecht's *Lily of the Valley* in 1942, played Tevye more than 2,00 times, surpassing Zero Mostel in terms of longevity.

Lincoln Kirstein, together with George Balanchine, founded the New York City Ballet in the 1940s. The son of a department store executive, Kirstein — a Harvard alumnus — was a Renaissance Man. Apart from his interest in ballet, he was a novelist, a poet, a critic and an art collector.

Eugene Schwartz, an advertising copywriter, amassed one of the finest collections of contemporary art in the country. Over a 30-year period, he assembled a formidable collection of abstract works by artists of the calibre of Frank Stella, Donald Judd, Kenneth Nolan and Morris Louis.

Schwartz donated hundreds of canvases to museums and institutions, from the Museum of Modern Art to the New School for Social Research.

Shura Cherkassky was a great Romantic concert pianist whose repertoire — Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Mussorgsky and Liszt — held audiences around the world in awe. Born in Odessa but raised in the United States, he was praised for the sparkling freshness of his keyboard technique.

Lillian Fuchs, whom critic Harold Schonberg once described as "one of the best string players in America," was an outstanding violinist and violist. She gave master classes and two of her most illustrious pupils were Isaac Stern and Pinchas Zukerman.

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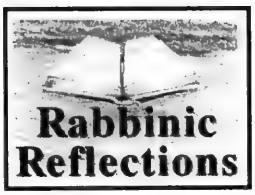

All Jews must help support synagogues

By RABBI MOSHE STERN

"Rabbi, could you tell me whether after I receive an annulment of my marriage in the civil courts, I need to provide myself with a *get*." — "Rabbi, my father just died. Will you officiate at the funeral?" — "I've been on drugs, I can't stay at home anymore. I don't know what to do. Will you talk to me?" — "Rabbi, my son wants to get married next weekend. Are you available to perform a wedding ceremony?" — "Rabbi, I am having marital problems, what can I do?" — "Rabbi, my son is dating a gentile woman. Would you talk to him?"

In any given week, these are some of the questions and requests addressed to a rabbi. They may vary from these samples taken from my most recent week, but the implications will be the same.

Jews, young and old, have questions and problems. Jews, young and old, experience the crises of the life cycle and of these turbulent times. Jews, young and old, still turn regularly to the rabbi for an answer, for guidance and for service.

I had intended to write "to their rabbi." But this is precisely the rub. How many Jews in Toronto have a rabbi? How many Jews in Toronto have a relationship with a rabbi, so that they can turn to him and can call him by right? How many Jews in Toronto care enough to have a rabbi?

The majority do not. Year in, year out, they let others worry and work to keep congregations alive. They let others, a minority in Toronto, carry the responsibility. They are not interested in the living continuity of congregations and rabbis; let others bear that burden.

They want instant satisfaction. When they need a rabbi, there had better be one! When their rare moments come, then other Jews better have done their job well to provide a rabbi for them to turn to.

The institutions and their spiritual leaders can scrounge and squeeze, can merge or collapse, can flourish or die. They don't really care. But comes the moment of their need, of their trouble — then they pick up the phone and they expect, without a second thought, that there will be a number they can call, a congregation to which they can turn, so that they can buy a service from its rabbi.

To them, Judaism is a commodity and the rabbi is its salesman, its dispenser. They are consumers and they buy when they want and what they want. And just as with all the other goods they purchase in the marketplace, they expect someone to have taken the risk and trouble to have a stock on hand.

What a total misunderstanding of the best value of Jewish life! What a perversion this is! What a falsification of the role of the congregation and the rabbi!

Isn't it about time that those who sit on the sidelines and watch others labor and struggle to maintain congregations and their rabbis give them a hand? Isn't is about time for those sideline sitters to stop riding the backs of the concerned and devoted and join them in their efforts to make the synagogue survive?

Isn't it about time that all those many threadbare and spurious excuses for not being part of the congregation be discarded and Jews return to the fellowship of the synagogue — there to study, to pray, to learn from, and thus to be entitled to call on their rabbi?

Isn't it about time for all Jews to assume their responsibility for Jewish survival and strengthen one of the most important and one of the most effective of all Jewish institutions, the synagogue?

At this time of national tragedy and mourning, let us all come together and unite as a people, dedicate ourselves to Torah and strengthen each other with the eternal declaration of "Am Yisrael chai."

Rabbi stern is the spiritual leader of the Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

"Renaissance" now in vogue

By GOLDIE HERSHON
Special to The CJN

At the recently concluded 10th World Jewish Congress (WJC) Global Assembly in Jerusalem, over 1,200 delegates from 80 countries were introduced to a new term in the debate on today's Jewish condition: that word is "renaissance."

Guest Voices

It was used repeatedly by WJC president Edgar M. Bronfman and others, rather than "continuity," because as Bronfman put it, if we continue on our current path of assimilation and unaffiliation, we will face oblivion as Jews in the Diaspora.

The term "renaissance" can be defined as rebirth or renewal. But what I and many of my fellow delegates heard throughout the three-day conference were pleas for Torah study and Jewish education, Hebrew language, youth involvement and dedication to Israel. These are hardly new to Jewish life. What is being proposed is a traditional agenda for non-traditional times.

For some speakers, such as Israel's President Ezer Weizman, the only solution to assimilation is aliyah. For Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Jewish peoplehood is key, while Jerusalem's Mayor Ehud Olmert and Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu stressed Israel-Diaspora partnership.

Our Canadian Jewish Congress delegation, in a private meeting with Peres, urged him to provide leadership, not only within Israel but also to the Jewish people worldwide. Not that the burden of guiding Israel through one of its most critical periods is not onerous enough, but if we are to give meaning to his vision of Jewish peoplehood, then the role of the Jewish state and its leaders is absolutely vital.

A salient feature of WJC's Jerusalem assembly was a large student delegate representation from the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS), Hillel and other youth organizations.

Certainly, new initiatives to engage and involve younger members in communal life are to be applauded, and the centrality of Israel in that exercise is indisputable. But even an Israel experience for young people is no universal panacea for disaffection and alienation. Without adequate preparation in school and at home, only a fraction of the youth participating in such programs are touched in a meaningful way.

The reconstruction or renaissance in Jewish life must not be confined solely to young people. Jewish education is essential, but if it means an abdication of parental responsibility for inculcating Jewish values, including *tzedakah* and involvement in communal affairs, then the results will be disappointing. That is true even if the ratio of attendance in Canadian Hebrew day schools is dramatically higher than in the United States.

If the message of renaissance is to be maximized, then elements of leadership from Israel and throughout the Jewish world teamed in a true partnership of equals, along with a restatement of the traditional goals of education and study, must be formulated.

However, such initiatives must transcend age criteria, organizational structure and narrow political and religious boundaries, and extend to all strata of our community. The basic building block of Jewish life throughout history, the family — and that means all its facets — must not be overlooked.

Goldie Hershon is the national president of Canadian Jewish Congress.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Reviews...in brief

Hilmar & Odette: Two Stories from the Nazi Era by Eric Koch, McLelland & Stewart $25.00

This astonishing memoir tells the story of the author's half sister, Odette, and his step-cousin, Hilmar, both born illegitimately in Germany before World War II, both half-Jewish and reared by "Aryan" families.

The author who left Nazi Germany in 1935 at age 15, is well-known as a prominent Canadian CBC radio, television producer and administrator.

Hilmar and Odette grew up as adults as the Nazis came to power. Hilmar, tragically, was denounced to the Gestapo by his adoptive mother and perished at Auschwitz. By contrast, Odette, never aware of her Jewish background, married a prominent German publisher and with spurious pretentions to royalty, entertained Nazi leaders in her Berlin salon and survived the war.

Compelling, ironic and compassionate, part detective story, part biography, this surprising account of two lives caught up in the web of Nazi madness is not soon forgotten.

* * *

God In All Worlds: An Anthology of Contemporary Spiritual Writing edited by Lucinda Vardy, Random House $45.00

This massive anthology of over 850 pages contains 500 selections culled from writings spanning the last 50 years that have shaped 20th century spiritual thinking. Major themes include quest, revelation, trials, surrender, death and awe. The selections achieve depth and meaning through the editor's insightful commentary.

The contributors to this work come from virtually every religious tradition. The Jews among them include Viktor Frankl, Albert Einstein, Martin Buber, Abraham Heschel, Allen Ginsberg, Judith Plaskow, Irving Layton and Abraham Maslow.

The editor, a resident of Toronto, has painstakingly compiled a book for serious and thoughtful readers who are concerned with "the quest for meaning."

* * *

Secrets Of The Jews by Stuart E. Rosenberg, Mosaic Press (paperbound)

Jews are the lone quintessential survivors of antiquity. Why? Larger and mightier peoples have perished. "But Jews," writes the author of this valuable work, "remain what they always were: a group possessing its own separate religion, language, historical consciousness and many other habits and customs that add up to what we call culture."

In this posthumous book, the author who served Toronto's Beth Tzedec Congregation as senior rabbi, reveals the "secrets" that kept Judaism alive and vibrant through the centuries.

This highly readable volume imparts a great deal of information in a popular and often entertaining manner. It is one more reason to lament the untimely passing of a gifted and outspoken community leader and scholar.

Israeli papers now on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

They have a practically unlimited potential circulation. Delivery is almost immediate. And you never get their newsprint on your fingers.

Electronic journals on the Internet present an incredible opportunity for magazines and newspapers to reach a new audience.

And Israeli newspapers and radio have already established an impressive presence on the Jewish Highway. Some of these sites are simply electronic versions of their printed product; others are unique to the Internet and have no counterpart in print. Some take a balanced point of view; others have a very definite editorial focus.

The *Jerusalem Post* **[http://www.jpost.co.il/]** maintains a large and timely site. Its Internet edition is updated on a daily basis and offers a generous selection of articles on such varied topics as news, opinion, sports, art, business and features.

The bi-weekly *Jerusalem Report* **[http://www.enews.com/magazines/jr/]** offers three feature articles from its current issue and from past issues.

In order to get a taste of what is happening in Israel, you shouldn't ignore the Hebrew press. The Israeli Foreign Ministry provides Israeline **[http://gauss.technion.ac.il/israeline/]**, a daily survey of the Hebrew media translated into English. In addition, the Ministry also translates newspaper editorials and sports, weather and exchange rate reports **[gopher://israel-info.gov.il/11/new]**.

If you prefer to listen to your news rather than read it, you can hear same-day newscasts from Kol Israel through the Internet at **[http://www.artificia.com/html/news.cgi]**. Your computer must be capable of producing sound (sound card, speakers etc.) and you must have a program which will be able to understand the file that you are downloading.

This site makes use of RealAudio technology so you will need to download the RealAudio program (free of charge) from **[http://www2.realaudio.com/release/download.html]**. Once you have all that installed, you will be able to listen to both Hebrew and English newscasts. The Hebrew bulletins usually last about five minutes while the English ones are much shorter.

If you still want to listen to Kol Israel the old-fashioned way through a short wave radio, you can get a copy of the current broadcast schedule at **[http://www.globes.co.il/Features/Leisure/radio.html]**. There you'll find times for English, French and Hebrew broadcasts and if you're so inclined, Yiddish, Ladino, Persian and other languages.

You've probably never heard of *Ariga* **[http://www.ariga.com/gentoc.htm]**. That's because this magazine doesn't exist on paper. *Ariga* (Hebrew for weave), is a small-scale Internet magazine created by Robert Rosenberg, who describes himself as a 20-year veteran journalist based in Israel. *Ariga* advocates "the free market place of idea" and religious pluralism. It's worth a look to see how the Internet is allowing new kinds of publications to flourish.

Arutz7 considers itself "Israel's Only Independent National Radio".

This radio station is headquartered on a ship outside of Israel's territorial waters — and Israeli government control. On its Internet site **[http://www.jer1.co.il/media/arutz7/index.html]**, you can find transcripts of its news and editorial broadcasts which emphasize "positive, Torah oriented Zionism."

Several other newswires, newsletters and reports are located at **[gopher://gopher.jer1.co.il:70/11/Politics/news]**.

Although these links are impressive, I'd think it's premature to cancel our subscriptions to conventional newspapers and magazines.

After all, you still can't wrap a fish with a computer terminal.

* * *

In a future column, I'd like to take a look at some Jewish Canadian organizations which maintain Internet sites. If you'd like to recommend a site, please e-mail its address to me at mdm@inforamp.net.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet.

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Jewish TV show set to air

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

***Jewish Magazine* hosts Ellie Tesher and Morley Torgov (seated) are joined by producers (from left) Howard Bernstein, Janice Maser and Stephen Gardner. [Barry Shainbaum Photo]**

TORONTO — Although it hasn't aired yet, *Jewish Magazine*, Canada's newest entry in the television field, has already set lofty standards for itself.

It will be the first national Jewish TV show aired in Canada. The pilot will be broadcast on Vision TV (part of basic cable service), and if it is successful, the show will be part of Vision's regular lineup this fall.

The 30-minute show promises it will be like no other Jewish program. It will eschew the typical studio format and will be shot entirely on location, concentrating on one central event or theme each week.

And there's the talent: The hosts will be *Toronto Star* columnist Ellie Tesher and award-winning humorist and author Morley Torgov.

Producer Howard Bernstein, who has produced shows like *Canada AM* and *The Journal*, says *Jewish Magazine*'s model will be the folksy but informative *CBC Sunday Morning*, known for its slow but steady pace and wry vignettes on life.

Jewish Magazine hopes to change the common view of a Jewish television show as a series of dry interviews with amateurish production values, Bernstein says, adding that it will try not to focus too much on Toronto and Montreal.

Each week, the program will feature a short documentary on a Canadian-Jewish issue, an interview, a disussion with a rabbi about the weekly parshah and possibly reviews and a cooking spot. Plans call for a pre-packaged segment from Israel.

Bernstein wants "to go heavy on the arts." For example, the show will be done on location from the annual Jewish Film Festival.

The program's pilot, *Between a Rock and a Hard Place*, will examine being Jewish in Quebec today. Special guest will be former Equality party leader Robert Libman.

One show was shot entirely at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital for a story on the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre.

Producer Janice Maser works the marketing/business end of things and has assembled an advisory board made up of leading community organizations.

A third producer, Stephen Gardner, will be in charge of technical and audiovisual details.

The program intends to be self-sustaining through advertising and sale to networks. Regular sponsors are being sought.

Meantime, plans for another Jewish TV show, *The Jewish Journal*, scheduled for broadcast on Rogers Cable, have been put on hold.

Vision TV is reported to reach eight million households. *Jewish Magazine*'s pilot will air March 27 at 8:30 p.m. in Manitoba; 9:30 in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia; 10:30 in Alberta and the Maritimes and 11 in Newfoundland (all local times).

Negotiations are also underway to have the pilot broadcast over additional local, national and international networks.

Jewish directory reissued

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A second edition of a new directory of the Toronto Jewish community, *Toronto's Original Jewish Pages*, to be issued in May, will be double the size of the present one.

The directory, to come out twice a year, has had a good response according to Sarah Shefner-Doveh, who with her husband, Yves Shefner, are its publishers.

The two were publishers of the Hebrew biweekly newspaper *Hamekomon* and the English language monthly *Jewish Life*. Both newspapers suspended publication last August.

A total of 30,000 copies of the present edition of *Jewish Pages* have been printed, three-quarters of them to be distributed free at synagogues and Jewish centres, and the rest for sale at $3.95 at bookstores and other stores selling magazines.

Distribution began in January and another supply of free directories will be available in about a month, Shefner-Doveh said.

The next edition will have a special article on travel.

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Mission 3000

Tragedy strengthens commitment to Israel

By Adi Waksman

Mission 3000, the largest to Israel in Canadian history, provided participants with an Israel experience far beyond their expectations. The United Israel Appeal/ United Jewish Appeal mega-mission, coinciding with Jerusalem's 3000th anniversary, became a lesson in courage and strength as much as a celebration of history, culture and religion.

On the sixth day of the mission, news spread of the fatal terrorist attack near Jerusalem's central bus station.

"We were on such a high when we got to Jerusalem and then early Sunday morning we heard the blast," remembers Bob Bercovici, who, along with his wife Bina, was dressing for breakfast when tragedy struck. "At first we were in shock and once we realized what had happened, I felt as if I had lost family."

Bob Bercovici and his wife Bina Feldman felt "at home" on the entire mission.

The Bercovicis were not alone in their grief, but even before the immediate shock wore off, the group stepped on to waiting buses for the long drive to Eilat. "We were told that all we could do was carry on," recalls Judi Morris, who was visiting Israel for the first time. "Our bus driver translated news reports and explained that what had happened was part of everyday life in Israel."

Morris says she would "go back in a minute" and has no reservations about sending her daughter Mindy on the Federation-supported March of the Living this spring. "If Jews in the Diaspora don't go to Israel we are letting down our brothers and sisters," she stresses.

The mission was Marlyne Lazer's third trip to Israel and definitely not her last. "I never felt frightened or insecure," Lazer confesses.

Sheila Rother, says she "didn't need to go on a mission to get turned on to Israel," but was pleased to greet new olim at Ben Gurion airport. "It was the highlight of my trip," explaines Rother who worked on UJA's Operation Exodus.

Herb Rosenfeld, who co-chaired Mission 3000 with Rosanne Ain, thinks missions are still the best way to educate people about Israel.

Sheila Rother assists an immigrant from Tashkent at Ben Gurion Airport.

"The tragic events that occurred demonstrate the amazing strength of the country and its incredible spirit," he says.

"The highs and lows were unbelievable," summarizes Bercovici. "I'd like to bottle the entire mission so that every Jew could experience what we did."

Judi Morris is ready to go back to Israel "in a minute."

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JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO UJA

Consul-general counsels participants on historic mission

It was not a role normally played by Israel's Consul General, Jehudi Kinar. But, when he joined Mission 3000 participants, the tragic events that unfolded demanded Kinar's skills as counsellor, advisor and friend, in addition to diplomat.

Consul General Jehudi Kinar felt a close contact between the community and the people of Israel.

During the mission, Kinar moved from bus to bus speaking with hundreds of participants, many of whom were first timers to Israel. "It was important to me to get to know as many of them as possible," explained Kinar, "and to see their surprised reactions to how advanced and powerful the country has become."

But what really impressed Kinar was how calm mission members remained when they learned of the bus bombing in Jerusalem on Sunday, February 25. When the news hit, many were eating breakfast in the hotel dining room before boarding buses to Eilat.

"The tenor of the mission changed within a minute," recalled Kinar, "but I told them that life must go on." And so it did. Kinar stressed to participants the importance of standing up to terrorism. "I was very impressed that nobody expressed a desire to leave and go back home."

Kinar, on the other hand, felt slightly torn. Should he return to Toronto to comfort the local community or remain with his fellow citizens and the Canadian mission? "I did feel the urge to go back," he admitted, "but I felt it was important for me to stay. I felt part of the group."

Community Matters

Each person has a name

Just four months after gathering to mourn the death of Yitzhak Rabin, Toronto's Jewish community came together again last week to remember victims of violence.

Over 2500 people joined a solemn Commemorative Assembly at Shaarei Shomayim synagogue for those who died in recent terrorist bombings.

As Jewish Student Federation speaker Candace Cooper (in photo top left), quoting Ukrainian poet Zelda Shneurson Mishkowsky, said "Each person has a name..."

The event was organized by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto in conjunction with B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Zionist Federation and United Israel Appeal of Canada.

From the heart of Israel...

The following is a letter written about the horror that gripped an entire nation after the terrorist attacks. Sari Bensimon, who made aliya two years ago, lives and works in Jerusalem. She sent this letter to her sister, Simone, who works for the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

I cannot verbalize my feelings, nor can I accurately describe the scene for you. Suffice to say it is beyond the realm of anything near normal, or anything that a normal human being is capable of grasping. Yes, I was standing in that crowd last night. I went to pay my respects because I felt so helpless. I felt like lighting a candle was the most feeble attempt at showing my sympathy, but at the same time, it was about the only thing that I could do that was decent, barring private prayer.

Listen to these stories...Katamonim is the neighbourhood next to German Colony. The #18 (bus) comes from around the corner there. It is an extremely poor neighbourhood. You look from your balcony across to the other apartment and she's lost a son, and you've lost a neighbour, and the guy from the makolet (corner store) went to town on that bus because he was just going to buy paint...

Yoni Levy, an air force soldier, died yesterday. His sister-in-law went to his funeral after attending the burial of her nephew, another bus bombing victim... This school, called Beit Chinuch, has lost 4 kids from its senior class in the last 9 days. What does that do to the psyche of these kids? The family of another lady who died couldn't figure out why she didn't get off at her regular stop at the King David. I mean, they'll never know. I told you about the lady who suffered from shock the whole week after she realized she had missed the one that blew up last Sunday. She died this week.

Now I will give you stories from last Sunday. These will rip your heart out. The first is about the cutest girl, Merav. Her family lost another son about 8 years ago. She was on her way back to the army, starting a new position that day. She ran after the #14 but it sped away. So she got on the #18 instead... Another beautiful girl was engaged and planning her wedding for June. Now they are planning her funeral instead... And the two Americans? One of them was my colleague Joan's roommate. I took a call from her hysterical friend on the phone, SCREAMING at me to get Joan, that it was an emergency. Well, the emergency was that the U.S. embassy requested one of the roommates to come down and identify her body. She had been on the bus with her fiance. They were on their way to the bus station, on their way to Jordan for a little vacation... Today, someone at work tried to order in pasta but the guy on the phone said there was no delivery because their delivery boy was one of the dead on the bus.

I cannot tell you how interconnected this city is. It's frightening really. And graphic? I will not tell you about it. Tonight I heard a little 6 year old girl describe how she was in line for the bank machine with her aunt and she turned around and saw this man just standing there and then he just 'blew up' in front of her eyes. Yes, she's alive, but will she be normal after that? What do you think? I heard that people and things just FLEW everywhere...glass, metal, body parts, anything. Could I possibly enumerate the times I stood on that street corner in Tel Aviv waiting for my friends? I can't count. And all these people were doing was standing around with their kids on Purim - gone to Burger King for lunch with the kids and never came home. I CAN'T describe it, I just can't.

But I promised to end on a somewhat happier note if I could. My friend Andrea couldn't bring herself to go out tonight. Last night we were at the scene together and wow, you realize just who the people are that you love, and who love you. Life's just too short not to tell them.

I'm not working on Wednesday. I have Purim off. I think I will just rest, and if it's sunny I will go have a coffee downtown and maybe write another letter...

Greater Toronto Area

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן

כמו ציפור:

בשנת 1974 חלחנתי את שירו של נתן יונתן "כמו ציפור", ושרו אותו "האחים והאחיות". באותו זמן הלחין גיון לנון את "כמו ציפור" שלו (Free like a bird) אבל הוא הסתפק בהכנת סקיצה על הטייפ הביתי שלו, ומעולם לא הגיע לביצוע מלא של השיר. אחר כך באה שנת 1980 הנוראה ומטורף גיון יורקי רצח את לנון. חמש עשרה שנה אחר-כך נכנסו שלושת החיפרשיות הנותרים לאולפן הקלטות והוסיפו את כליהם וקולותיהם לגיון לנון.מספר פול מקרתני: " החלטנו להתנהג כאילו גיון יצא לחופשה ארוכה ובקש מאיתנו להשלים את הקלטת השיר, וזה עזר להתגבר על העצב והמבוכה". אני שם את הקלטת על המכשיר והדמעות זולגות ללא משים. אני מרגיש בתוך חלום. אנימתגעגע לשנות הששים והשבעים שלא יחזרו. אני שמח על הסיכוי, על האור שטמון ביצירתיות, על החברות שהיא מעבר לזמן, מעבר למקום. הנס של קפיצת הדרך ממיס אותי. אז הינה לכם, במתנה ממני , שתי גירסאות של " כמו ציפור".

כמו ציפור - נתן יונתן	כמו ציפור - גיון לנון (תירגום : גידי קורן)
אדם - כמו ציפור,	כך, כמו ציפור,
כל עוד נפשו בו שר.	בתוך נפשי
בין שהוא בגפו, שָקר לו	לחרגיש חופשי.
בין שהוא מאושר,	
יען כי חכל	מח קרה לאחבה,
מלבין עליו לאיטו,	שהיתה כל כך טובה
רק חשיר - אין לו כמישח.	וחיכן אותה קירבה?
	נעלמו חן לעינינו.
	ואיפה אותו מגע.
	הידידות והערגה?
	איך הרגשתי כמו ציפור
	כשהיינו שנינו.

שלום חבר - והתקליט:

באותו יום נובמבר נורא נסעתי על ה - 404 לכיוון ניומרקט להביא את בני לחבר שגר בקצה העולם. בדרכי חזרה הופסקו השידורים והתחילו ההודעות על הפגיעה ברבין. לא רחוק מה - 401 הודיעו פתאום שהפגיעה "קלה עד בינונית" ואני נשמתי לרווחה. פתאום נדמה היה לי שאומרים Assassinated, ובמשך עשרים הדקות הבאות פספסתי חזור ופספס את היציאה שלי מה - Highway. אני בטוח שגם אתם, כמוני, תזכרו כל החיים איפה הייתם באותו יום, באותן דקות. עכשיו אני נוסע באותה דרך עצמה ומאזין להקלטות שנעשו שבוע אחרי הרצח בעצרת מיוחדת. מאה אלף איש שרים עם שלמה ארצי בכיכר רבין "איפה ישנם עוד אנשים כמו האיש ההוא", ופתאום מתחיל לרדת גשם ונשמעים בתקליט ברקים ורעמים. אפילו השמים בוכים. אם אתם רוצים להתחבר לעורק של התחושה הישראלית בחורף של 1996 - זהו אוסף חובה עבורכם. לקחו מכל זמר וזמרת את השיר האהד שלהם שיש עליו קונסנזוס ויצרו שני תקליטי קומפקט (או קלטות) שלא היו עדיין כמותם. בין השירים המוכרים ("שיר לשלום", "באב אל ואד", "מישהוא", "כמו צמח בר") , תגלו שם גם את ישראל החדשה שכולנו מחמיצים כאן: אחינעם ניני, דוד ד'אור וחבריהם שיעשו לכם עור של ברוון. תשמעו שם את השיר "חופים" בביצוע המקורי של צוות הווי נחל ואת יהודה פוליקר שר "פרח". גם אם אינכם אוהבים זֶמֶר מזרחי - ירטיט אתכם אבנר גדסי ב"הגברים בוכים בלילה". אריק איינשטיין בחר את שירו של אביב גפן "לנצח אחי, אזכור אותך תמיד... תהיה חזק במעלה". מה כן - תכינו מטפחות גדולות, מחכה לכם חוויה גדולה וחזקה. דווקא כאן, רחוק משם, התקליט הזה הוא גשר אמיתי.

מורים עצוב:

בית הכנסת "דרכי נעם". המון אנשים צעירים וילדיהם מאזינים בשקט לסיפור המגילה. אחר כך אומרים "קדיש" לזכר אימהות וילדיהם שנרצחו בבוקר בכיכר דיזנגוף, אלפי קילומטרים מכאן. סיפור המן במהדורה עכשווית, אנטישמים שמוכנים להתפוצץ בכיכר רק כדי להרוג יהודים. אימותיהם נאות בהם, אבותיהם זוכים לכבוד מיוחד, ואחיהם הצעירים לוקחים דוגמא ואולי יחזרו על המעשה בעוד שנתיים שלוש. כל כך עצוב שדווקא בישראל, שאליה היגרו יהודים כדי לשים קץ לסיבלם מאנטישמיות,- שם סובלים יהודים מהאנטישמיות האכזרית ביותר מאז מלחמת העולם השנייה. אני מאחל לכולנו ששירותי הביטחון יעשו כמיטב יכולתם, אבל זה לא יעזור - רק סגירה הרמטית והפרדה מוחלטת בין שתי התרבויות השונות כל כך זו מזו תביא לרגיעה. עד שלא יחליטו בישראל שאין לפלשתינאים מה לחפש במדינה היהודית לא תבוא ישועה. צריך איתם גבול כמו עם סוריה. לא פחות.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish Russian Community Centre to mark 10th year

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Jewish Russian Community Centre of Greater Toronto (JRC) is planning a gala dinner March 31 at the Sheraton Centre Hotel to mark its 10th anniversary year.

The black-tie dinner, co-chaired by Dr. Lew Pliamm and Boris Bytensky, is a celebration of the growth of the centre since its inception in 1987. Funds raised will be used for JRC educational programs.

Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman, spiritual leader and executive director of JRC, who was sent from New York in 1981 by the Lubavitcher Rebbe to work with Russian Jews in Toronto, says that when he arrived here there was no organized community. "There were about 1,600 Russians but there was no unity — no community.

"The first thing done was the publication of a Russian language newspaper, the *Exodus*, and after that a synagogue was established. A majority of the Russian community had never attended synagogue services and many of them had a sense that they should go. It was comforting for them to know there was a synagogue that welcomed them with open arms."

The community centre now provides a variety of educational, social and religious programs to the 30,000 Russian Jews living in Toronto. With such activities as Judaica classes, immigrant integration, Shabbat hospitality services, preschool and day care, Talmud Torah Hebrew School, teen programs, holiday programs and bar and bat mitzvah programs, as well as a fully functioning synagogue, the centre reaches out to Russian Jews of all ages.

"The JRC offers as much guidance as people want and fulfils their spiritual needs, whatever they are," says Rabbi Zaltzman.

Bytensky, 28, a lawyer, says that he and Pliamm, 29, both grew up in the Russian Jewish community and as "the younger generation we are devoted to fostering the growth of the community. The entire dinner committee has strong feelings about maintaining a strong identity.

"Even though the older generation has the strongest ties to the community, we are trying to bridge the gap and make young people feel comfortable about getting actively involved. The younger generation tends to be more integrated in the general community."

Rabbi Zaltzman says he is pleased that the dinner chairs are young people, because the centre needs young Jews to get involved in leadership roles.

"I hope that this is just the beginning of the involvement of the younger generation," he said.

Pliamm is overwhelmed by the response the dinner committee has received from the community. "It is encouraging that so many people reacted quickly and bought their tickets. This is the first black-tie gala event in our community and we've already presold over half of our goal. Even the entertainers surprised us with their response."

Planned entertainment at the dinner includes comedian Mark Breslin; Cantor Baruch Zaltzman; baroque jazz featuring Sergie Seredenko, Karisa and Ludmila Pashonova and Leonid Karpinsky; vocalist Michael Khinkis; and pianist Michael Ziskind.

For information, call 222-7105.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Rabbi Joseph Zaltzman (left), director of the Jewish Russian Community Centre, and Vaughan councillor Bernie Green flank guest speaker Al Palladini, Ontario's minister of transportation, at a recent dinner attended by over 300 members of Metro's Russian-Jewish community. Proceeds from the event will help establish the Jewish Russian Educational Foundation, which will allow needy children from Russian-Jewish families to enrol in educational programs and youth activities. [Ron Csillag photo]

Frank discussion expected on sexual decision-making

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Parents and teens will have the opportunity to participate in a frank discussion on sexual decision-making and the relevance of Jewish values, at the next program to be presented by the AIDS committee of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue at the synagogue March 26 at 7:30 p.m.

The discussion, to be led by Rabbi Mitchell Cohen, director of Camp Ramah, is the second of three programs presented this winter for various age groups and sectors in the community.

Rabbi Cohen, 36, who is currently developing a curriculum for teaching Jewish ethics to parents and teenagers, says that as a camp director, he is aware that sexuality is a critical factor in the minds of teenagers.

"If our role as educators is to make Judaism meaningful for teenagers, then it is essential to speak about issues that are critical to their lives," he said in a recent telephone interview.

There is a great lack of understanding about what Judaism has to say about sexuality, Rabbi Cohen said, and "since we live mostly in a Christian society, kids get the message that religion thinks negatively about sex. It is important to enlighten them and tell them that in the proper context, sexuality is a positive thing in Judaism. They need to know that Judaism has a positive outlook on life and is relevant to their life."

He stresses to parents, as well as other significant adults in teens' lives, the importance of keeping the lines of communication open.

"Kids are looking for guidance and if we provide it, then we have a chance of positively influencing their decision-making," he said.

His curriculum, he said, is not a formal one, but rather "a guideline for Jewish sexual ethics as I see it. What I am doing is taking a huge topic and bringing it down to manageable thought units.

"Discussed are specific things that Judaism has to say about sexuality and, by bringing in stories from the Talmud that parents can discuss with their teens, they are provided an entry to Jewish values.

"It is a very exciting area to be working in. I do not think that many adult education programs focus on sexuality. To be bringing up the topic at all is a critical first step," Rabbi Cohen said.

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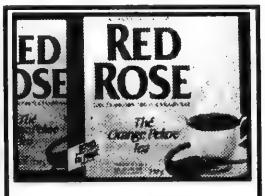

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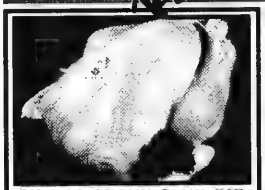

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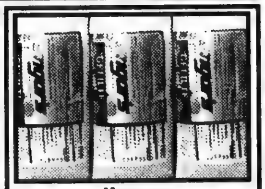

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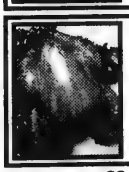

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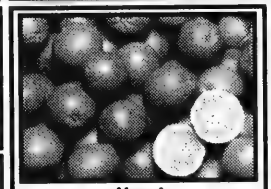

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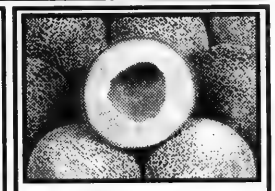

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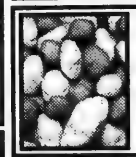

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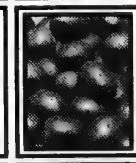

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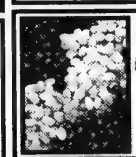

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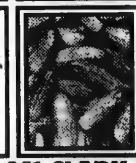

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From coast to coast

Manitoba premier 'overwhelmed' by JNF honor

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon says he had no idea when a delegation from the Jewish National Fund (JNF) booked an appointment with him that they were going to ask him to be the honoree at this year's Negev Dinner.

"I thought they were coming to see me about a new proposal for a project," he recalls. "I was overwhelmed by the honor."

Filmon will be the first honoree from outside Winnipeg's Jewish community. (In 1991, B'nai Brith Canada honored him with an Award of Merit.) The JNF is recognizing him for his staunch and ongoing support and encouragement of the Winnipeg Jewish community and the State of Israel.

Filmon has always had an affinity for Winnipeg's Jewish community because his background is similar to that of many in that community. The son of Romanian immigrants, he grew up in Winnipeg's heavily Jewish north end. His father, he says, spoke fluent Yiddish, a language he learned while growing up in Romania.

Filmon is also connected to the Jewish community because his aunt — his father's sister — married a Jew and converted.

"Gary Filmon is a familiar and popular figure at many Jewish functions," said Norman Vicker, Manitoba and Saskatchewan regional JNF president in a press release. "He has given generously of his time in support of local Jewish community and Israel-oriented organizations. The moral support he has extended to worthy Jewish causes and the sympathetic views he has expressed on dozens

Gary Filmon

of public occasions have made him an outstanding candidate for Negev honors."

Filmon was first elected to the Manitoba Legislature in 1979. The civil engineer and former president of Success/Angus Commercial College became premier on May 9, 1988. During his administration, he worked with the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council in establishing a Holocaust Memorial on the Legislature grounds. His administration has increased funding for private schools. He has also been very supportive in the development of the Jewish Community Campus. He has been consistently supportive of the JNF and has never missed a Negev Dinner during his time as premier.

This year's 44th annual dinner will be held June 25 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

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Baruch Gur

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Topics
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•The mutual impact:
Israel and Russian Jews,
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Admission: $3.00 members $5.00 non-members

WORKING TOGETHER

The working group set up by a network of faith and ethnocultural communities in the province gets together for its first meeting to formulate a response to take to the Ontario government. Representing the various groups are (from left) Cheryl Curtis, United Church of Canada Toronto Conference; Dr. M. Tomas Ferreira, Portuguese-Canadian National Congress; Rev. Maylanne Whittall, Anglican Diocese of Toronto; Manuel Prutschi, CJC, Ontario region; Keith Wong, Chinese Canadian National Council; Michael Fullan, Catholic Charities; Morris Zbar, Jewish Federation; and Ken Corkum, Ontario Conference Seventh-Day Adventist Church. [Stephen Epstein photo]

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- Ability to maintain a co-operative working relationship with other members of the staff and parent community.
- A reliable record of attendance and punctuality.
- A valid work permit.

EDUCATIONAL/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

Relevant teaching experience or appropriate related experience with elementary school-aged children. Ontario Teaching certification considered an asset. Teaching experience from other countries will be considered.

Applications should be submitted in letter form with resume to the **International Languages Program (Elementary) Field Office, 49 Givins Street, Toronto, Ontario M6J 2X5.** It is the responsibility of the applicants to ensure their applications are received in the Field Office. Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. It is intended that applicants selected for an interview will be interviewed by a committee. Please note that personal information provided by applicants will be used for the purpose of this competition only and will be protected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The Toronto Board of Education is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will be considered.

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• NEW ITEMS •

		Approx. serving size as Entrée
Kishka	$3.70/lb.	—
Chicken Nuggets	10.90/lb.	4-5
Meat Knishes	1.30 ea.	—

• SOUPS •

Clear Chicken - *Small*	$1.75	1
Clear Chicken - *900 gr.*	3.50	3
Clear Chicken - *1 1/2 litre*	7.50	6
Chicken w/Egg Noodles	4.00	3
Chicken w/Matzoh Balls	4.00	3

• SALADS •

Coleslaw	$2.75	4
Creamy Coleslaw	2.75	4
Cucumber	2.99	4
Egg - *Small*	1.75	3
Egg - *Large*	3.50	6
Potato	2.75	4

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Roast Chicken	6.00/lb.	4 pce.
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• ENTRÉES •

		Approx. serving size as Entrée
Carrots & Pineapple	$4.00	4
Chopped Liver - *Small*	3.00	3
Chopped Liver - *Large*	5.25	5
Mock Chopped Liver	3.50	3
Apple Kugel - *Small*	3.50	4
Apple Kugel - *Medium*	5.00	6
Apple Kugel - *Large*	6.50	8
Carrol Kugel - *Small*	2.95	4
Carrot Kugel - *Medium*	3.95	4
Carrot Kugel - *Large*	5.50	8
Potato Kugel - *Small*	2.95	4
Potato Kugel - *Medium*	3.95	6
Potato Kugel - *Large*	5.50	8
Potato Kugel - *Ex-Large*	20.00	30
Cabbage Rolls	2.25	1
Chicken Fricasse	7.00	4
Crepes w/Mushroom Sauce	1.75	1
Boiled Carp	4.59	2
Boiled Whitefish	5.49	2
Sweet Gefilte Fish	6.25/lb.	18/loaf
Salt & Pepper Gefilte Fish	6.25/lb.	18/loaf

• EXTRAS •

Egg Noodles	$5.00	6
Red Horseradish - Small	2.00	—
Red Horseradish - Large	4.00	—
White Horseradish - Small	2.75	—
White Horseradish - Large	4.75	—
Mayonnaise	3.50	—
Schmaltz	4.00	—

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From coast to coast

Calgary JCC faces financial crisis

By JUDY SHAPIRO
Jewish Free Press

CALGARY — A financial crisis faced by the Calgary Jewish Centre has led to an evaluation of all centre operations.

At a recent meeting of the board of the Calgary Jewish Community Council (CJCC), a true and rather grim picture of the centre's financial situation was presented.

The immediate problem is that the centre owes CJCC $170,000. This situation arose because, due to an accounting error, funds which were meant to be transferred to UJA from the centre's Visa and Mastercard accounts were instead directed to operating expenses.

For many years, CJCC has used the centre's VISA and Mastercard accounts to facilitate the payment of UJA pledges by credit card.

Because UJA has actively marketed the credit card option, in the past 24 months a significant number of people paid their pledges this way. The fact that the money was not transferred out was discovered when the time came to pay Calgary's obligation to UIA Canada, which administers money directed to Israel. The money was simply not in the UJA account.

As soon as the mistake was discovered, the executives of the CJCC and the Calgary Jewish Centre took steps to correct the problem. The centre's comptroller was fired and various committees were struck to assess the situation.

It was first determined that there was no evidence of bad faith or misappropriation of funds.

The use of UJA funds "should never have occurred and was not done with the knowledge of the board," said centre executive member Gerry Barron.

Measures have already been taken to separate centre and UJA accounts and to cut off the centre's ability to access UJA funds.

In addition, a committee headed by Marilyn Burke will begin to look at long-term solutions to the centre's ongoing financial difficulties.

In the meeting, it was revealed, that over the past few years, the centre's capital reserves have been tapped to meet operating shortfalls.

"Over the years, the costs went up and revenues did not match increasing costs — the centre was underfunded by $200,000. Now we've run out of money. There's nowhere to take from anymore," said centre vice-chair Aaron Dagan.

In addressing the immediate problem of replacing the UJA dollars, centre chair Beth Price told the *Jewish Free Press* that if the centre was to immediately reimburse council, it would have no funds to continue to operate.

The CJCC board approved a motion to put up assets of the CJCC capital fund as security to back a loan to the centre for a line of credit for up to $250,000. This will enable the centre to repay CJCC, and the Calgary community will meet its obligations to UIA Canada.

This also buys the centre time to take a cold hard look at its operations and come up with long-term solutions to ensure its continued viability.

"It's important to keep the centre operating and keep the problem at a reasonable level," said CJCC treasurer Morris Bleviss.

Faced with similar problems, other communities have allowed deficits to grow to disastrous proportions, Bleviss said. "We will address it early," he added.

The centre's current operating shortfalls are the result of inaccurate forecasting of revenues, explained Price and executive director Joel Miller.

A 30 percent decline in day-care enrolment is one of the most significant losses.

In addition, some of the other agencies within the community owe the centre money as payment for accounting services performed on their behalf and some memberships have not been paid.

Last March, the centre was forced to appeal to CJCC for an additional $80,000 over and above its $273,000 1994 UJA allocation.

Miller then instituted a program of cutbacks and staff restructuring. The accounting department, which serves both the centre and CJCC, was cut in half. Miller said this is one of the reasons the budget shortfall was not discovered earlier.

In 1995, the centre's UJA allocation was increased to $316,000. Over the past year, the centre has cut staff, brought in new people to revitalize programming and instituted fundraising efforts, but it has not been enough.

Oratorio highlights memorial

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — A brief preview of *A 20th Century Passion*, an oratorio composed by Holocaust survivor Peter Gary, was a highlight of a Holocaust memorial meeting at the Jewish Community Centre of Victoria.

The oratorio, to be presented in Vancouver by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in June 1997, is a tribute to the life and death of the six million.

At the preview, slides of death camps were shown, with the solemn oratorio music in the background, and a commentary was given by the composer.

Gary, who lives in Victoria, has a PhD in musicology. He wrote 14 of the librettos in the oratorio; the others are by children who were in the Terezin camp.

The featured speaker at the memorial was Catholic author John Tomczak, who said that for years, he and thousands of others knew nothing about the horrors of the camps, because everything had been hushed up. He expressed indignation that the Canadian government had turned away Jewish refugees.

He said it is essential to let the general population know about the suffering of the Holocaust victims, and noted that survivors are not filled with hatred.

All they want is to have the truth told, in order to fight the lies of the Holocaust deniers. He said this is the responsibility of the entire Christian community.

The program opened with dramatic readings, given by a group of non-Jewish students from Victoria High School, of letters and notes by Holocaust survivors, many of whom live here.

A moment's silence was observed in memory of victims of recent bombings in Israel.

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We're the Toronto Jewish Film Society and we're 18 years young.

To commemorate this occasion, we're co-presenting a Spotlight Series March 23 to 31, 1996 featuring actress Gila Almagor, "the Queen of Israeli cinema."

Gila Almagor will be at the screenings on March 23, 24, 27 and 28.

Celebrate with us at our Saturday, March 23 reception honouring Ms. Almagor, following the screening of **Passover Fever.**

Tickets for **Passover Fever** and reception are $36, and must be purchased in advance by calling (416) 924-6211 (the Bloor Jewish Community Centre).

TICKET PRICES (incl. GST):
$7.50 Non-Members;
$4.30 Members;
$3.75 Student Members/Seniors

For more information about screenings and memberships call the Cinematheque Ontario Box Office: (416) 923-FILM. Advance tickets for Cinematheque Members only.

All screenings take place at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall, 317 Dundas St. West (please use McCaul St. Entrance).

All Cinematheque Ontario screenings are restricted to individuals 18 years of age or older.

Passover Fever
Saturday, March 23
8:30 pm
Wednesday, March 27
6:30 and 8:45 pm

The House on Chelouche Street
Sunday, March 24
1 pm

The Summer of Aviya
Sunday, March 24
4 pm

Under the Domim Tree
Sunday, March 24
7:30 p.m.

Sh'Chur
(Toronto Premiere)
Thursday, March 28
6:30 pm

Life According to Agfa
Thursday, March 28
8:45 pm

Siege
Sunday, March 31
7:30 p.m.

The Gila Almagor Spotlight Series is presented by:

CINEMATHEQUE ONTARIO

AIR CANADA

BloorJCC

CONSULATE GENERAL OF ISRAEL

Record set for loan requests

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Board members of the local Hebrew Assistance Association addressed the congregations of several synagogues here on Shabbat Mishpatim, to describe the efforts of their society to help the needy.

The Torah portion read on that Shabbat relates to the prohibition of charging interest on loans to the needy. On that Shabbat, members of the North American Association of Hebrew Free Loans in all cities where the association has a local group explained the work of *gemilut chassidism* in their communities.

In a report reviewing 1995 activities, Mannie Druker, president of the local association, indicated that in the last five months, a record 55 loan applications were received, 35 of which were approved, with a loan value of $108,000. Currently there are 176 borrowers on the books with outstanding loans totalling $351,000.

In the past four months since the association celebrated its 80th anniversary, Drucker said 100 new members were signed up. As of September 1994 there were only 74 members in all. Membership, at a minimum of $25, pays for operating expenses.

"Our focus for 1996," Druker said, "is to make us better known among those in the community who qualify for and need our assistance."

The report says that a recent demographic study estimates that 18 percent of those in Lower Mainland communities are in financial need. "This translates to about 5,000 people."

Synagoguges taking part in Shabbat Mishpatim were Beth Israel, Temple Shalom, Congregation Har-El, Schara Tzedeck, Beth Hamidrash, Shaarey Tefilah, Or Shalom, Chabad-Lubavitch.

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- 1450 Lawrence Ave., North York
- 1800 Sheppard Ave., North York
- 10909 Yonge St., Richmond Hill
- 8601 Warden Ave., Markham
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- 2150 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Mississauga
- 250 Lakeshore Rd. W., Port Credit
- 245 Dixon Rd., Rexdale

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From coast to coast

Jewish, Arab, Mennonite panelists discuss peace

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Panelists reporting on the recent Palestinian elections began their presentation with a joint statement which called on all peace loving people to condemn the most recent bombings in Israel.

"The extremists cannot be allowed to prevail," the statement said. "We look forward to a lasting peace in the region."

The panel discussion at the University of Winnipeg was co-sponsored by Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University (CFHU), the Canadian Arab Association and the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). It was the third such event in the past two years organized by Anya Makow, the CFHU's executive director in Winnipeg

The programs bring together representatives of the Jewish, Palestinian and Mennonite communities in Winnipeg. This year's panel consisted of Jim Carr, a senior editor with the *Winnipeg Free Press;* Nabil Oudeh, an Israeli Arab from Haifa now living in Winnipeg; and Harold Dueck who was the MCC international development administrator on the West Bank from 1982-1987.

Carr and Oudeh, who is a conflict mediator, were in Israel in January to observe the Palestinian elections.

Elections

Both reported that the elections went off without a hitch. To an audience member who questioned the short campaign period, Oudeh noted that the recent election in Newfoundland came after just a three-week campaign (as compared to 16 days for the Palestinian elections).

Carr talked of how much the Middle East has changed in the last two years. While in Israel, he and Oudeh went to the Arab village of Deir Amar to visit the *mukhtar*, one of whose sons manages a Winnipeg Food Fare grocery store.

"We were received with the greatest warmth," he said. "It put a human face on the Palestinian people. They were enthusiastically looking forward to voting for a leader for the first time. They weren't fooled by candidates who promised the impossible."

On the Israeli side, Carr reported that the latest bombings have damaged Peres' standings in public opinion polls. The central issue in the coming Israeli elections, he said, will be negotiations with Syria over the Golan. The Labor party is prepared to leave the Golan, in return for a warm peace with Syria, which means trade and freedom of movement between the two countries. Likud doesn't trust Hafez al-Assad and views the Golan as too strategic an area to give up.

As to the final status of the Palestinians, he said there are many complex issues still to be resolved.

Carr's vision is of a peaceful Middle East with all borders open, a regionally integrated economy and improved living conditions for everyone.

Oudeh credits the intifadah and the Gulf War with spurring the current movement towards peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Israelis, he said, no longer saw themselves as invincible.

As well, he said, the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin by a Jewish extremist conclusively showed moderates on both sides that their real enemy is not each other, but the extremists in both camps.

The peace process is irreversible, he said, even if Likud should win the Israeli election. It was a Likud government, he noted, that gave back the Sinai.

"The question is how to create two sovereign nations in a very small space," observed Dueck, a businessman who has led several trade missions to Israel.

"There are many issues to settle. For example, how are the Palestinians going to ship the goods they produce? Will they have their own airport? How much land confiscated by Israel will be returned? How will the scarce water resources be divided?"

Practical steps we can take to encourage the development of a peaceful Palestinian state, he suggested, include lobbying the Canadian government to appoint a representative to the Palestinian community to demonstrate that the Palstinians are accepted in the community of nations. He also urged the Canadian government and other non-governmental organizations to encourage economic development among the Palestinians.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Please note these deadline changes due to Passover holidays — Thursday, March 14, is deadline for March 28 issue; Thursday, March 21, is deadline for April 3 issue; Thursday, March 28 is deadline for April 12 issue; Monday, April 1 is deadline for April 18 issue; Monday, April 8, is deadline for April 25 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, March 14

FACES OF JERUSALEM

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am continuing education committee presents The Faces of Jerusalem with **Zvi Stanislavsky**, Torah Education Department, World Zionist Organization, 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 16

HEBREW SONGS

Enjoy 30 years of Hebrew songs, the best hits of the best Israeli singers, 8:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Knowledge of Hebrew not necessary. $7. Sponsored by Israel Educational and Cultural Institute. **Francesca David** 905-770-4720 or **Dr. Chaim Nayot** 510-8877.

THE LITTLE MINYAN

A new Shabbat service that is casual, participatory and conservative and welcomes new daveners of all ages — the Little Minyan at Beth Tzedec, 9:45 a.m., Youth Chapel. 781-3511, ext. 27.

Sunday, March 17

A MUSICAL EVENING

Educational and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim brotherhood feature the music of The Shpeelers with a touch of Klezz, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Congregation. Members $4, Guests $6. Proceeds to Jews for Judaism

ICRF GET-TOGETHER

Israel Cancer Research Fund Young Associates informal get-together, 7 p.m. at Taskers, 2 Rosehill Ave. $10 at door or call ICRF 487-5246.

INTER-CAMPUS PROGRAM

Final Jewish Awareness Month inter-campus program, indoor beach volleyball, 9 p.m. to midnight, North Beach Volleyball, 7400 Woodbine Ave. $10. If interested in signing up for a team, JSF 736-5178, JSU 978-0421, Hillel 512-0814.

Monday, March 18

AUDITIONS

Medina Theatre Ensemble auditions for *Salemen Don't Ride Bicycles*, two-act drama-comedy by **Leo Orenstein**, directed by **Corinne Copnick**, members 7 p.m., non-members 8:30 p.m., North York City Hall, 5100 Yonge St., Committee Room 4. 785-1074.

SUPPORT GROUP

Support Group for Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Phone, in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Blood donor clinic at Bathurst Jewish Centre, 2nd foor gym, 4588 Bathurst St., 2-4:30 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Photo/signature ID required. 974-9900, ext. 3573.

Tuesday, March 19

THE HURRIED CHILD

Pediatrician **Dr. Ruth Wingeren** discusses Stress and the Hurried Child at the sisterhood of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham meeting, 8:30 p.m, 55 Guardsman Rd. Thornhill. $3.

Wednesday, March 20

PESACH SEDER GUIDE

The Women's Institute of Torah Study presents Pesach Seder Survival Guide, 8 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Register 905-881-2012.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh celebration, Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 7:45 p.m. Maariv for women followed by lecture on The Me in Mother by **Bernice Friedman** of Jewish Family & Child Service.

PERLMAN IN RUSSIA

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement features a video, *Yitzchak Perlman in Russia*, with the Israeli Symphony Orchestra conducted by **Zubin Mehta**,

[Cont'd. on page 27]

The year 2000...
Already?

Is time moving quicker - or what?

The months and the seasons pass so quickly.
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The good news is that we're all living longer,
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

noon. Bring your lunch. Coffee, cookies served. $1.

DAIRY PASSOVER DISHES

Kosher Cooking School course, Passover Demonstration — Dairy, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $15. 635-9550.

Thursday, March 21

DEAD SEA SCROLLS

Beth Tzedec Congregation presents the Milton Shier Family Lecture, The Dead Sea Scrolls and the History of Jewish Prayer, with **Prof. Lawrence Schiffman**, Shoshana Shier Visiting Professor in Jewish Studies, University of Toronto, 8 p.m.

BACHELOR AUCTION

Third annual Jewish Bachelor Auction and Silent Auction, with proceeds going to Anshei Minsk Synagogue, 7 p.m., Paradise Banquet and Convention Centre, Classic Ballroom, 7601 Jane St. $25 at door $18 in advance. 410-5677.

And What Else Is New...

CANCELLATION

Medina Theatre Ensemble has cancelled the March 25 program of scenes and sketches because of illness. 785-1074.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Canadian Seaway branch, Women's League for Conservative Judaism informative discussion on The Changing Health Care System — A Jewish Perspective, with speaker **Judith Shamian**, vice-president of nursing, Mount Sinai Hospital, Monday, March 25, 7:15 p.m., Beth Sholom Synagogue. $5. RSVP by March 15. **Sonia Slobodsky** 226-1831.

OUR YIDDISH HERITAGE

Temple Sinai's annual Yiddish Heritage Oneg Shabbat program, Friday, March 22, features Yiddish singer/actor **Theresa Tova**, raconteur **Harvey Atkin**, **Cantor Thomas Schwartz** and Temple Sinai music director **Ben Steinberg** singing Yiddish solos, and Temple Sinai Choir. Services 8:15 p.m., Oneg Shabbat follows.

SINGLE DADS, MOMS

Single dads, single moms, interested in attending a Thornhill community seder, second night of Passover, call 905-731-2881 or 905-881-6860 as soon as possible. This Jewish Single Parents group is funded by Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. Future programs include picnic, baseball and games with your children in May.

SEPARATION & DIVORCE

Jewish Family & Child Service workshop, Impact of Separation and Divorce on Children, discusses typical reactions and feelings of children, impact of parents' coping style on children's adjustment and general dos and don'ts, Thursday, March 28, 7 p.m., Promenade location. To register, **Elinor Gertner** 905-882-2331.

POT LUCK DINNER DEAL

Between 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, food and nutrition staff at Baycrest Centre offer pot luck style dinners at $2.50 (tax included) in the main cafeteria on a first-come, first-served basis. The packaged dinners consist of an entree (chicken, fish, beef, casserole), a vegetable and/or a starch and vary from day to day. Patrons may eat in or take out.

SECULAR ASSOCIATION

Secular Jewish Association:

Humanism in Jewish Arts series, The Best of Jewish Poetry in English with **Howard Tessler**, Sunday, March 24, 10 a.m. to noon, Children's School, 131 Fenn Ave. Bring refreshments to share. Non-members $8.

Exotic Low Fat Cooking and Dinner, Sunday, March 24, Back to Basics Cooking School, 75 Doncaster Ave., Thornhill. Non-members $25. Register early. **Brendy** 905-881-4814.

SJA Community Seder and Pot Luck Dinner, Sunday, March 31, 4:45 p.m., North York Memorial Hall. Non-members $15 adult, $7 student, $4 children over 5. Reserve by March 24. 364-7002.

CHABAD YOUTH CLUB

Chabad Youth Club of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, 55 Guardsman Rd., Thornhill. 905-886-0420.

North Beach Volley Ball, ages 14-17, Saturday, March 23, 8:30-11 p.m. Members $6, non-members $7.

Ceramic Art Making, ages 10-13, Sunday, March 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Members $6.50, non-members $7.50.

Inline Revolution Skating, ages 6-9, Sunday, March 31, 2-4 p.m. Members $4, non-members $5.

SECOND SEDER

Second seder, strictly kosher, traditional, with English reading and participation, Thursday, April 4, led by **Rabbi** and **Joyce Tradburks**, Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. Open to the public. 229-2600.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service Groups: Young Widows/Widowers Group begins March 18; For Women Only begins March 19; Living With Teens begins April 18. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

at the JCC/BJC

Senior Adult Services, BJC, presents A Healthy Heart Chat with **Merle Ballaigues** from Every Minute Counts Inc., On-Line Medical Response, Tuesday, March 19, 1 p.m. **Yvonne** 636-1880, ext. 259.

Last chance to register for Alaskan cruise with BJC Senior Adult Services. Includes overnight in Vancouver with city tour, July 14-23. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Bloor JCC Golden Age Club holds enjoyable and informative programs Thursdays 2 p.m. Yiddish film *I Want to be a Mother* (English subtitles), March 28.

For Seniors

Association of Jewish Seniors 25th annual seder, Thursday, April 4, at Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Doors open 7 p.m., seder begins 7:35 p.m. $18 per person. Tickets at Bernard Betel Centre or AJS, 530 Wilson Ave. W. **Goldie Leibman** 635-2860. Reserve by March 29.

Chai Dancers of Bathurst Jewish Centre, a performing folkdance group of senior adults 55 and over, has openings for new dancers. Some dance experience necessary. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: movie, *The Big Broadcast of 1938*, Wednesday, March 20, 2 p.m.; dance to live band Sunday, March 24, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; ballroom and line dancing, free, with instructor, Tuesdays 10-11:30 a.m.; musical *A Little Night Music*, Wednesday, April 17, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts; outing to Markville Mall, Markham, Thursday, May 9; *Beauty and the Beast*, Princess of Wales Theatre, May 16; musical *She Loves Me*, Drayton Festival Theatre, Kitchener, and visit to Farmers Market, May 30; Ottawa and Gatineau Hills, June 18-20. 395-7881.

Lifestyle Retirement Communities Forest Hill Place 645 Castlefield Ave., lecture, Old Whine, with phonograph and gramaphone expert **John Rutherford** demonstrating the reproduction of sound from 1877 phonograph to 1925 microphone, Thursday, March 14, 2 p.m. Reserve. **Marlene White** 785-1511.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). March 21 program is bingo. 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club is taking reservations for the Catskills trip to Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11; Art Park for *Chorus Line* Aug. 1; Stratford for *The Music Man* Sept. 24. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hotel in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute literary luncheon featuring **Richard Bassett**, Life as Seen Through the Eyes of Humorist Moshe Nodelman (Are you taking life too seriously?), Monday, March 18, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Members only $7. Register at Information Desk. **Bookie Kwart**.

Anne of a Thousand Days, Sunday, March 17, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social March 20, features singer **Edward Rubin**, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog, Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays, **Anna**.

About People

CJC APPOINTMENT

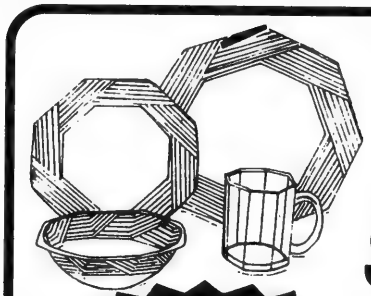
Jennifer Turack has been appointed director of Community Services and Youth Activities of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, which delivers programs and services to the over 30 small communities in the province outside the Greater Toronto area.

Jennifer Turack

Toronto-born Turack, 27, holds masters degrees in Jewish education and Jewish studies as well as a certificate in Jewish communal service from Gratz College in Philadelphia and a bachelor's degree in political science and Judaic studies from York University. Fluent in Hebrew, she has worked as a supplementary Hebrew school teacher and been involved at Camp Shalom, Network and the Homeward Bound program which brought to Israel 500 Jewish students from across Canada.

SHAARE ZEDEK NEW LEADERSHIP

Dov Altman (centre), chair of the Toronto New Leadership Group of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation for 1995/97, is pictured with vice-chairs Barry Polisuk and Karen Solursh-Smith. Other officers are Randall Schwartz, secretary; David Smith and Richard Goldstein, membership; Evan Sone, Stephen Caffrey and Brad Fox, golf co-chairs; Debbie Schacter, Steven Green and Bryan Charendoff, special events.



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Purim celebration gives way to solemn memorial service

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — A Purim celebration at Congregation Emanu-El developed into a memorial service for the victims of the bombings in Israel.

Rabbi Victor Reinstein said the usual festivities were held to a minimum, so that the children present would not be as disappointed as if they had been cancelled.

After the reading of the Megillah, Rabbi Reinstein asked the congregation, which included a number of non-Jews, to form a circle to pray for peace in Israel and to stand close together in an effort to give comfort to each other.

"We feel," he said, "that the entire peace process, which was won by the Israelis after so much effort and determination, will not be in vain. The people have given so much to bring peace so close."

After chanting the K'El Maleh Rachamim and Kaddish, Rabbi Reinstein asked the congregants to light candles and go outside in front of the shul for a short vigil.

"We honor Israel in its mighty effort to bring peace," he said. "Let us hope the *yahrzeit* candles we are holding will bring light to the world and that future Purims will be a time for joy."

David Kirk, a former University of Waterloo professor who lives here, handed out copies of a message he had received on March 4 via computer from Gerald Steinberg, a researcher at the Centre for Strategic Studies at Bar Ilan University in Ramat Gan.

In his message, Steinberg said, "The process has failed and details of which faction [of Arabs] is responsible for the kiling is not relevant when we are burying and mourning our dead. The first responsibility of the Israel government is to protect its citizens."

Steinberg said that on the political front in 1967, the threat of a combined Arab attack led to the creation of a national government and "this war requires no less."

He called for prompt military response by Israel.

The peace process which has divided Labor and Likud is no longer an issue, he said. "Only the skill and power of the IDF brought periods of relative peace. If this is the best we can hope for, it is better than what we have now."

Tribute to victims

VANCOUVER — A memorial service to show community solidarity with Israel was held on the afternoon of Purim in front of the Jewish Community Centre, to pay tribute to the victims of recent bombings in Israel.

Held under auspices of the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, the memorial "paid tribute to the innocent victims of suicide bomber attacks during the last nine days," said a Federation release.

The program included a moment of silence, prayers and the reading of the names of known victims. Then K'El Maleh Rachamim and Kaddish were chanted.

The memorial was attended by many young people, who were urged to have faith in Israel and its ability to defend itself against the enemy, as it has done many times before.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Adath Israel Synagogue Singles Group, 35-55 (Bathurst and Wilson) invites you to a Sunday Brunch, March 17th, 1996 at 11:30 a.m. with guest speaker Milt Berger, councillor - Ward 6. Topic: "Municipal politics and the impact on the GTA: The Pros and Cons." A "super hot" issue. $6.00 prepaid reservations at the synagogue office (416) 635-5340. Deadline is Fri., Mar. 15th - 2:30 p.m. $10. at the door. Visa accepted. For reservations call the synagogue office and for further information contact Rabbi Sheldon Kom, (416) 635-5340.

Avoid hearing " I told you so!" The 30 most eligible single Jewish bachelors will all be on one stage! **Thursday, March 21, 1996** at Paradise Banquet & Convention Centre, 7601 Jane Street. (just north of Steeles) For information call: 416-410-5677. Tickets available at both Israel's Judaica Stores & at Jewish Singles Registry 416-398-7068. They are selling quickly!

Beth Tzedec Young Members invite Singles in their 20s & 30s to a Montreal Style Coffee House, Sat., March 23, 8 p.m., Dr. Allan A. Small Lounge, entertainment & dessert. RSVP: Marlene 781-3511 #34.

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Drop hate phone line 'Aryan of the Year' told

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Charles Scott, who last year was voted "Aryan of the Year" by the racist Aryan Nations, at a dinner in his honor in Hayden Lake, Idaho, has been ordered by the Canadian Human Rights Commission to get out of the hate phone line business.

Scott had been operating a hate line in Chilliwack, B.C., to recruit members to his group, called the Church of Christ in Israel.

The ruling by the three-member tribunal carries the weight of a court order and Scott could be found in contempt if he ignores it. Conviction would carry a one-year jail term and a $5,000 fine.

A hate line was closed down in Vancouver about three years ago by the Commission, and the order was upheld by the Federal Court of Canada. That ruling is under appeal but the phone line no longer operates.

In the recent ruling, the Human Rights Commission said that neither Scott nor anyone connected with him or his "church" can operate a phone service that issues hate messages.

The ruling followed a two-day hearing on a complaint made by the Chilliwack Anti-Racism Project Society. The panel heard several 10-minute taped messages available by calling a Chilliwack number that included Scott railing against Jews and non-white "mud people."

Scott was hounded out of Chilliwack last spring by residents who were upset at his activities, and the phone line closed down shortly after. Scott was also hounded out of Kelowna when he tried to set up another hot line, and he went to Ontario to look for a job. He now lives in Yahk, B.C., a few miles from the Aryan Nations compound in Hayden Lake.

Scott was convicted last November of trespassing and fined $100 for distributing pamphlets on the Canadian Forces base at Chilliwack. He still faces a mischief charge in Kelowna, as a result of a scuffle in August in which a TV camera was damaged.

From coast to coast

Population boom expected in B.C.'s Lower Mainland

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — At the rate the Jewish community in this area is growing, the next decade will see at least another 6,000 Jews settle here, said Malcolm Weinstein, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver (JFGV).

Speaking recently at the 10th annual general meeting, where he was re-elected president, Weinstein said the present Jewish population is about 25,000, but half of that number lived somewhere else 10 years ago when Federation was organized.

The community has diversified, he said. "Those of us who grew up in the Lower Mainland are outnumbered by those who did not. Those who used to view the Jewish community as existing primarily in Vancouver are no longer surprised to hear about growing and committed communities of Jews living in the Fraser Valley or in Whistler."

In a review of the past decade, Weinstein said that 10 years ago, the newly renovated and expanded Jewish Community Centre was "just a dream;" Or Shalom Synagogue was barely born; Beth Tikvah was "years away from its current strength and size;" Hillel House was old and unchanged from 30 years earlier; and Har El Synagogue on the North Shore "was far away from acquiring land for a new building. Few people knew what Burquest [in the Fraser Valley] meant or where it was."

Since 1956, the Federation has raised over $50 million for the local community and Israel, he said.

Weinstein urged the community to prepare for the next 10 years, "when some of us will be ready for senior housing and need an affordable place to live."

Jewish youth will marry, have children and look for a Jewish day school then a high school, he said, and steps must be taken "to ensure schools are still there to provide high quality Jewish education."

Plans must be made to provide the infrastructure and services for the expected inflow of newcomers, he said.

Federation "is in a unique position to promote a collective Jewish community consciousness. Federation can remind us to look up from our particular tree to focus on the overall forest, on what our community will look like and need in the future."

The JFGV, he added, must be a catalyst, reaching out to new populations, from young adults to seniors to the marginally affiliated.

Executive director Drew Staffenberg said 1995 was a year of change for the federation and that like every responsible business enterprise, "we must continue to evaluate ourselves and change to meet current needs."

He said that aside from fundraising, Federation aims to instil Jewish pride, Jewish involvement, Jewish inclusiveness and Jewish respect for all, regardless of the flavor of their Judaism. He said new partnerships have been built with Zionist organizations and with the synagogues.

Community campaign raised more than $4 million

Staffenberg praised the volunteers, "the backbone of our community and our organization."

The campaign report showed more than $4 million was raised in 1995, of which over $1 million was raised by the Women's Division.

A new feature of the campaign gave contributors the option of allocating 50 percent of their increase over the previous year to the agency or service of their choice. Vancouver was the only North American community to use this "plus giving" technique, Staffenberg said. It gives the donor "new choices in the way he or she can support the community."

Allocations for the past year included $1,267,329 for United Israel Appeal and $2,572,752 for local constituent agencies and programs. The National Budgeting Conference, which funds national and regional Canadian Jewish Congress, got $163,486; Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, $126,964; Council of Jewish Federations, $88,362.

Most of the local allocations went to schools, with Maimonides receiving $605,000; the Vancouver Academy, $487,465; and Talmud Torah, $450,000.

The Jewish Community Centre was allocated $410,000.

A new feature established by JFGV is joint purchasing of supplies by agencies and organizations, which is expected to save a considerable amount. Federation staff member Mitch Gilbert is coordinating this effort.

Also new is a Gift of Israel fund, a savings program for youth experiences in Israel. Funds are held in trust for youth and earn interest.

The Endowment Fund has grown to $4.2 million, which includes commitments in the form of long-term pledges, assignments of life insurance policies and bequests.

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Everyone welcome
Charge: $15 per person, $27.50 per couple (includes lunch)
Please register in advance - ask for Susan

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Open Meeting of The Board of Directors of Mount Sinai Hospital
Tuesday, April 30, 1996
12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Hospital
600 University Avenue
Executive Board Room, Main Floor
To confirm attendance or to receive agenda and procedures contact the Corporate Secretary at (416) 586-5082

PESACH SURVIVAL GUIDE
Wed., March 20, 8:00PM
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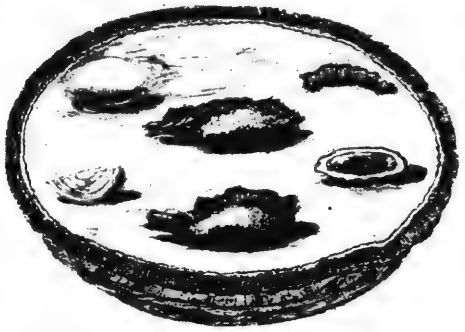

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Beit Halochem New Leadership
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Evening at Yuk Yuk's, Thursday, March 28
Show time: 8:30 p.m. (Doors open at 7:30 p.m.)
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Tickets & info: (416) 488-7649

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An eight year old boy is bereft of both parents, killed within days of each other by Hamas suicide bombers.
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מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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Beverley Burdeyney is proud of her six-month-old granddaughter, Rachel Trister.

Mark & Haley Ler are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Megan Karly on Dec. 15. Proud grandparents are Sid & Anne Ler and Michael & Rena Yachad.

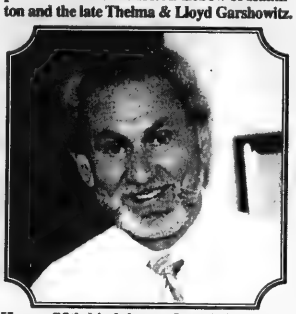
Sigal & Azriel are happy to announce the birth of their son Nitzan Yosef Har Lavan in Petach Tikvah, Israel. Proud bubbie and zayde are Gloria & Leonard Wiseberg and safta and saba Esther & Sholom Ben Ezra in Jerusalem.

Yonathan (Yoni) Lebow, son of Janice & Kenneth Lebow, celebrated his bar mitzvah Feb. 3 at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. A. Lebow of Hamilton and the late Thelma & Lloyd Garshowitz.

Marsha & Alex Raubvogel are happy to announce the engagement of their son Amir-Henry to Tami Girsky, daughter of Charles & Lois Girsky of Los Angeles.

Lin Goodman and Harry & Fran Goodman are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Dana Renelle to Warren Malcolm, son of Raymond & Janet Measures. Proud grandmother is Ada Routbard Eisen.

Murray Gottlieb celebrated his 85th birthday with daughter and son-in-law Evy & Laury Snow, and grandchildren and great-grandchildren Shane, Zachary, Joshua, Stacie and Brandon.



Happy 75th birthday to Joseph Peretz on Jan. 29 from children Kitty & Paul Tepperman and grandchildren Aimée Tepperman and Marni & Jason Appel.

Philip & Herta Getzler recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their children, grandchildren and friends.

Max & Myna Lazer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 24. Love from their children Mel & Marlyne, Bill & Fern, Carole, and grandchildren Tracy, Erin, Andrew, Lindsay, Jodi and Amanda.

Nadia & Josef Meszorer celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary Jan. 28. Mazel tov from children Mark & Cynthia and grandson Myles.

Mazel tov to Mr. & Mrs. B. Jacobs on their 50th wedding anniversary from their children Michael & Gloria Israelski, Victor & Ella Jacobs, Marty & Rachael Zaretsky, Garry & Shirley Greenbaum, Freddy & Mindy Jacobs and all their grandchildren.

Congratulations to Sam & Helen Donenfeld, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in December, from daughter and son-in-law Yossi & Chaia Belavin and son and daughter-in-law Harry & Francine Donenfeld. Hugs and kisses from grandchildren Tal, Ori, Cori, Eli and Haice.

Igal & Miriam Belavin of Haifa celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary in February. Congratulations from son and daughter-in-law Yossi & Chaia Belavin and grandchildren Tal & Ori.

Dov & Leah Krepel celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on March 7. Much love from their children Jack & Cheryl, Ruth & Alan and grandchildren Corinne, Josh, Bonnie, Adam, Aaron and Roxee.

Rose & Chaim Spitzen are thrilled to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with their children Honey & Irv Spitzen, Fran & David Weisman and six grandchildren.

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World leaders gather at anti-terror summit

BY NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Leaders of more than 30 countries were expected to attend an anti-terror summit in the Egyptian resort of Sharm el-Sheik. But within days after the conference was hastily announced, conflicting views emerged over whether the event would be a high-level photo opportunity or a real chance to formulate international policy against terrorism.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres hailed the gathering as a major step toward international co-operation against terror.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who is co-chairing the summit along with U.S. President Bill Clinton, downplayed the anti-terror angle, saying that the international conference was called "to support the peace process."

The summit was called in the wake of a series of recent terror bombings in Israel carried out by the militant Islamic Hamas group.

After invitations to attend the summit were sent out over the weekend, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and French President Jacques Chirac said they would participate, as did Jordan's King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Yemen, along with the Persian Gulf states of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates, said they would send representatives to the summit.

It was unlikely that Syria would attend, and Lebanon turned down its invitation.

Iran, Libya and Iraq – all of which flatly reject the Middle East peace process – were not invited.

The 15-member states of the European Union (EU) were to be represented at the summit by Italian Prime Minister Lamberto Dini and by the president of the EU Executive Commission, Jacques Santer.

But other EU leaders were expected to attend, including German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, British Prime Minister John Major and Chirac.

The EU is also planning to send a three-member ministerial delegation to Libya and Iran to press these countries to openly condemn terrorism. If these countries refuse to do so, the EU will reconsider its relations with them, the group's 15 foreign ministers announced last Sunday, after a two-day meeting in Palermo, Italy.

In a statement issued after the meeting, they expressed the view that the Mideast peace process must continue.

"The European Union must clearly express its solidarity with Israel, its condemnation of terrorism and its continued support for the peace process," said Susanna Agnelli, the foreign minister of Italy, which is currently chairing the EU Council of Ministers.

Meanwhile, Hamas dismissed the meeting.

"The so-called anti-terrorism conference is a hostile international conspiracy to end our people's jihad and resistance," a leaflet distributed by the Hamas military wing said.

It added that the summit is a "desperate attempt to save the Zionists from humiliation and lift their cowardly spirits which were destroyed by our martyrs' courage."

In the leaflet, Hamas vowed to continue its attacks against Israel.

Israeli right jockeys for position

BY SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Likud representatives conferred with their Tsomet counterparts last Sunday, in order to assure them that Likud has no intention of subordinating their interests to those of Gesher.

The talks with David Levy's Gesher party also resumed Sunday, in an effort to finalize the agreement on fielding a three-headed ticket.

However, Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu has already let it be known that he has no intention of giving in to what he sees as excessive demands on Levy's part regarding Levy's personal status.

Netanyahu assured Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan that his position will not be taken for granted, and will not be compromised as a result of Levy's demands. Doron Shmueli of Tsomet had warned that his party will back out of its deal with the Likud if Levy is given primacy over Eitan.

Both of Likud's new partners want to be recognized as Netanyahu's No. 2.

Levy also wanted a guarantee that Netanyahu will be the sole acting premier; that the clause allowing the prime minister to fire any of his ministers will not be employed against him; and that in addition he be given a senior portfolio and head a top ministerial committee.

Netanyahu is reportedly opposed to that, particularly because it directly injures Eitan's status.

Eitan argues that he had voluntarily ceded the second slot on the joint list to Levy but, though his name will appear in the third slot on the Knesset list, he wants recognition as Netanyahu's de-facto second-in-command.

Eitan notes that his party has a proven track record and won eight Knesset seats in 1992, while Levy's is an untried party with very poor prospects.

Netanyahu is reported to agree with this assessment. His improved position in the polls also allows him to play a tougher bargaining game with Levy, on whom Netanyahu grows less dependent as his prospects improve.

The Levy side, which earlier wanted to sign a deal, tried to minimize the disagreements. Levy dismissed them as "mere technicalities. Nothing more."

Arafat meets CIA officials

BY JERUSALEM POST STAFF
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM - Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat has met with a delegation of senior CIA officials in Gaza, in what was thought to be an unprecedented push for collaboration against Hamas terrorists, Palestinian sources said.

The hour-long, secretive meeting last Saturday with the CIA, at which Palestinian security leaders were also present, was held at Arafat's vacation home in Beit Hanoun near the Erez checkpoint.

However, officials close to Arafat refused to confirm or deny the meetings.

The American delegation was headed by deputy CIA director George Tenet, according to the sources who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The CIA told Arafat he had to arrest five key Izzadin Kassam figures believed to be behind the recent wave of suicide bomb attacks, the sources said.

They said Arafat presented the group with a list of security requests such as equipment, specially trained dogs, funds and expertise to discover explosives, as well as training in counterterrorism for the Palestinian police.

The *New York Times* reported last Saturday that the Americans were expected to press the Palestinians for information on Hamas, and to share technical expertise and data the CIA obtained from satellite photos and electronic eavesdropping.

U.S. officials were expected to press the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and Saudi Arabia to redouble efforts to block financial and political support for Hamas.

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The Canadian Branch of the
Association for the Soldiers of Israel
extends its condolences to the families of the soldiers and civilians killed in the terrorist attacks recently and wishes all the wounded a speedy and complete recovery.
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'We shall prevail'

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Of course, facts should not be covered up. But the media must evaluate its part in shaping the national will.

How are the results of the attacks presented? What is the journalistic value of pictures of profusely bleeding bodies or of a mother in tears at her son's grave? Do such photographs contribute to anything but demoralization?

Restraint, and consideration of the national interest, must walk hand in hand.

The media have a duty, at the very least, to avoid exaggeration and excessive repetitiveness. We have to find new ways to create national unity and a preparedness to face up to the dangers.

Too often, journalists ask interviewees whether or not they are frightened. The public must be aware of the realities in which it lives and of the fact that we have endured far more difficult periods in the past, and that in the future, we will yet face struggles and difficult periods, as long as the bitter hatred prompted by the Islamic fundamentalists continues to dominate our area.

This will be true no matter who leads the government.

To date, every government in Israel has had to face up to the struggle against Arab terrorism. It is safe to assume that in this respect there will be no major change in the future. The problem facing the nation today is not who will destroy the forces of terror; it is a question of who is capable of best leading the nation.

It is encouraging to note the responsible national approach of the opposition in supporting the prime minister in these difficult days.

For some 50 years, I have observed Shimon Peres in periods of crisis and seeming hopelessness. He was always capable of standing up to the most trying challenges calmly, sensibly and with courage in the most difficult and frustrating circumstances.

However, we must not deceive ourselves: There are no simple or easy solutions. As long as we are part of the Middle East with its pervasive presence of Islamic fundamentalism, we and other societies around us will have to struggle against terror.

No matter who leads the country, terrorism will continue. Under the conditions prevailing in the area today, it cannot be curbed as long as it is initiated and financed by Iran.

We have to struggle against terror relentlessly, with all the weapons at our disposal. But I do not see any purpose in stopping the peace process, which means returning to the intifadah, and perhaps worse.

We have to insist, as indeed the government is doing, that the Palestinian Authority fulfils its part of the agreement and takes an active part in wiping out terrorism.

I am convinced that this time too, we shall prevail.

Chaim Herzog was president of Israel from 1983-1993.

Acting against Hamas

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Victor said he was heartened by the Canadian response to the terrorist outrages. The participation of Chrétien and Axworthy at the international summit indicated the seriousness with which Canadian officials are treating the problem.

"Canada has taken a very active role on the international scene in countering terrorism," he said.

Referring to his meeting with Axworthy, Victor said the minister was "anguished" at the loss of life in Israel. He also "demonstrated a complete grasp of the complexities of the issue, the scope of the challenge facing the international community in eradicating the scourge of terrorism and the devastating toll these bombings have had on Israeli society and the peace process."

Victor said the CIC urged federal authorities to take steps to freeze the assets of any groups raising money for terrorists and to declare such funding illegal. Furthermore, organizations raising the money should have their charitable status revoked, he added.

The CIC also urged Axworthy "to make it clear to Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority (PA) that Canada's financial support of the PA is dependent not just on denunciation but [on the] complete disarmament of Hamas and Islamic Jihad and the renunciation of the Palestinian Covenant calling for the destruction of Israel."

FUNERAL OF A LEADER

Gur Hasidim crowd around the shroud-covered body of their leader Rabbi Pinhas Menahem Alter who died March 7 at the age of 69. Thousands of followers turned out in the pouring rain for the funeral through the streets of the Mea Shearim neighborhood in Jerusalem. Rabbi Alter [inset] was president of the Council of Torah Sages, a body of rabbis that directs the Agudath Israel Party that for years played a pivotal role in Israeli politics. [RNS photo]

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Hezbollah bomb kills one soldier, wounds nine

BY DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Staff Sgt. Erez David, 19, of Caesarea, was killed and five other soldiers wounded, one of them critically, in south Lebanon last Sunday.

The attack, in which four other soldiers were wounded, occurred less than 500 metres from the Fatmah border crossing point, near Metulla.

Hezbollah gunmen detonated a roadside bomb next to their patrol on the outskirts of Klia village, as they were travelling from Marjayoun to Metulla.

The device had apparently been planted in nearby olive groves, most probably with the collaboration of residents of the zone, even though those in Klia, a Shi'ite village, are considered to be friendly to Israel and the South Lebanese Army (SLA).

The route itself is used daily by hundreds of IDF troops and Lebanese civilians crossing into and out of Israel, including those from Klia, many of whom work in Israel.

The wounded soldiers were evacuated by helicopter to Haifa's Rambam Hospital. Deputy hospital director Dr. Zvi Ben-Ishai said one of the wounded was admitted in critical condition, while another was suffering from serious wounds.

He said the other two were suffering from light to moderate wounds, all of them as a result of shrapnel, and all of them had undergone surgery.

Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the attack, as well as for long-range mortar attacks in the Beaufort and Ali Tahr regions in the eastern sector of the zone that same day.

IDF and SLA gunners blasted suspected terrorist targets north of the zone in response to the attacks. There were no immediate reports of any casualties among the attackers or any civilians.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

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Gulf War ushered in era of negotiations

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

The Gulf War ended five years ago last month, ushering in an era of nascent Arab-Israeli amity.

On Feb. 28, 1991, the United States, having driven Iraq out of Kuwait in a six-week war climaxed by a 100-hour ground offensive, declared a unilateral ceasefire. As this happened, the elements of an Arab-Israeli settlement fell into place.

Within eight months of Iraq's rout, the Madrid peace conference — co-sponsored by the United States and the former Soviet Union — took place.

The Madrid process was a great catalyst, spawning talks in Washington between Israel and its Arab neighbors, namely Jordan (which also represented the PLO), Syria and Lebanon.

Madrid, in turn, gave birth to the Oslo peace process, in which Israel negotiated directly with the PLO, and Jordan finally signed a long-awaited peace treaty with Israel.

Ironically enough, the crisis in the Persian Gulf, triggered by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, set the stage for a diplomatic resolution of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

It was Saddam Hussein — the Iraqi strongman — who deliberately established a linkage between Kuwait, Israel and the Palestinians. In this respect, though indirectly, he played a pivotal role in pushing Israel and the Arabs to the negotiating table.

Hussein purposely created the link in order to justify his aggression against Kuwait (supposedly Iraq's 19th province) and to mute Arab criticism of his invasion.

Cynically portraying himself as a champion of the Arab cause, Hussein declared that the "restoration" of Kuwait to its Iraqi "motherland" was the first step toward the "liberation of Jerusalem."

Hussein was a charter member of the anti-Israel camp, having opposed the 1978 Camp David Accords and the 1979 Israel-Egypt peace treaty and, on the eve of his Kuwaiti adventure, having threatened to "burn half of Israel."

On Aug. 12, 1990, Hussein unveiled his first formal initiative for defusing the crisis in the Persian Gulf. It was in keeping with his objective of sowing confusion within Arab ranks and of trying to scuttle the U.S.-led anti-Iraqi coalition.

Linking Kuwait with the Palestinian question, Hussein proposed a comprehensive solution of all the problems besetting the Middle East. He called for an "immediate and unconditional" withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian forces from the territories and from Lebanon, respectively. Only then, he suggested, could there be "an arrangement" to sort out the mess in Kuwait.

On Sept. 30, Hussein launched his second diplomatic blitz to ease the growing allied pressure on Iraq. He invited France, long Iraq's closest ally in the West, to open a "debate" on salient Middle Eastern issues, notably Kuwait and Israel's occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights.

On Oct. 9, following the shooting deaths of 19 Palestinians in East Jerusalem by Israeli police, Hussein was at it again. In a message, Hussein linked the killings to Kuwait, claiming that Israel had exploited the presence of U.S. troops in the region to heighten tensions with the Palestinians. Proceeding from this position, he demanded an Israeli evacuation of the territories and a departure of U.S. troops from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States.

Hussein's transparent ploy blew up in his face.

Contrary to his wishes, much of the Arab world rallied behind Kuwait and remained loyal to the coalition ranged against Iraq. And Western leaders, from George Bush to François Mittrerand, resolutely rejected linkage.

However, as the crisis in the Persian Gulf deepened, the Western allies became increasingly receptive to the Arab consensus that an Iraqi pullout from Kuwait should be matched by a settlement of the Palestinians' grievances against Israel.

Once hostilities in the Persian Gulf commenced, Iraq made good on promises to fire Scud missiles at Israeli cities. Iraq hoped that the tactic would draw Israel into the war and thereby shatter the coalition.

Hussein's well-laid plan fizzled, and Iraq went down to ignominious defeat. But on Jan. 28, 1991, a full month before the Iraqi army was crushed, Bush pledged to take the lead in post-war efforts "to bring peace" to the Arab-Israeli arena.

On March 4, the U.S. secretary of state, James Baker, announced a two-track approach to dealing with the Arab-Israeli dispute. Two days later, Bush fleshed out the details, linking Israel's need for security with the "legitimate political rights" of the Palestinians.

In the same month, Baker embarked on the first of eight trips to the region to coax the combatants into peace negotiations. By October 1991, thanks in part to Saddam Hussein's self-serving rhetoric, the Madrid conference, with its vision of a new Middle East, had become a reality.

The Week in Israel

March 4

• Four IDF soldiers were killed and nine injured, five seriously, in southern Lebanon. The soldiers killed were: Lt.-Col. Hussein Amar; Lt. Uri Helman; Sgt. Maj. Fouz Muhamad Ibrahim; First Sgt. Mahmoud Juma'a.

• The names of the victims of the Sunday morning Jerusalem bombing were released. Sgt. Haim Amedi,19; Sarina Angel, 45; Maya Birkan, 59; Senior NCO Uzi Cohen, 54; Raya Daushvili, 55; Mirze Gifa, 39; Marian Grefan, 40; Dmitru Kokarascu, 43; Valerian Krasyon, 44; Sgt. Yoni Levy, 21; Dominic Lunca, 29; Daniel Patenka, 33; Gavriel Shamashvili, 43; Shemtov Shiekh, 63; Anna Shingeloff, 36; Gidi Taspinish, 23; George Yonan, 38; Naima Zargary, 66.

March 5

• The names of the victims of the Monday afternoon Tel Aviv bombing were released. Inbar Atiya, 21; Gail Belkin, 48; Sylvia Bernstein, 73; Hadas Dror, 15; Tali Gordon, 24; Dana Gutman, 14; Yovav Levy, 13; Leah Mizrahi, 60; Rahel Sela, 82; Bat-Hen Shahak, 15; Dan Tversky, 58; Staff Sgt. Assaf Wachs, 21; Kobi Zaharon, 13.

March 6

• David Levy agreed to forego running for prime minister and to join his Gesher party to the Likud party electoral list .

March 7

• Visiting French and German foreign ministers avoided paying a visit to Orient House.

March 8

• Foreign Minister Ehud Barak on Galei Zahal: "Israel is giving Arafat a last and relatively short chance to dismantle the terrorist organizations in the autonomous areas. If he doesn't do it, Israel will dismantle the organizations, and from this there could be far-reaching repercussions."

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• Around 2,000 people were expected to attend four conferences in Jerusalem, including a conference on The Impact of Informational Technology and on Accelerator Mass Spectrometry.

Bill seeks Orient House closure

BY NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – The opposition in the Knesset succeeded last week in passing a first reading of a bill to close Orient House, the PLO's de facto headquarters in eastern Jerusalem.

Lawmakers approved the bill proposed by Likud Knesset member Yehoshua Matza, in a 49-36 vote. To become law, the bill has to be passed in second and third readings.

The Labor party was reportedly unable to muster a majority because members were busy with campaigns for approaching primaries.

In a related development, the foreign ministers of Germany and France reportedly decided not to visit Orient House during their trips to the region this week.

Orient House has often been the focus of Israeli-Palestinian tensions.

Attempts by Palestinian officials to hold meetings there with foreign leaders have been criticized by Israel, which wants to block Palestinian claims to Jerusalem as the future capital of a Palestinian state.

Last week Israeli police prevented Palestinian officials from meeting at Orient House.

Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal made the decision after receiving information that Faisal Husseini, the leading Palestinian official in Jerusalem, had invited Palestinian Authority officials to meet there.

After discussions between Husseini and Jerusalem Police Chief Aryeh Amit, journalists were allowed into Orient House, where Husseini read a prepared statement.

"We are condemning these explosions," he said, referring to the recent series of terror attacks.

Mandela to meet with Hamas

BY SUZANNE BELLIG
Jewish Telegraphic Ageny

JERUSALEM – Jewish communal leaders and leading South African politicians have reacted sharply to President Nelson Mandela's statement that he would meet with representatives of Hamas.

Members of the Islamic fundamentalist movement are said to be planning to attend a conference on the Middle East next month in Cape Town. The conclave is being held under the joint auspices of the Afro-Middle East Centre for Research and Information and the Centre for Contemporary Islam.

Mandela has condemned the recent series of terrorist bombings in Israel. But he said he would be willing to meet with the Hamas representatives.

"My attitude is to see everybody who wants to see me, whether I agree with his policy or not," Mandela said.

"It sometimes helps because I'm able to state my policy to them and to let them defend their own policy if they can."

Tony Leon, the leader of South Africa's Democratic Party, strongly disagreed.

"If the president believes that by meeting with Hamas he can change their views, he is sadly mistaken,'" Leon said.

Marlene Bethlehem, national chair of the South Africa Jewish Board of Deputies, and Joe Simon, chair of the South Africa Zionist Federation, called on "responsible politicians" not to meet with Hamas.

"We are angry that these people, whose hands are dripping with blood, intend visiting our country. Indeed, their terror deeds have been condemned by all – including our own government."

Perhaps the most poignant plea came from Robyn Lipner, whose grandmother, Sylvia Bernstein, 73, formerly of Johannesburg, and whose aunt, Gail Belkin, 48, formerly of Durban, were killed in the March 4 Tel Aviv bomb blast carried out by a Hamas terrorist.

"My family were innocent people. I believe it's absolutely disgusting and an insult that Hamas is coming to South Africa. I have tremendous respect for Nelson Mandela, but I don't think Hamas deserves to be met," she said.

A third former South African, Tali Gordon, 24, was also killed in the Tel Aviv blast.

Israeli Embassy spokesperson Ze'ev Luria said the government should kick out any Hamas member attempting to enter the country.

"The Hamas is a terrorist organization and all peace-loving states and leaders must join in the fight against this murderous movement," Luria said in a statement.

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LifeStyle

Beverly Hills Caterers and Le Parc: a superb kosher combination

As you are probably aware, in fall '95 Le Parc welcomed Raphy Amar as its exclusive kosher caterer and celebrated the opening of its permanent kosher kitchen.

Just how successful has the arrangement been? Successful enough that some six months later, Le Parc has already hosted a "staggering" number of affairs "of every conceivable type," says Raphy. "I expected we would be well received, but the response has surpassed my wildest expectations" he says. "It's as if we'd been here for years."

In a sense, of course, they *have* — with Le Parc's reputation already well-established as *the* facility in Toronto, and Raphy similarly renowned for his kosher catering expertise in Beverly Hills (California) and Toronto. Raphy is also the exclusive kosher caterer to both Adath Shalom and Shaar Shalom Congregations.

The master plan at Le Parc was not only to prepare superb glatt kosher cuisine under strict supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (C.O.R.), but also to make it affordable. Thus was born the $55/$65 promotion (detailed below), which has proven so popular that it has been held over to June 30/96.

Highlighting the month of January at Le Parc was the incredibly successful *We are Having a Party*, which brought together a wide variety of bridal exhibitors under Le Parc's spacious roof. Raphy's food stations stole the show. Of note were some 20 appetizers, delicious poached salmon, and the Montreal smoked meat station. The tricolour fusili with sundried tomatoes, pesto and pine nuts was to die for. Also in evidence was an exquisite sweet table decorated with the ice and watermelon sculptures featured previously in these pages.

Le Parc's weekday wedding advantage

Many important wedding decisions were made during that evening, and exhibitors and guests alike are already eagerly looking forward to next year's show.

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חג שמח

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In Deblins Superstore at 39 Orfus Rd., the first thing you notice is color: pastels, primary colors and earth tones form lively contrasts with white and ivory. And if the brightness of the fabrics makes Deblins a delight to the eyes, the prices make it a pleasure for the pocketbook.

The Chitiz family, with decades of experience in the linen trade, operates Deblins on the principle of maximum quality, variety and service at minimum cost—or, to quote President Ellis Chitiz, "boutique quality at warehouse prices". This policy is successful; all three locations are always busy.

Deblins offers you quality merchandise for every room in your home. On the walls by the entrance, for example, are throw rugs with tapestry-like scenes on triple-woven 100% cotton. Moreover, all three stores—on Orfus Rd., in Thornhill and in Mississauga—carry the same merchandise at the same low prices. "If you find a better price elsewhere," Ellis urges, "buy it; but nine times out of ten, considering price, quality and service together, Deblins is the best."

Deblins' policy earns plenty of repeat business, even among those who comparison shop. Some customers compare prices as far away as Florida. Ellis challenges people to find better deals; he respects their ability to judge for themselves. All he asks is that they "compare apples with apples". Only when you look at identical products does a price difference mean anything.

You can buy all your dry goods and accessories at Deblins; the selection is huge. For example, there is a wide assortment of ready-made curtains, valances and draperies, chosen to complement sheet designs—and drapery hardware to match, including wrought-iron rods in different colors with a variety of finials.

Deblins has your Seder table needs well covered

Deblins also offers a wealth of table linens, whether for the Seder, Shabbos dinner or informal meals. They carry tablecloths up to 144" long; Visa no-iron, no-stain tablecloths come in ten sizes and 17 colors. Also, there are table rounds, table pads, napkins and napkin rings to dress up your table.

There are 18 bed settings on display at the Orfus Road store, each in a vignette with matching bathwear and accessories, in a variety of styles and price ranges—including a child's bunk with accessories in bright blue. Deblins' sheet selection includes Croscill, Wamsutta, Revman, Martex, Carrington, Springmaid and Fieldcrest; the Veratex, Crown Craft and Revelle lines, printed in Israel, come in ten different designs.

Pillow covers, duvets, duvet covers, shams and bed skirts are well represented. There are white Canadian goose-down duvets in all weights and sizes, including winter-weight duvets for your comfort in the cold months. There are five different duvet styles, nine pillow styles, and sheets for odd-sized length, width or depth of mattress.

The towel selection is just as impressive: Fieldcrest Royal Velvet in 24 solid colors as well as Jacquard and Spirella printed towels. Bathroom accessories include shower curtains, mats, soap dishes, tumblers, toothbrush and waste baskets, tissue and lotion dispensers.

Deblins ships all over the world, but offers boutique-style personal service. Questions are answered promptly and expertly, on everything from fabric care to color co-ordination. In the unlikely event you don't find exactly what you want, Deblins will order it, or custom-make it at a good price for you. "No problem" is a favorite expression here.

Deblins Superstore is a few minutes north of Lawrence, west off Dufferin; call (416) 782-2910. The other stores are in the Promenade Mall in Thornhill, (905) 709-0007; and the Mississauga Home and Design Centre at the corner of Winston Churchill and Dundas, (905) 820-1509. All three locations are open seven days a week.

IF YOU FIND A BETTER PRICE ANYWHERE ELSE,

BUY IT.

A lot of stores today offer a *price guarantee.* That means if you find a lower price anywhere else, they'll match it. So after running around to find a better price, all you're left with is the option to pay the same price somewhere else.

But isn't *the best price* what you're really looking for? Then shop at Deblins Linens. We don't match prices. Our goal is to offer you the lowest price in the first place. Sure, you might find an odd item at a lower price in another store, but don't come rushing back to Deblins to pay the same price. Just buy it. We're confident that when you compare both quality and price, nine times out of ten you'll get the better deal at Deblins ....not just the same deal.

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Floral Trellis Queen Woven Duvet Covers	**$99.99**
100% Cotton Bath Mats	**$5.99**
Cabana Striped 100% Cotton Beach Towels	**$9.99**
Twin Vellux Blankets	**$29.99**
Buy a second Vellux Blanket for just	**$9.99**
48" - 84" Drapery Rods (2 1/2" wide)	**2 for $19**
Vinyl Shower Curtains from	**$9.99**
Cloth Napkins from	**$1.99**
Cotton Damask Tablecloths (63" x 84")	**$24.99**

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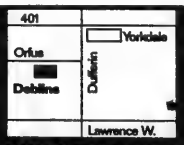

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

The Bagel Wars Heat Up!

Bagel-lovers, prepare! The first area franchise of Montreal's phenomenally-successful **R.E.A.L Bagel** has just opened at **404 Steeles Avenue West**, and we highly recommend that you drop by the store to try them. Made in the traditional European way — individually hand-rolled, boiled, then baked in a wood-burning oven — **R.E.A.L Bagel**'s all-natural "secret" recipe produces a bagel that is crispier on the outside and chewier on the inside than its competitors. You *will* taste the difference!

Just about a year ago, Nora and Donnie Furman finally made the decision they had been contemplating for years — to leave Montreal and move here! The fact that they had been supplying their Toronto friends with R.E.A.L Bagels for years convinced them to obtain a franchise to introduce the product to Metro. They encouraged his brother Larry and wife Shari to join them in this venture, and both families moved to Thornhill late last year. Nora and Larry recently spent 4 weeks at the head office's "Bagel Training School" in Montreal learning all the tricks of the bagel trade.

But ... **R.E.A.L Bagel** is much more than what its name suggests. Not only does the store feature the signature bagels in more than 12 varieties, but the owners have decided to "import" several fabulous take-out items that ex-Montrealers know well, such as prepared foods from Moishe's Famous Steak House, genuine Montreal smoked meat, Summersweet patés, and the "to die for" cinnamon danish in the pan from Chomedey's incomparable 'Dirty Bakery'. They also carry a wide variety of deli meats and cheeses, including regular and "lite" cream cheese, breads and pastries, store-branded smoked salmon, assorted gourmet salads, Wildly Delicious preserves, vinegars and oils, and Green Mountain specialty coffees. Is your mouth starting to water yet?

Come visit the attractive, open-concept store where you can watch the bagels being made. Samples will be available at all times, as well as free coffee. For extra value, a **R.E.A.L Bagel** dozen is always 12 + 1! Be sure to take advantage of weekly specials. The store is open 7 days a week from 7 a.m. -11 p.m.

Is the Furman family concerned about entering the bagel wars? Not at all. The company's motto is: **"If it's not from R.E.A.L Bagel, it's not a real bagel"**, so when you think about it, there's no contest!

R.E.A.L BAGEL

404 STEELES AVENUE WEST

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Traditional, hand-rolled Montreal-style
Freshly baked "in view"

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Chomedey's Famous "Dirty Bakery" Danishes
Green Mountain Specialty Coffees

OPENING SPECIAL!!
3 FREE BAGELS
WITH EVERY $10 PURCHASE (WITH COUPON)

SAMPLES GALORE!!!
Make sure to pick up your R.E.A.L Bagel Collector Card
(Buy ten dozen, get one free)
STORE HOURS: 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

Remember, if it's not from R.E.A.L Bagel, it's not a real bagel!

What singles are asking for ... J.S.R. delivers

In a recent interview, **Jewish Singles Registry of Toronto** director Rob Singer, spoke enthusiastically, on what has become one of the fastest, easiest, and least threatening ways for Jewish singles to meet.

Q: What makes The Registry so unique?

A: For one thing, our concept is simple, fast, and fun. **J.S.R.** members get to select for themselves who they would like to go out with by reviewing detailed and comprehensive biography profiles. These include **photographs**, providing members with a clear "picture" of what their potential partner is all about. Our members have the options of **A)** ***choosing for themselves*** who they would like to go out with **B)** accepting a date when they are chosen, or **C)** a combination of both.

Q: How much information is on the biography/profile?

A: The biographies are quite extensive, with the format consisting of a 2-page questionnaire, with members being asked to include specific information about themselves, as well as what they are looking for in a potential partner. Hobbies, interests, and community involvement are just a few of the many questions answered, while the photograph attached to each file enhances what has been read. This gives members a very detailed overview of the person.

Q: With all that information, how do you respect confidentiality?

A: In a service like the Registry confidentiality takes first priority. Each file contains the member's first name and a designated code number. No last name, address or phone number is ever shown, and a member's first name and phone number are only disclosed once both parties have agreed.

Q: How large is your membership?

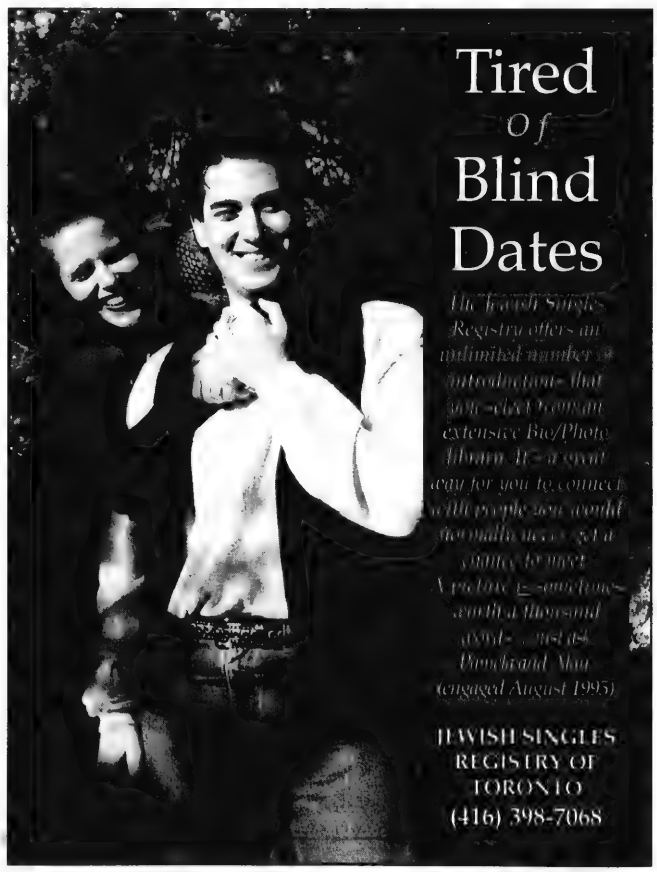
A: We are fast approaching the 1,000 member mark in Toronto alone, and have an additional 250 files from our Montreal and Ottawa offices. What makes this number so special is that we are only 3½ years old. Word of mouth advertising and a high "success rate" have generated a record number of new members joining our service.

Q: How do you define "success rate"?

A: In today's society it has become increasingly difficult for Jewish singles to meet one another. The **J.S.R.** has been designed and implemented to alleviate this problem and has done so with phenomenal results. Our system has become one of the fastest and easiest ways for Jewish singles to meet. Members control how active they want their files to be. The concept is so successful that we are averaging an engagement every 7½ weeks.

Q: How does one contact the J.S.R.?

A: It's so simple. We are open 6 days a week, including evening hours and Sundays. If for any reason you cannot reach us in person, just leave us a message and we will return your call at your convenience. Our phone number is **(416) 398-7068.**



LifeStyle

A Celebration of Stars

How wonderful it is to plan a simcha. There are so many details to be looked after. This is the perfect opportunity for anyone to accomplish all their party planning in one exciting evening.

"In just one show we have assembled over 40 professional "stars" of the party industry to display their wonderful products and services, says show co-ordinator and party consultant Marla Kay.

The beautiful ballrooms of The Richmond Hill Country Club is the perfect setting not only for this show but for your next celebration. You will be able to sample the delicious offerings of Encore Food with Elegance and feast your eyes on the delectible food displays.

At 7:30 p.m., Ines Di Santo, owner/designer of Chez Moi will present her '96 collection on a fabulous runway fashion show featuring bridal, eveningwear and bat mitzvah creations. These will be accompanied by formal wear designs by Frances Fine Clothiers. The decorations and bouquets for the fashion show will be done by Evelyn Baker Floral Design and in addition, Air Magic will create some added excitement by displaying indoor pyrotechnic fireworks. The fantastic sounds of Cory Mandell Entertainment Group will provide electrifying music to bring the entire show together.

Liberty Silver and The Original Starsband, The Hourglass Orchestra, The Peppermills and The Magic Touch Orchestra will provide spectacular live entertainment to add to the ambience of the show.

When you attend The Celebration of Stars, your entire party needs will be represented and you will be able to meet our party's finest on an informal basis. You have the luxury of making an instant decision based on what you have seen, heard or tasted or mull it over and decide at a later date. Many of the exhibitors will be offering show discounts and numerous give-aways. Each of the various stages of party planning will be available and by having more than one company displaying their unique talents in a particular category, you have the choice of which individual will suit your needs.

"People often have the misconception that planning a Wedding, Bar or Bat Mitzvah has to be a stressful and tedious experience," states Marla Kay. "At The Celebration of Stars, you can choose from a variety of party professionals who strive to maintain the highest standards of excellence in their particular area of expertise. We are offering you bridal and party consultants, catering, clergy, invitations, florists, make-up artists, personalized party favours, photography, videography, calligraphy, cakes, creative room decor and centrepieces, orchestras, DJ's, even alternative entertainment for your guests such as virtual reality and glass blowers."

Come and see for yourself that The Celebration of Stars has got it all and is one show that you don't want to miss.

Admission and parking is free and there will be shuttle buses available from the Richmond Hill Golf Club when the Richmond Hill Country Club parking lot becomes full.

Please join us.

A Celebration of Stars

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 1996
6 PM - 11 PM

Party Planning with the Best!

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Warmer Times

March FURNACE EMERGENCY SAFETY UPDATE 1996

Amazing New Tune-Up Guarantees Your Furnace Won't Break Down ... Or This Service Is FREE!

No One Else In My Field Makes You This Bold Guarantee!

EAST YORK. Now you can have your furnace rejuvenated to "Factory Fresh" condition. And I guarantee it won't cost you a penny! In fact, you'll make a profit.

As you already know, your furnace gets dirty; out of alignment; less efficient; and wears out with age. What you probably don't know is that it wears out about twice as fast as it should!

In fact, most furnaces die in "middle age" and use 1/3 to 1/2 *more* fuel than they need to.

But I've created a fascinating solution to this problem that will make your home more comfortable, safe and save you a pot full of money ... with a special offer I hope you'll find irresistable.

FREE Electronic Carbon Monoxide Detector

Now, I know what you're thinking ... "What's the catch? Where's the gimmick? Are you completely nuts?"

But there's a method to my madness. I have two reasons for letting you get this much service.

First, my business is normally slow during March. And I decided that rather than lay off my top technicians, (and add to the unemployment statistics), I would strip out everything but my raw cost and keep my technicians busy.

Second, I'll actually make money on this in the long run anyway. Most people who sample my service like it so much they use me again at my normal prices (which, by the way, are great compared to my competition). So both of us win. You'll just win sooner than I will.

Anyway, doesn't it just make sense to get this service so your family doesn't have to live with the uncertainty of an unsafe furnace?

Risk Free Money-Back Guarantee

Get your furnace restored to "Factory Fresh" condition for only $99 and here's my guarantee to you:

Guarantee: If your furnace breaks down this winter and needs repairs for any reason, I'll refund your $99 ... no questions asked!

Since it can cost you thousands of dollars to replace your furnace; and since you have absolutely no risk; doesn't it just make sense to give my tune-up a try?

It's easy, just call Mary, my dispatcher, and she will schedule a "Champion Technician" to your home.

FREE Electronic Carbon Monoxide Detector
If you call in the next 3 days
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I Will Have One Of My Champion Technicians™ Perform All This To Rejuvenate Your Furnace

- ✔ Electronically test airflow passage for carbon monoxide
- ✔ Check and clean burners for more efficient burning
- ✔ Vacuum clean and brush heat exchanger
- ✔ Inspect heat exchanger for cracks, holes and separations
- ✔ Remove smoke pipe and vacuum to prevent blockage
- ✔ Clean furnace filter for less restriction
- ✔ Tighten all wire connections for safety
- ✔ Electronically check for natural gas leaks to prevent fire
- ✔ Clean blower housing and remove all debris
- ✔ Adjust fan belt (if necessary) to maximize efficiency
- ✔ Test thermostat for proper anticipator and cycle setting
- ✔ Test fan and furnace limit for safety
- ✔ Test gas valve to reduce delayed ignition
- ✔ Inspect flue or chimney for blockage
- ✔ Balance motor for reduced wear
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Darrel Yashinsky
Owner: Darrel Yashinsky

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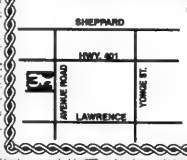

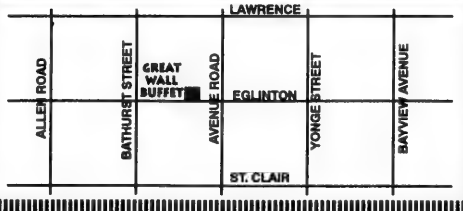

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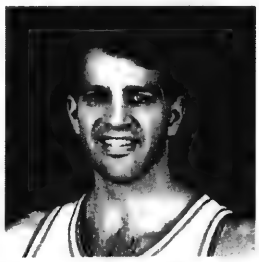
Schayes carries on family tradition in the NBA

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter



Dan Schayes

MIAMI — They say the apple doesn't fall far from the tree and in the case of hoopster Dan Schayes, that's meant a long and productive career in the NBA.

Last December, Schayes inked a one-year contract with the Miami Heat, extending his playing streak in the world's top basketball league to 15 years.

His father, the legendary Dolph Schayes, played with the Syracuse Nationals and Philadelphia 76ers from 1948-63, first in the National Basketball League (NBL) and then in the NBA. When he retired, the future Hall-of-Famer had racked up one NBA championship (1955) and had scored more points (19,249) than any other player up to that time.

Although he hasn't put up the numbers his father did, Schayes has scored 8,112 points, he's been in the league just as long and he's made himself a valuable player to a host of teams as he enters the twilight of his career.

In the last four years, he's played for the Milwaukee Bucks, Los Angeles Lakers, Phoenix Suns and now, the Heat. Prior to that, he spent seven-and-a-half years with Denver after starting his career with the Utah Jazz.

"I bring a positive influence from the knowlege-of-the-game standpoint and a positive influence in the dressing room," Schayes said recently following a grueling two-and-a-half hour practice under head coach Pat Riley.

On the court, Schayes, a six-foot-eleven, 276-lb. centre, fits in well with the Heat's emphasis on defence. He comes off the bench to "direct traffic," block shots and snag his share of rebounds. Playing in 25 of the Heat's first 59 games, he grabbed 27 offensive and 51 defensive rebounds (3.1 per game) while averaging only 14.4 minutes per outing.

Schayes told *The CJN* he'd like more playing time but he's happy with his decision to sign with Miami. After all, the weather is warm, he's fit in well with the team and there's lots of room for growth with an up and coming team. He's even survived the Heat's recent shakeup that saw the team add seven new players since December.

"He's a smart player who possesses good passing skills," coach Riley told a Miami publication. "He's a savvy player who has good court sense and knows how to play the game."

With his background, it's no surprise Schayes knows how to play the game.

"As young as I can remember, basketball was part of everyday life," Schayes said. Although his father never pushed him into the sport, basketball was all around him. In 1970, at age 11, Schayes was ball boy for the Buffalo Braves, which his father coached; in 1972, he attended his father's induction into the basketball Hall of Fame; for many years, his father's friends from the basketball world would drop by the house and talk about the game.

As a high school senior, Schayes helped a young U.S. team beat the favored Israelis, then European champs, in the finals of the 1977 Maccabiah Games. It took two free throws in the final three seconds to get the gold, he recalls.

In 1981, he captured his second Maccabiah gold. Both were great experiences, he said, adding he is currently a member of the U.S. Maccabi board of directors.

At Syracuse, Schayes studied chemistry and was named an Academic All-American.

After being drafted 13th overall by the Jazz in 1981, he joined the team as a centre who became known for being equally adept at long-range jumpers as short range layups.

Shayes is reputed to be the only Jew currently playing in the NBA, a far cry from his father's era when many toiled in the NBA and NBL.

In the 1930s and '40s, excellence in sports offered a way out of poverty for many Jews, he said. As Jews "became more affluent, sports became more of a hobby than a necessity."

Currently, the best prospect to carry on the Jewish tradition in the NBA is Doron Scheffer, an Israeli-born point guard with the University of Connecticut Huskies.

"I'm hanging on as long as I can," jokes Schayes.

Although he's 36 — the basketball equivalent of 65 in people years — Schayes believes he's still got a few more seasons left in him. But he and his wife Wendy Lucero, an Olympic springboard diver and broadcaster, have begun discussing life after the NBA. One of his options is to pursue TV commentary while another is to go into business with his father, he said.

Bathurst Jewish Centre
BloorJCC

J.C.C. MACCABI YOUTH GAMES
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August 18-23, 1996 West Orange, New Jersey
Toronto Team Tryouts

Boys' Basketball	Sun. Mar. 24, Wed. Mar. 27, Mon. Apr. 1 7:30 -9:30 p.m. (Set of 3 required tryouts)
Girls' Basketball	Tues. Mar. 26, Thur. Mar. 28, Sun. Mar. 31 8-10 p.m. (Set of 3 required tryouts)
Volleyball	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Mon. Mar. 25, Tues. Mar. 26, Tues. Apr. 2 8-10 p.m. (Set of 3 required tryouts)
Soccer	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Tues. April 2, 6:30-8 p.m.
Tennis	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Mon. March 25, 7-8:30 p.m.
Track	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Swimming	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Golf	Boys' teams and Girls' teams Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Boys' Baseball	Sun. March 31, 12-1:30 p.m.
Girls' Softball	Sun. March 31, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Since the maximum Toronto contingent is 90 athletes, it is possible that some of the above sports or gender/age groups may not be represented on the final team attending the Games. Notwithstanding the formal and fair tryout format, the final decision for inclusion on the team is at the discretion of the coaches and committee.

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Travel, Arts & Business

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Sailing aficionado makes business out of boating

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Remember the TV commercial of a few years ago in which an entrepreneur loved his electric razor so much he bought the company?

Well, Stephen Black is as enthusiastic about his boat business as that clean-shaven businessman was about his razor.

Years ago, he fell in love with the Hunter line of sailing yachts and in 1993, he and his brother Tevy got into the business, incorporating Jatis Yacht Sales and Services and obtaining the eastern Canada franchise for Hunters.

Eight of the Hunter family of boats were recently on display at the annual Toronto Indoor Boat Show — more than any other sailboat — and spectators could mount the yachts themselves for an up-close and personal look at the wind-driven vessels.

The Hunters are known for their large cockpit, roominess below, good ventilation and quality of construction, and for retaining their value over time, Black said.

Boats can range in price from $16,000 for a 19-footer to $265,000 for a roomy 42-foot centre cockpit sailboat.

The 33½-foot boat was the most popular in 1995, selling for between $117,000 and $120,000. The 29½-foot boat went for about $80,000. Six of each were sold last year.

For Stephen Black, the boat business is a line of work that's near and dear to his heart. He's been sailing since his bar mitzvah year back in the late 1950s.

"I took to sailing like a fish to water," Black recalls, while pointing out that his entire family are sailing enthusiasts. His 80-year-old mother, Ann, still spends each summer living on board her 40-foot boat at the mostly Jewish Island Yacht Club (IYC), he said.

As 13-year-olds, Stephen and his twin brother Ian joined the IYC's junior club and began sailing Nordbergs.

At 18 or so, Stephen became the head instructor for juniors and also participated in the club's Monday night regattas.

The exhiliration of competitive racing attracted him to the sport and during his many years on Lake Ontario, he's won numerous sailing trophies.

In 1986, Tevy bought a 37-foot Hunter "and fell in love with the boat."

Stephen later bought the same boat but removed the table and door, made it lighter, put on a spinnaker (the bulbous sail mounted at the front that allows the wind to push the boat forward) and raced it.

The brothers loved the Hunters so much they decided to approach the boat's manufacturers, the Hunter Marine Corp. of Alachua, Fla., for the dealership. The Americans, in turn, after examining the brothers' business background in property development, granted them the dealership.

Black said it wasn't just the love of sailing that got them into the business. "It's too much work to get into just for the love of boating. If you want to sail, you don't get into this business. It's incredible how much time it takes."

The sailing yacht business "is just like anything else. If the economy goes up, the business goes up. It's like any other luxury item."

Aficionados love the sailing lifestyle and even when times get tough, they keep their connection to the sport by "trading down."

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Thieves strike at Yorkville gallery

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Some 35 paintings and etchings valued at more than $150,000 were stolen from Gallery Louise Smith on Prince Arthur Ave. in Yorkville, early in the morning on Feb. 21.

Included are a series of eight important etchings by Jean Paul Riopelle, oil paintings by Arthur Shilling and Henri Masson and works by leading contemporary artists Leon Bellefleur, Genevieve Jost, Margaret Ludwig, Brian Marion, Paul Peregal and Noriko Suzuki. Both Ludwig and Peregal were recently profiled in *The Canadian Jewish News*.

"This is major," says gallery owner Smith, adding that the premises are equipped with sophisticated security. The police, she says, noting that robberies in the district are escalating drastically, have concluded that this is the work of professionals.

Proprietors of businesses in the neighborhood told Smith they had noticed a grey, '80s vintage Mercedes Benz circling the area earlier, but had not been particularly suspicious.

There was no damage to the gallery interior. Paintings and etchings were simply removed from every section and no very large works were taken. A 36 by 48-inch Bellefleur was left on the floor in the front room.

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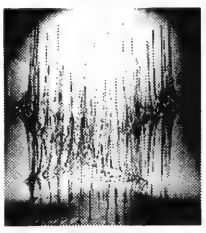
Břetislav Novák, Jr. (b.1952)
Untitled, blue and pale yellow glass, four pieces
signed and dated 1989, 17" x 9"


Vera Lisková (b.1924)
"Music", lampworked clear glass
signed, c.1977, 33-1/2" x 30-1/4"

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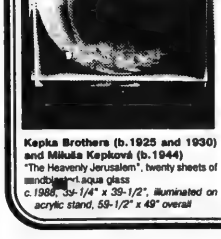
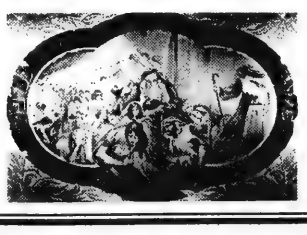
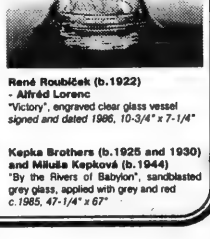

Kepka Brothers (b.1925 and 1930) and Miluša Kepková (b.1944)
"The Heavenly Jerusalem", twenty sheets of sandblasted aqua glass
c.1988, 39-1/4" x 39-1/2", illuminated on acrylic stand, 59-1/2" x 49" overall




René Roubíček (b.1922) - Alfréd Lorenc
"Victory", engraved clear glass vessel
signed and dated 1986, 10-3/4" x 7-1/4"

Kepka Brothers (b.1925 and 1930) and Miluša Kepková (b.1944)
"By the Rivers of Babylon", sandblasted grey glass, applied with grey and red
c.1985, 47-1/4" x 67"

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TAB news

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Jewish Museum in Manchester: Erected in 1874, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue in the once predominantly-Jewish Cheetham Hill Road district of Manchester closed down as a house of prayer in 1982. But thanks in part to a large donation from the Rothschild dynasty, the historic and architecturally attractive building was spared the wrecker's ball. Having been restored, it now serves as a museum.

Only the second Sephardi shul built in England (the first was the Bevis Marks Synagogue in London, erected 1701), Manchester's Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue was built by the families of a group of wealthy Sephardi cotton merchants who came here about 1850. (Manchester, as the centre of the world's cotton trade and the industrial revolution, was awash with mercantile opportunities throughout the 19th century.)

Inside, one finds a handsome temple decorated with a grand, circular stained-glass window, eight and a half feet in diameter, above the ark, and another eight stained-glass windows along the sides. As in many Sephardi shuls, there is a large balcony for women, the bimah is located in the centre of the hall with seats all around, and a multi-branched candelabra hangs from the ceiling. The building is a noteworthy example of Victorian architecture rendered in the Moorish style.

The museum is found upstairs, in the U-shaped space that was formerly the ladies' gallery. Utilizing historic artifacts and photographs, a display covers the history of the local Jewish community, which presently numbers roughly 35,000, from the arrival of the first Jews here about 1780. Appropriately enough, there is a picture of Nathan Meyer Rothschild, whose first home in England was in Manchester. He lived her from 1798 to 1805 and, like other savvy traders, opened a cotton factory and exported goods internationally.

Rothschild was the first of many Jewish traders in this city of northern England. As the museum documents, Jewish garment workers invented a once-popular method of rainproofing shirts and other clothes. It is no coincidence that the first Jews reached England's second city at precisely the moment the Industrial Revolution was gearing up. Other famous Jewish Mancunians include Chaim Weizmann and novelist Louis (*Magnolia Street*) Golding, whose papers are displayed.

Studio a popular attraction

The museum is open Monday to Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Jewish holidays. Adults, $5. 061-834-9879.

While in Manchester, don't miss the Granada Studios Tour, especially if you're a fan of British television productions such as *Coronation Street* or *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Since opening in 1988, this has proven one of England's most popular attractions. Besides backstage tours and rides for the children, Granada features a life-sized, enclosed set of Baker Street, where the great fictional detective lived. At 221-B Baker St., there's a Museum of Criminology that features one of the largest collections of Sherlock Holmes and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle memorabilia anywhere.

Located next to Granada, the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry can easily take up the few hours remaining in your day. Manchester's eerily gothic Town Hall, the John Rylands Library, and the various walkable and picturesque town squares are also worth a visit. You may also wish to check out the lounge of the Midlands Crowne Plaza Hotel where, in the early years of this century, automotive history was made when Mr. Rolls met Mr. Royce.

British Airways flies daily from Toronto to Manchester, with connecting service via London Heathrow airport. For information on travel to Britain, contact the British Tourist Authority, 416-961-8124.

***

Study Tour in Israel: The Darche Noam Institutions, Jerusalem, are sponsoring a summer program in Israel for adult men and women, July 21 to 28, a week of study, tours and inspiration. Themed as Peace, Principles and Pluralism, the program explores issues of conflict and harmony in the Jewish world, Jewish community and Jewish home. The cost is $300 per person.

Various accommodations and children's programs are also available. For details, phone or fax 201-365-0883 or e-mail darchenoam@aol.com. The program is a joint offering of the David Shapell College of Jewish Studies/Yeshivat Darche Noam and Midreshet Rachel College of Jewish Studies for Women.

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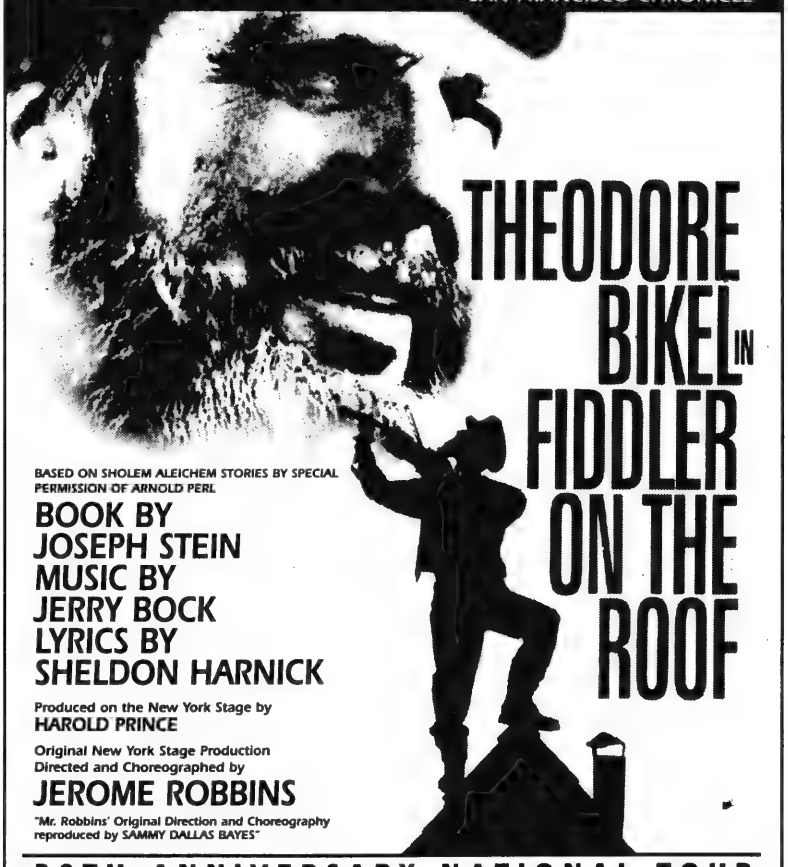

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Theresa Tova Returns: I've written glowingly about Theresa Tova before. She's the charismatic singer-actress who performed a capacity concert, *From Belz To Broadway*, at Toronto's 450-seat New Yorker Theatre last January. She's appeared at various festivals and venues around town over the years, always astonishing and gratifying her Jewish and mixed audiences with her earthy, dramatic delivery of a medley of torch songs, Yiddish classics and show tunes.

"Everyone's saying she's better than Bette Midler," Hindy Nosek-Abelson says, with the exuberance one might expect from Tova's publicist. But Nosek-Abelson is also more. Like Tova, she was born in a displaced person camp in post-war Europe and, again like Tova, learned Yiddish right from the cradle. A freelance writer, Nosek-Abelson has helped Tova acquire a top-notch Yiddish repertoire by rendering the originals into singable, lyrical English translations; remaining loyal to moods and rhythms, if not always literal meanings.

"With a literal translation, a song is no longer singable, and it no longer has the stamp of the original author," Nosek-Abelson explains. "If it creates the same emotional response as the original, then you know you have a good translation."

On March 31 at 8 p.m., Tova gives a reprise concert, again entitled *From Belz to Broadway*, at The New Yorker Theatre, 651 Yonge St., Toronto. The return engagement is being presented by Tapestry Music Theatre as a benefit to support the development of Tova's *Still The Night*, a new work of musical theatre. Tova is planning to preview scenes from the new work at the concert.

Tickets to the show and a post-performance reception are $54; tax receipts for the maximum amount allowable will be issued. A limited number of general admission tickets are also available for $25. Call 416-537-6066 or 416-789-5100.

***

Spielberg Hires Toronto Lad: Larry Guterman, a former Torontonian who recently completed the master's program in film at the University of Southern California, was chosen personally by cinematic legend Steven Spielberg to direct a production for the much-touted Dreamworks Studio. With Guterman directing, filming has already begun for a CD-ROM video game based on *One Day At Horrorland*, R.L. Stine's thriller for young people.

Completed as part of his schooling, Guterman's masterful 35-minute film *Headless!* has turned the heads of industry bigwigs in Tinseltown. At 31, the former Hebrew day school student has already written an episode of the American TV show *Tales From The Crypt* and been hired as a scriptwriter for projects at Paramount and TriStar. As well, he is currently completing a second rewrite of a science-fiction screenplay.

***

Two Art Auctions: Waddington's is auctioning Czechoslovakian glass made between 1970 and 1990, at 189 Queen Street E., Toronto, March 18, 7. p.m.; previews begin March 16. The collection includes many pieces with Judaic themes, including large collaborative works by the Kepka brothers and Muliusa Kepkova.

Dyansen Galleries, a large U.S. auction house, is holding an auction at the Hotel Inter-Continental, 220 Bloor St. W., Toronto, at 8 p.m., March 15; previews begin at 7. The company represents artists such as Erte, LeRoy Neiman, Charles Bragg, Peter Max, Paul Wegner and Angelo Basso.

***

In Brief: From March 9 to May 5, Andrew Danson's black-and-white photographic Face-Kao portraits of Japanese Canadians interned during WWII is on view in the photo passage at Harbourfront, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay W., Toronto. Admission free.

Hot Docs!, the annual national documentary film awards, runs from March 21 to 24 at the Park Plaza Hotel, Toronto. 416-975-3977.

A production of *Lettice and Lovage*, the celebrated play by Peter Shaffer, runs at The Annex Theatre, 720 Bathurst St., Toronto, March 26 to 31. 416-656-7259.

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Experts debate ethical dilemmas of managed care

By LESLIE KATZ
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

BURLINGAME – In an era of health care cutbacks, the Jewish community must help Jews pay those critical medical expenses not covered by insurers, said a prominent medical ethicist at the recent International Conference on Jewish Medical Ethics in Burlingame.

"We will have to pick up the slack for what [health care providers] are not doing," Rabbi Moshe Tendler said.

In a lecture titled Rights and Obligations in Managed Care, Rabbi Tendler, a professor of biology and medical ethics at New York's Yeshiva University, said caring for the uninsured or underinsured is dictated by the Jewish principle of *gemilut chesed*, (acts of lovingkindness).

Opportunities to perform such acts will surely increase in the rapidly changing world of medical care, Rabbi Tendler said.

Many Americans have had to change doctors when their employers switch health care plans. Health maintenance organizations (HMOs) go out of business, leaving clients to seek new HMOs or other managed-care plans. Doctors also change their affiliations from plan to plan.

These factors affect the quality of the doctor-patient relationship.

But while the changing medical landscape has dramatically affected patients, physicians are also acutely familiar with the challenges of managed care. At the conference, physicians, health care workers, rabbis and medical ethicists discussed the way managed care affects the delivery of medical care.

With for-profit firms capturing more of the managed-care market, many of the doctors agreed they face greater difficulty upholding ethical standards in their work.

For example, where doctors once answered to their patients, they are now forced to answer to the companies who allocate funds for care. This represents a major conflict of interest, said Dr. Rita Charon, associate professor of clinical medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York's Columbia University.

In attempting to increase profits, the companies will often pressure physicians to limit their clinical services. If a physician doesn't behave like a "good HMO doctor," Charon said, he or she may find his or her livelihood threatened.

"You're not just the agent of the patient," Charon told the audience, "You're an agent of the shareholder. It's your duty to increase the dividends of the shareholder. It's the good of the patient versus the good of the firm."

Rabbi Tendler went a step further, insisting there is no place in Jewish ethics for profit-motivated managed care. "The whole system is questionable," he said. "We don't need wholesale medical care."

He and others expressed concern that managed care – with its emphasis on the business of medicine – does not lend itself to compassionate medical treatment.

Some participants also questioned why doctors have generally failed to raise their voices to fight those aspects of managed care that they find objectionable.

"What the heck happened to the medical profession that they let this happen?" Rabbi Tendler asked.

Charon theorized that doctors prefer to downplay the financial aspects of their work, and have been ashamed to openly discuss the extent to which money and medicine are linked.

"Never before did doctors have to talk in public about their relationship to money," she said. "Up until now, we tried to make believe it didn't exist."

Another doctor suggested that managed care has polarized doctors, pitting primary care physicians against specialists, and making it difficult, he said, for them to band together to express common grievances.

Dr. Laurence Marton added another factor to the mix: physicians' fear of biting the hand that feeds them.

"There's great fear that they will lose something," said Marton, a former dean of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School.

But while those at the conference voiced their objections to managed care, some did point out the aspects of managed care that can be beneficial. For one thing, Charon said, the restricted services offered by some managed care plans may ultimately lead people to clamor for universal health insurance for all.

The emphasis on preventative medicine encourages people to understand their bodies and take better care of themselves, which leads to improved general health, lower mortality rates and lower health care expenditures. And because primary care physicians are often patients' main source of medical guidance, they tend to know patients' situations extremely well.

Primary care physicians "get to know their patients' bodies, get to know the sources of meaning in their lives," Charon said. "That can lead to more comprehensive care."

Hospital gets new cardiac unit

NORTH YORK — The new Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory that recently opened at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre is expected to decrease the amount of time patients will wait for service.

With this second such laboratory, Sunnybrook has the capacity to perform approximately 750 additional diagnostic and interventional procedures in the first year. When fully operational, it will cut Sunnybrook's waiting time for elective catheterizations in half — from approximately 14 weeks to seven weeks, less for in-patients and emergency cases.

"North York General Hospital is a partner in the new catheterization lab, with Sunnybrook and the Ministry of Health," says Murray MacKenzie, president and CEO of North York General. "Working together and sharing clinical resources is essential when less money is available."

A combined total of close to 3,000 procedures can be performed in the two catheterization labs. This will include an estimated 2,200 coronary angiograms, up from 1,800; 450 angioplasties, up from 320; and 200 pacemaker implants.

Permanent pacemakers are usually inserted in an operating room, but the new Sunnybrook lab has been designed with a special sterile environment that has operating room capability to allow for the procedure.

Half of the approximately $2.6 million for the lab came from Sunnybrook and the balance was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and North York General.

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Fighting hatred relatively new, says historian

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — The law and the state have only recently conceived of having a role in preventing or constraining the dissemination of hate, said historian Phyllis Senese.

Speaking at a conference on Religious Conscience, the State and the Law, Senese, a professor at the University of Victoria (UVic), said it was the union of the Christian church and the Roman empire in the fourth century that made it possible for the state and the law to be used to implement and enforce Christian anti-Semitism. This was accomplished through the imposition of legal restrictions, including ghettos, specific clothing and badges of identification as Jews.

The law, she said, was not used to protect Jews, to prevent harassment or to limit or constrain hate directed against Jews.

However, once rights began to be extended to Christian dissenters in the 17th century, they were eventually extended to Jews. "But though they were legally emancipated, Jews found that in Western Europe, the United States and Canada, these rights were easily limited by administrative and procedural barriers to complete freedom," she said.

Using the law and the state to halt dissemination of hate is a recent decision by governments, she said.

Also speaking at the conference was Prof. Irwin Cotler of Montreal, who discussed The Protection of Religious Conscience in a Secularizing World.

Speakers at the conference came from universities in London, Montreal, California, Wales, Boston, Manitoba, Connecticut, Saskatchewan, Iowa, Toronto and Florida.

The event was sponsored by UVic Faculty of Law and the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society. The Centre "aims to foster dialogue between religion and the sciences, social and economic development," to build bridges of understanding between the various world religions.

Senese has done considerable research and writing on Jews of early Canada.

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BATHURST-CLARK ON QUIET COURT
Ideal for growing family! Fab 4 bdrm, fin. bsmt, dble garage, appliances, air, value +++ *Ted Waxman

BATHURST VILLAGE — MOST SOUGHT AFTER STREET!
Large 3+1 sidesplit, dble garage, large principal rooms, loaded with extras! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-CENTRE — MOVE-IN CONDITION!
Over 2,000', separate entry to professionally fin. bsmt. On quiet street. *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

BATHURST & STEELES — $234,900
3+1 Bdrm, loaded, fin. bsmt, appls & more! *Al Sidofsky

BATHURST MANOR — LARGE 3 BDRM ON PREMIUM LOT!
Sep. entry to bsmt apt, dble garage, new kitchen! *Ted Waxman

"SPRING FARM" STUNNING STARTER HOME!
Finished basement, grey & white, absolutely immaculate! Just move in! *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

CONDOMINIUMS

BATHURST & STEELES TOWNHOME BY "TRIDEL"
3 Bdrms, spacious kitchen, appls, air & alarm. 2 car parking, close to all amenities! $179,900. *Ted Waxman

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

RE/MAX REALTRON REALTY INC.

Proudly Welcomes

MARLON AND CLARA GREEN

as SALES REPRESENTATIVES on our Sales Team

Visit us at the
ROSEDALE GARDEN HOMES
Sales Pavillion located just north of Centre St. on Bathurst in Thornhill.

We are offering a wide variety of luxury homes

***Starting at $299,900 *From 2570 to 4280 sq. ft. *40', 50' and 60' lots**

Please feel free to call

MARLON and CLARA GREEN anytime for a private appointment at 905-764-6000 or at the Sales Office 905-707-7676. Hrs. Mon.-Thurs. 1-8 p.m., Sun. 12-6 p.m.

Centre/Bathurst (East Side), 5 Bedroom 3,825 s.f.; main floor fam. rm., study and laundry; hardwood and pot ltg. throughout; fin. walk-out bsmt, quiet court. **VENDOR MUST SELL! REDUCED TO $439,000!** Sutton Group Rlty. J. Bitton. (416) 801-8600.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

(416) 441-2888 (416) 441-2888

HARVEY KALLES

•REAL ESTATE LIMITED•

NORTH

BATHURST/STEELES — $318,000.
Reno'd 3 + 1 brs., 3 bath backsp., new kit., 2 new baths, jacuzzi, hrdwd. flrs., fam. rm. + fin. bsmt. **M. Povering**.**

INVESTMENT OR LIVE-IN $288K — 1ST AD
Fab. Bathurst Manor, triplex, prestige street, 2 - 3 bdrms., gr. level 2 bdrm. apt. 5 baths. **Maxine Povering**.**

BATHURST/SHEPPARD $144,900.
Excl. listing, 2 bdrms., 2 baths condo., plus den, parquet flooring, new broadloom, immed. **Maxine Povering**.**

CENTRAL

FOREST HILL MANSION $6,000,000.
This contemporary mansion boasts an indoor/outdoor pool, tennis crt., breathtaking gardens. **Elise Kalles**.**

CHARMING GLENAYR RD. $735,000.
This centre hall plan includes 5 bdrms., family rm. fireplaces, finished lower level & pool. **Elise Kalles**.**

NEW LISTING
Fab. custom built home on 49' x 250' lot. 3278 sq. ft., centre of city. 9' ceilings. $529K. **Brucyne Sud*.**

NEW LISTING
Power of sale. Fabulous starter home. Possible rental income. **Brucyne Sud*.**

NEW LISTING
Building lot. Avenue Ro SOLD Lawrence. Prime block. **Brucyne Sud*.**

FABULOUS STARTER HOME
On 60' x 172' lot, completely renovated, 3 bdrms., 2 baths. Only $219K. **Brucyne Sud*.**

1ST AD — AVAIL. IMMED. — 3 BDRMS. + APT.
Spacious C.H. bung., superb local., CAC + in-law, 2 bdrm. apt., $2,150.00 per mo. **P. Bernstein*.**

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker*

BUYING OR SELLING THE MATRIMONIAL HOME:
Understanding Your Rights

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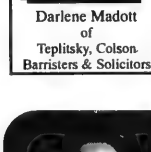
A FREE Seminar
Wednesday, March 27, 1996
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
at The Ontario Association of Architects
111 Moatfield Drive
(York Mills & Don Mills Rd.)
2nd floor Conference Room



Darlene Madott of Teplitsky, Colson Barristers & Solicitors

Featured Speakers

Registration call Marilyn at **(416) 365-9320 ext. 166**

Carole Leopold
The Prudential
Sadie Moranis Realty
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LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
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BAYVIEW-16TH. $525,000. Magnificent, 3,950 sq. ft. plus 4 bdrm. + fin. bsmt. 4 bths. 59'x147' lot, upgraded kit. $$ extras.

THORNHILL - 4 bdrm plus, parquet flrs, oak staircase, walking distance to shuls, schools, shopping & transp. **GEMMA BARCLAY, SALES REP. 905-889-2200.** Homelife/Bayview Realty Inc.

TRIDEL "THE COURTLANDS"
$139,900. 1st ad! Estate sale! Wonderful open concept, den, solarium, 2 full baths. Bev Burstein 449-2020. The Prudential Sadie Moranis Realty, Independently Owned Broker.

ROSEDALE NORTH
Steps to Hebrew Schools, Shopping, Shuls. $238,500.00
Nathan Birnbaum, Sales Rep. Re/Max Realtron Inc.
416-222-8600

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor

488-2875 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

SPECIAL BRIDLE PATH LOCATION
2 Acres, prime, super reno'd ranch bungalow. M. Gherson* 488-2875

UNIQUE 102' FRONTAGE, ROSEDALE MANS
Totally reno'd 5 BR, spectacular ravine. M. Gherson* 488-2875

HIDDEN TR[SOLD]IE IN LOWER VILLAGE
Secluded walled & [SOLD] estate. Eleanor Wagman* 488-2875

SANDRINGHAM DR — 2 ACRES SPEC. RAVINE
Highest quality custom built. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

FABULOUS 100' LOT ON GREENBELT
Cstm blt 1950's, use or build. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

HISTORIC LANDMARK! CASA LOMA!
$1,195,000 Elegance restored. R. Pizale* 488-2875

1ST AD! ROSEDALE VICTORIAN 53x296
Grand lady requires your finishes, spacious, beautifully proportioned, 6 BR, prime location. M. Gherson* 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE ENCHANTING GEORGIAN
$995,000. Centre hall, fab kit w/centre island! D. Wagman* 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE TUDOR REDUCED $895K
Fantastic reno'd residence, oak panelling. D. Wagman* 488-2875

AVENUE/LAWRENCE A "MASTERPIECE"
Incredible 5 bdrm home, 4,700 sq. ft. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

1ST AD! CASA LOMA LOCALE!!
60'x267' Lot. Reno'd 3 storey. Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

JUST LISTED! AVENUE/EGLINTON $735,000
Spectacular custom home, 9' ceilings, maple kit. 32 x 131 ft. Janice Fox**/Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

L[SOLD]VILLAGE $715,000 BEAUTY!
Traditional [SOLD]reno'd! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE! TUDOR/STONE 3,250 SQ. FT.
Custom home! Just $739K. B. Singer**/F. Sversky** 488-2875

BEST STREET! BEST BLOCK! AVE/LAWRENCE
Fabulous custom built home 3,160 sq. ft. F. Sversky** 488-2875

642 WOBURN AVE MOVE RIGHT IN
Huge kit. 4 bdrm, 4 baths. Cheryl Sniderman* 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE OPPORTUNITY 4 BDRMS
$695,000 Needs your attention! David Wagman* 488-2875

CUSTOM BUILT HOME! AVENUE/LAWRENCE
Near completion! Spectacular 4 bdrm home. F. Sversky** 488-2875

UPPER FOREST HILL! WON'T LAST! $635K
Spectacular new home 3,099 sq. ft. 10+ F. Sversky** 488-2875

CHAPLIN/EGLINTON. JUST $595K
2,232 Sq. ft. custom built home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

RENO'D UPPER VILLAGE CENTRE HALL
Bring an offer! Must see extras! Reesa Sud* 488-2875

JUST LISTED! LOWER VILLAGE BEAUTY!
Tasteful Tudor style home, 4 bdrms, 5 baths, large principal rooms++ Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

AVENUE/LAWRENCE 3,200 SQ. FT. + FIN
Bsmt. Mn fl fam & den $599K. T. Smith* 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE BEST VALUE! $575,000
4 Bdrm, 4 bath, great lot! Reesa Sud* 488-2875

JUST REDUCED $520K! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON
Lovely 3 bdrm home, fin bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

AVENUE RD/LAWRENCE EMPIRE HOMES!
$489K 3,000 sq. ft. Stunning! Richard Pizale* 488-2875

JUST MOVE IN — ST. CLEMENTS $479K
4 Bdrm, 3 baths, fam room. H. Schmeltzer* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS — FAB 4 BDRM $434,900
Renovated w/main flr fam rm. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

ATTN BUILDERS! CHAPLIN/EGLINTON
Fabulous lot! Just $299K, 25x132 ft. F. Sversky** 488-2875

SHOWS 10++! UPPER FOREST HILL
Spectacular renovated home, new kit. F. Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/16 — 5,500 SQ. FT. LIVING
Beautiful 4 bdrm, fin bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

WON'T LAST! ELGIN MILLS/BATHURST
Lovely 4 bdrm family home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

1ST AD! YONGE/SHEPPARD AREA
1 Bdrm & sol, 2 baths, $172,000. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

VALUE! BATHURST/WILSON $128,000!!
3 BR, 2 baths, ens. laundry. H. Schmeltzer* 488-2875

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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787-1712

"We open doors for you"

BROOKDALE — NEW HOME
Spacious & gracious! Luxury 3,000 sq. ft. (approx.), loaded with upgrades, main floor fam. rm. + library, 4 + 1 bdrms., 5 baths, asking $609,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — REDUCED $20,000
Custom-built new home, many luxurious upgrades, spacious rooms, maple kit., granite frplc., approx. 3400 sq. ft. Priced to sell at $519,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
Spacious 3 bdrm. bungalow, 45'x120' lot, sep. ent. to bsmt. apt., thermopane windows, hardwood floors, central air, only $224,900, ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Mint condition! Detached bungalow, sep. ent. to bsmt. apt., 100 AMP service, only $199,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE . . .
we also speak Hebrew, Yiddish, Russian, and Hungarian

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / REDUCED
Immaculate renovated bungalow, 3 + 2 bdrms., hardwood floors, huge side deck, sep. entr. to apt., only $239,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / WILSON
Custom-built 3 years new, approx. 3400 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 5 + 2 bdrms., 5 baths, granite floors, Passover kitchen. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

EGLINTON / BATHURST / COMMERCIAL
Store + 2 apts., fabulous location, ideal for user! Each unit approx. 1,000 sq. ft. Asking $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / MELROSE
REDUCED TO SELL! Stunning brand new luxury home, 2400+ sq. ft., fin. bsmt., loaded with upgrades, granite + hardwood floors, only $569,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK – BUY YOUR VERY OWN PARK!
Sensational building lot surrounded by luxury new homes, 1/2 acre +, approved for 4400 sq. ft. (approx.) new home, over 300 feet deep. ACT NOW! Only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / PRUE
Rare offering! European villa style — mint condition! Walk-out to 3 balconies, family room, library, loaded with extras, prestigious location, A MUST SEE! Only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BAYVIEW / FIFESHIRE
Spacious bung., custom built, quality construction, approx. 2500 sq. ft. + fin. lower level, 70' frontage, fab. location. Call now! Only $589,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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TIMBERLANE — REDUCED
Spacious side-split on 80' x 200' lot, prestigious location, surrounded by luxurious homes, country-like setting. Only $549,000. Call now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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AVENUE ROAD / WILSON
Custom built 4 bedroom, family room, library, quality craftsmanship, 50 ft. frontage, only $519,000, ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SEIDMAN
(416) 633-7373

BATHURST SHEPPARD
Spac. 3 bdrm, L-shape liv & din., stained hardwood flrs, fin. bsmnt, move in cond.

• • •

BATHURST WILSON TRI-PLEX
2-3 Bdrm + 1-1 bdrm apts, balcs, bths ensuite, garages + pkg.

• • •

SHEPPARD BATHURST
Over 8,000 sq. ft., cust built, 4 bdrms, 8 bths, lge entrance foyer, skylight, den, fam. rm., library, maids qurtrs, circ. drive, lge pool-size lot, don't miss!

• • •

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
Split lvl, 3 bdrms, 3 bths, liv & din comb., fam. rm, w/out, fin. lower lvl, 2-car gar., extras!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

SEARLE-WILMINGTON
Ranch bungalow, 3 bedroom, family room, plus huge finished basement apartment.

• • •

BATHURST - RIDGEGATE
Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,300 sq. ft. Come & View.

• • •

BATHURST - STEELES
Primrose - 2 bedroom + den, 2 full baths, eat in kitchen with window, 2 parking & locker.

• • •

CLARKE - HEATHERTON
$289,000.00 Just listed, 4 bedroom, family room, fireplace, new windows, new carpet, ceramics. 2 car garage - don't miss it!

SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath/Clark. 2,000 sq. ft. Fam. rm. fin. bsmt. 2 car garage. Priced to sell. 905-886-4046.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

85 Skymark, private, 2 bdrm, den w/blt-ins, patio, 2 prkg, $340K, no agents, 497-9381

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THESE BARGAINS ARE SOLD!
Choice of 1 or 2 bdrm. + den. Priced from $185K. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST,** 441-2003/24 hrs. on call. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

Bathurst/Steeles - 2 br condo. Balcony. Must Be Sold! **MORE CONDOS NEEDED ! RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700**

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Hemispheres II
(131 Torresdale)
Luxury Adult Condominium

2 Bdrm, fam. rm, eat-in kit., en-suite ldry, sun rm, 2 full baths, 1,400 + sq. ft. corner unit overlooks park.
Call (905) 731-3080
Non-smokers please.

50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Bath/Centre. Bed sitting room in a condo.Private bath. Female perf. 905-731-3906.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Professor, wife and two well behaved children are seeking a 3bdrm furnished apartment or house in Bathurst area. From June 24 to end of Aug. Please call 217-351-8383 after 7 pm. Will accept phone charges.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Business Lady recently widowed wishes to share her beautiful home in Hamilton. Steps to MacMaster Univ. With a jewish lady in her 60's. 905-522-3326.

Large bdrm. in a 3 bdrm/2 bth apt. to share with 2 profs, 1 blk to Finch sbwy, 416-730-9515.

Male looking for same to share apt. Yonge/ Davisville. Close to TTC. Pool .Cable incld. $330 .Avail immed. 484-0819.

Room in well-equipped townhouse, parking, TTC, Sheppard/Leslie, 756-9965.

65 ACCOMMODATION/ SWAP/EXCHANGE

VACATION EXCHANGE
U.K/TORONTO
Swap residence in London U.K. for our home in Toronto. References provided.
416-789-9483.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bathurst/Clanton Pk., 1 bdrm bsmnt, TTC, no smoker/pets, own entr., 633-5406.

Finch/Bath. 3bdrm apt. in luxury condo bldg. Avail Mar 15/96. $1191.80 mo. incld. hydro + park. Sabbath elevator. Mr. Gordon 243-0550 10 a.m.+.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Newly renovated. lrg. bsmt apt. at Yonge/Davisville . TTC. Private ent. Laundry & parking. $650. Nonsmoker a must. 929-1789 leave mess.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Balfour Beach, 4 bdrm, eat-in kit, recent reno, lg. deck, lake view, day camp, 45. min from Tor. Call evgs 533-6067.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe. Jewish Community near Orillia .Large waterfront cottage . By the month or season. Video avail. call Gilbert at 416-782-1319.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Resp. young family seeks priv. lakefront cottage nr. Belle Ewart/Barrie area. Must have 3-4 bdrms, indry, bbq & fireplace, July & Aug., 633-5347.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA
Furnished 2/2 in Willow Wood in fabulous Boca Raton West C.C. $109K + equity. 3/3 detached pool home in Polo C.C. $285K + equity. Both lowest price in area. Also Woodfield C.C. & Broken Sound.
David Greenblatt, *Realtor*
Gimelstob Realty Inc. *(ex Cdn. attorney)*
1-800-228-2087
eves. **305-346-6566**

Three Islands, Hallandale. Terrific location. Many Cdns. Res. Condo. 1 1/2 bths. 24 hr sec. Bargain $52,000. 416-444-9447

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

LONGBOAT KEY, on the Gulf I SELL the **beach, bay or golf course** condos & homes. Call 1-800-354-8136 ask for **Janis Collier, Palmer Realty**

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

QUADOMAIN BUILDING, HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA
Spectacular ocean & intercoastal view, 2 bedroom on beach for rent, fully furnished, Kosher for Passover. Call (416) 633-6010.

Ocean front 2 bdrm, 1/1 2 baths. For Passover. $1850 us. 905-770-0358.

Pompano Beach, rent or sale, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, 5 mins to beach, 905-881-1432 or 905-660-9644.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

Hallandale-Olympus. 1 bdrm, 11/2 bths. Fully furn. Immed. occup. $55,900us firm. Most act fast. Harris 1-407-487-3381.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson 4 bdrm apt, fully furn., Knesset view. Mthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

185 OUT OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Palm Springs, resales, leases, 100s of vacation rentals to choose from. (800) GO2-PALM **"THE RENTAL CONNECTION"**

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Top dollars fo your taxi plates. Buy and lease. Call Kami 368-6895. Pager 330-6622.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Permanent, P/T, Ontario licensed, veterinarian required by North Toronto small animal hospital. Fax resume in confidence, 905-731-5745. Overworked vet needs time off.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Experienced cleaning lady avail. for home & apart. cleaning. Call 416-421-6699 after 6:oo p.m.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Are you looking for nannies or housekeepers please contact Rakela Care Agencies. 905-764-1034 or 905-883-6296.

Cleaning lady avail. 535-6815 Elizabeth.

Cleaning lady looking for work. 1 to 2 days a week. Good refs. 416-744-0879 Danka.

Cleaning lady, offices, houses, apts, excel. refs. 416-241-5000.

European woman avail to clean apart/homes & offices. 242-5390

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042.

Lady avail. to clean house/apartment. Maria 534-1975.

Loving & energetic. A baby sitter, caregiver, housekeeper, exp., refs. 733-3915 or 905-770-6835.

M.R. Domestic Services
Employers to sponsor housekeeper/nanny from oversees free of charge. M. Rittner 416-661-4998, 416-661-8335.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Babysitter/elderly care mature with first aid and CPR. Live out. 416-438-2938.

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper/caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 398-6197

Experienced lady seeks postion to care for elderly . lady , or baby sitting full or part-time. Excellent refs. 256-7087.

Nannys! Nannys! Nannys! Mature, experienced and available. 538-6573.

Nurse/companion and cleaning lady. Car. Ref. 656-6695.

Polish cleaning lady avail, exp., refs., 247-4157.

Polish cleaning lady for houses, apts., exp., 265-7398.

Polish lady is looking for cleaning or other jobs. 249-2471.

Professional european cleaning lady looking for a job. Please contact Joanna 416-536-2406.

Seniors, invalids, mature lady, Eng. & Polish speaking, avail. for shopping, cooking, light housekeeping, be a companion. Mon to Fri after 3 p.m. wkends flexible. Call Barbara 656-6403

Solid, experienced Polish cleaning person for houses or apartments. Call 416-699-3265

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Care giver for elderly. 15 years experience., Refs. Driver lic. Live out. Call after 3:00p.m. 924-3600.

Experienced nurse provides care & massage for elderly or sick in your home. Helen 535-5128.

RPN (RNA) expr. Refs. avail. for eldely or infant care. in home /hospital/ inst. . 225-6433.

HCA Cert. avail. to take care of elderly in home or inst. After 3pm & some days. 905-731-3327. refs.

259 SENIORS

Cheerful people.Honest. Yiddish/English & other languages spoken , with car, avail to drive to Doctor. appts, shopping / hospital companion.Live in/ out. Honey 416-665-8674.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing-People-Together. We care. Ruth 905-731-5204.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appts. etc., min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

JEWISH CONNECTIONS
Meet peopleyou would **NEVER** expect to meet in an Introduction Service! **NO FEE** until a *'connection'* is made! 661-7154

Jewish Singles Registry. Select your own dates by viewing biographies/photos." Over 955 members averaging an engagement every 7½ wks. 398-7068.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Best long distance rates
ISRAEL $0.73, USA $0.135
DCI Telecom 626-7557 ex.8585

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Gay, white, Jewish, Sephardic male, romantic, university post-grad, 48, looks late 30s, 5'8", 140 lbs., seeks same, 30-40, for long term, non smoker, no alcohol, no drugs, HIV negative. Box 6714 CJN.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #_____
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

Young women trapped in a 59 year old body. Excellent health and spirit looking for the same in a man up to 68. Replie Box 6719 CJN.

DJF 36 attractive, affectionate and outgoing. Enjoys dancing, movies, dining, walking. Seeks male 35-41 established mature , attractive . Must love kids. Replie box 6720.

Retired, professional, financially independent. Widower wishes to meet a widow in the same circumstances who is in the mid to late 60's replie box 6721CJN.

330 OBITUARIES

Hoffman, David-President of Radiator Specialty Co. of Canada for the past 25 years, with association to the parent company in Charlotte, North Carolina since 1948 away at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, November 19, 1995. Sonia, dear father of Rosalind Hoffman & Deborah N. Hoffman. Pre-deceased by grandson Oren Weissman.
Unveiling of memmorial stone will be held on Sunday March 24, 1996 at the Pardes Shalom Cemetary (Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie).

Belle Tepperman on February 17, 1996, late of 1 Canyon Ave. #1703
Etta Clavir on February 14, 1996, late of 30 Holly St. PH +1
Paul Nasien on February 13, 1996, late of 7601 Bathurst Street #206
Allen Freedland on February 15, 1996, late of 108 Forest Lane
Charles Wall on February 17, 1996, late of 57 Greenbrook Drive
Elsie Da Costa on February 18, 1996, late of 640 Sheppard Ave. E. +1102
Cecil Weinberg on February 19, 1996, late of 4001 Bayview Ave. #418
Abe Cohen on February 19, 1996, late of 11 Almington Street
Jack Griss on February 19, 1996, late of 355 St. Clair Ave. W. #1804
Sara Goldman on February 19, 1996, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W. #703
Jack Tischler on February 19, 1996, late of 731 W. King Edward Ave.
Samuel Moskoff on February 20, 1996, late of 126 Sandringham Drive
Ellen Derrick on February 20, 1996, late of 481 Hidden Trail
Robert Weiss on February 21, 1996, late of 65 Abbeywood Trail
Buddy Epstein on February 22, 1996, late of 7300 Yonge St. #804
Julia Herzfeld on February 21, 1996, late of Lincoln Place Nursing Home

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

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Ann Shain on February 22, 1996, late of 156 Brookmill Dr.
Rosa Rappaport on February 23, 1996, late of 160 Lytton Blvd.
Ruth Morris on February 24, 1996, late of 135 Antibes Dr. #1506
Roselyn Kazman on February 25, 1996, late of 101 Hove St.
Harry Bageiman on February 25, 1996, late of 96 Brighton Ave.
Sarah Ungar on February 26, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Jacques Baruch on February 27, 1996, late of 1 Concorde Place #1906
Esther Jubas on February 27, 1996, late of 115 Antibes Dr. #1004
Zoltan Lantos on February 27, 1996, late of 377 Ridelle ave. #1522
Allan Rodda on February 27, 1996, late of 4 Mallington Ct.
Anthony Grainger on February 27, 1996, late of 16 Greenhedges Court

Bojm, Joseph on March 1, 1996, late of 9 Fairway Heights Cres.
Phillips, Arnold on March 1, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Rosenfeld, Anne on March 2, 1996, late of 175 Hilda Ave. #912
Genyuk, Riva on March 2, 1996
Anisman, Mary on March 2, 1996, late of 15 Romney Rd.
Greenspan, Suzanne on March 2, 1996, late of 12 Hilltop Rd.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late
Ilse Rosenberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, March 17th
10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst South of Steeles)
Clanton Park Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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Survivor wants parents' names on memorial in Frankfurt

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A 74-year-old Toronto man is anxious that the names of his parents, Jakob and Mina Grodtozinsky, whom he lost in the Holocaust, be inscribed in a memorial in Frankfurt, Germany.

To that end, Paul Gardner (he changed his name in 1948) asked Ronny Loewy, a film maker from Frankfurt, about plans for the memorial to be erected at the site of a destroyed Conservative synagogue which Gardner, an only son, and his parents attended. Loewy, speaking recently at a meeting in the Frankfurt-Toronto exchange series at Harborfront Studio Theatre, told Gardner he would take his request back to Frankfurt.

Though Gardner, who came to Canada with 600 other Jewish internees from England in 1940, has never returned to his birthplace in Frankfurt, he said he would consider doing so if his parents are properly memorialized.

An employee of Canada Post, even though he has passed the voluntary retirement age of 65, Gardner said he remembers Frankfurt as a city of 20,000 Jews before the war where his father represented a British textile manufacturer. This enabled young Paul to be sent to England by his parents who could not save their own lives.

Speaking under the auspices of the Goethe Institute of Toronto, the Jewish Film Society and the Holocaust Remembrance Committee, Loewy said only five percent of the 7,000 Jews now living in Frankfurt are from Germany originally.

A lively discussion

Loewy himself is the son of German Jews who went to Israel after the war, where Loewy was born in Tel Aviv, and returned to Frankfurt 30 years ago, where they still live.

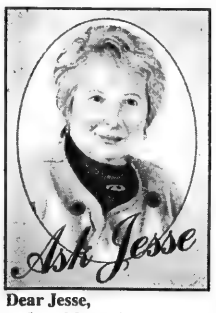
A 30-minute film about Auschwitz directed by Loewy, a staffer at the Fritz Bauer Institute, Frankfurt, his brother, Hanno, and Cily Kugelmann of the Frankfurt Jewish Museum, proved to be the focus of a lively discussion.

"There are still a lot of problems and not everything is right," Loewy acknowledged when asked by audience members why the Jewish death toll is not given adequate recognition at the Holocaust Museum.

"Remember there are only Polish curators there and they are putting up plaques in four languages, Polish, Hebrew, Yiddish and English. They're at the very beginning stage."

Recently archivists found 2,600 family photos belonging to people cremated at Auschwitz and the help of survivors is being sought to identify the scenes of life before the Holocaust, Loewy said.

Abraham's Gold, a film by Jorg Grader, dealing with a former Auschwitz guard who returns to the site 45 years later to unearth the gold he stole from victims, was also shown. The trip proves a disaster for the small town innkeeper when he is confronted by his daughter about his crime, and the friend who accompanies him discovers himself to be a Jew.



Dear Jesse,

Last May, with great difficulty, I placed my husband who suffers from Alzheimer's disease in a nursing home. I had taken care of him at home for three years; it eventually became impossible because he could not do anything for himself. It was a very hard decision because we had a wonderful marriage and my life is empty without him.

I visit him every day, but, during the last two weeks he really is not interested in seeing me. I could not believe that I saw him walking and holding hands with another patient. He puts his arm around her and although I know he does not realize what he's doing, it is very hurtful to me.

What should I do?

J. P.

Dear J. P.,

Your relationship must have been very special. Try to accept the reality of the changes caused by your husband's illness. The man in the hospital is not the same man who loved you and was such an integral part of your life. If you can acknowledge that perhaps your husband gets pleasure in holding someone's hand, it might give you comfort to know that he might feel less lonely.

Maybe the time has come for you to visit a little less often. You have the right to enjoy the hobbies and social activities that you missed while caregiving. This will also give you the opportunity to alleviate some of your loneliness.

There is information available from Alzheimer's societies and support from groups where you could meet with other spouses who may share some of your concerns. It is important for you to understand the illness.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN SELLS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
Whirlpool
FOR LESS

PASSOVER FARFEL AND FRUIT CANDY

1/2 cup dried apricots	1 cup matzoh farfel
1/2 cup unsweetened apple juice	12 dried pitted dates, halved
1/2 tsp. cinnamon	12 soft pitted prunes, halved
1/2 tsp. crushed coriander seed	1/2 cup firmly packed dark brown sugar
1/4 tsp. freshly grated nutmeg	1/2 cup shelled walnuts
1/4 tsp. crushed cloves	2 tblsp. honey

1) Put apricots in heavy-bottomed saucepan with apple juice and spices. Bring to simmer. Cover and cook 8 min. (most of liquid will have evaporated). Cool. 2) With steel blade in food processor, add farfel, dates, prunes, sugar and nuts. Coarse-chop in 10 on/off turns. Remove cover from processor and add honey and cooled apricots. Process until mixture forms chunky mass that holds together (do not puree to a paste). 3) Turn onto large sheet of wax paper and compress into 2" thick long log. Bring ends together to form 6" wreath. Transfer to flat plate; cover with plastic film and freeze until firm (3-4 hrs.). Bring to table and cut into 3/8" slices. Yield: 12 servings.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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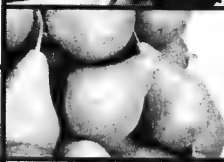

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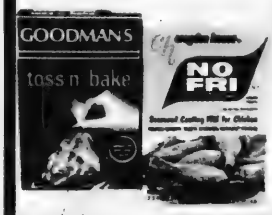

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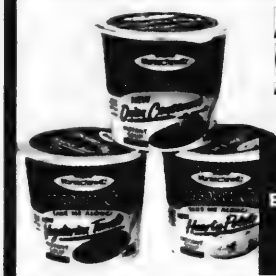

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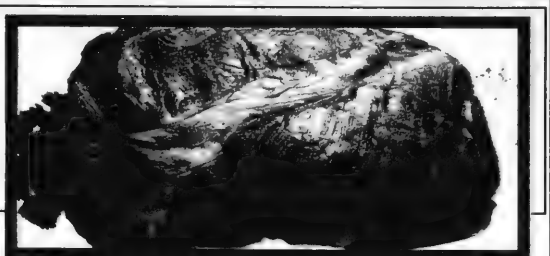

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

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Kosher meat supply unaffected by OPSEU strike. *Page 5*

Spotlight: Zina Glassman turns her lifelong passion for books into a career. *Page12*

Campus news & views

The Carleton Jew: Student explains what it's like to be one of the few. *Page 43*

Israel, U.S.A. & The World

Hamas bombings could be turning point in battle against terrorism. *Analysis.* *Page 50*

TAB news

Frankly Frank: Documentary examines girl's life, flaws and all. *Page 53*

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U.S. joins fight against terror

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – U.S. President Bill Clinton has pledged $100 million dollars to combat terrorism in the Middle East and to strengthen security ties with Israel.

Clinton made the pledge last Thursday at a joint news conference with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"The forces supporting peace and security are stronger than those that pursue destruction," Clinton said. "We must prove that. Whatever effort it takes, whatever time it takes, we must say to them, 'You will be tracked down. You will be rooted out.' "

The counterterrorism package is to include bomb detection scanners, robotics for handling suspicious objects and other hi-tech gear, U.S. officials said.

During his 22-hour visit to Israel after last Wednesday's international anti-terrorism summit in Egypt, Clinton repeatedly expressed sympathy with the victims of the recent wave of Islamic fundamentalist terror in Israel.

At the summit, international and regional leaders agreed to fight terror. A working group of foreign ministers is to meet in two weeks to discuss common issues.

Continued on page 48

Standing shoulder to shoulder and hand in hand, the leaders of 30 countries met last week in Sharm El Sheikh to discuss ways of fighting terrorism. After the summit meeting, U.S. President Clinton flew to Israel where he pledged his government's support to the people of Israel in their pusuit of peace and in the struggle against Hamas. *[RNS photo]*

Bouchard gets mixed reactions

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Reaction by Jewish guests at Premier Lucien Bouchard's address to the anglophone community varied from congratulations for his initiative and frankness to skepticism about his motives and despondency over his confirmation of yet another referendum.

Most agreed there was not enough news to change the mood in the community or ease Montreal's economic woes.

"It was what we expected, but not as much as we hoped," said FEDERATION CJA vice-president and businessman Stanley Plotnick. "It will have no impact. It's not going to convince anyone to keep their money here or young people to stay ... The malaise remains in the community."

Plotnick had hoped Bouchard would not stress the inevitability of another referendum.

"If there was any ambiguity that [he] is a separatist to the heart, it is now gone ... I'm disappointed that he did not, at least, announce a moratorium on referenda to allow the economy to recover, or offered some hope that Quebec might yet find satisfaction in a repositioned Canada."

Plotnick was satisfied that Bouchard appeared to distance himself from Jacques Parizeau's "ethnic vote" remarks. "I think we can put those racist comments behind us ... and now sit down and talk directly [with the PQ]."

Sheila Kussner, a volunteer and federal Liberal, did not derive even that much solace.

"That he would even think of another referendum at this time is shocking. To have this threat over our heads is a disaster for Montreal

Continued on page 22

Condo residents vs. Kalejs

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — During World War II, Imre Steinberger spent two years in a forced labor camp in his native Hungary before being confined to the Budapest ghetto.

Most of his family – his parents, grandparents, two brothers and their families – were murdered during the Holocaust and after the war, he found it difficult to return to a normal life in his native country. He could never be sure that the person sitting next to him on a streetcar was not responsible for killing his family, he says.

Seeking to escape that uncertainty, he moved to Canada where he'd be thousands of miles from the killers. Now, he is shocked to learn that the man he saw many times in the swimming pool of his North York condominium complex, the man with whom he exchanged small talk, is accused of the same sort of horrific crimes that claimed his family.

"My feeling is lost," he said in heavily-accented English. "It's a shock to me."

Steinberger, who now goes by the name Jack Smith, was one of about 55 residents of an elegant North York condominium building, who gathered last week to express their

Continued on page 22

EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the upcoming Pesach holidays advertising deadlines for the April 12 issue are as follows: Display ads, Tuesday, April 2 at 10 a.m. Classified and organization ads, Monday, April 1, noon. For the April 18 issue deadlines are April 9 at noon and April 8 at noon respectively.

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The News In Brief

International

CANADA

Wallenberg Memorial

TORONTO – Metropolitan Toronto Council recently approved a donation towards a memorial to Raoul Wallenberg in Earl Bales Park.

Renowned artist Ernest Raab has designed this memorial which will consist of a bronze bust of Wallenberg atop a granite pedestal.

The project is scheduled to be unveiled and dedicated during the summer of 1996. The estimated cost is $50,000.

Federation Goes On-Line

TORONTO — The Jewish Toronto web site was recently launched.

Jewish Toronto, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, includes a community events calendar, a "youth lounge," the most recent community news, community services, Jewish arts and entertainment information, a variety of Federation publications and links to other sites.

The web site's address is http://www.feduja.org

JF&CS Accredited

TORONTO – Jewish Family and Child Service has received a certificate of accreditation from the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children.

Accreditation attests that an agency has met a set of nationally established requirements which help ensure quality service.

ISRAEL

Blockade Eased

JERUSALEM – Amid reports of dwindling food supplies and acute medical emergencies, an Israeli cabinet member said the government had no choice but to ease the closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"At some point, we will be forced to ease the closure," Finance Minister Avraham Shochat said last week. "We do not want to starve the residents" of the West Bank and Gaza.

Israel, U.S. Defence Pact

JERUSALEM – Israel and the United States are moving closer toward forging a strategic defence pact.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has instructed officials from the Foreign and Defence ministries to bring up the topic during their discussions with Clinton administration officials.

Negev Development

BEERSHEVA – A major conference on economic development of the Negev will be held at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheva in March.

The conference will focus on the economic development of the Negev in the light of the changing political situation.

WORLD

Curbing Hamas Funds

LONDON – The British government has taken steps to curb the transfer of funds to Hamas, the militant Islamic movement that claimed responsibility for a series of deadly bombing attacks in Israel.

The bank accounts of the Palestinians' Relief and Development Fund, a charity also known as Interpal, were temporarily closed by the British government.

Neo-Nazi leader Acquitted

BUDAPEST – Thousands of people gathered here to protest the acquittal of a Hungarian neo-Nazi leader who had been charged with inciting racial hatred.

The demonstration came after a Budapest municipal court ruled that there was insufficient evidence to convict Albert Szabo, who openly declares himself the direct ideological heir of the man who led the Hungarian Nazis during World War II.

Olaf Palme Prize

STOCKHOLM – The Youth Dialogue Group of Peace Now in Israel recently received the Olaf Palme Prize at a ceremony held in Stockholm.

The award recognized Peace Now's youth project which involves some 2,000 Israeli and Palestinian students in dialogue and peae programs designed to build mutual understanding and goodwill.

Helping the Jewish Blind

NEW YORK – A record number of professional actors and broadcasters, representing a variety of religious and ethnic groups, are now serving as volunteers to narrate and direct the recording of books for the blind and visually impaired at the Jewish Braille Institute of America.

Merger Plans Finalized

NEW YORK – Jewish leaders have finalized a plan to merge the major American Jewish fundraising organizations and are set to present it to federations across the country in hopes of securing their approval.

The plan is aimed at strengthening flagging campaigns, making the fundraising bureaucracy more efficient and ensuring that domestic and overseas needs are met in a fair and systematic way.

Palestinian Aid Held Up

WASHINGTON – Congress has tightened its noose on $13 million slated for the Palestinian Authority.

The move came this week after hearings on Capitol Hill aimed at investigating the Palestine Liberation Organization's commitment to peace.

Fighting Terrorism

AMMAN – Israel and Jordan have decided to cooperate in their fight against terrorism by setting up a mechanism of joint consultations and information exchange.

Terror Victims Fund Established

TORONTO – The United Jewish Appeal (UJA) has announced the establishment of a fund to assist victims of the recent suicide bombings in Israel.

"The proceeds will be distributed solely to victims and their families," the UJA said in a statement.

Fifty-eight people were killed and some 200 injured by four suicide bombers in attacks between Feb. 25 and March 4 in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashkelon.

Donations should be made payable to United Jewish Appeal-Terror Victims Fund and sent to: 4600 Bathurst St. Willowdale, Ont. M2R 3V2 or call the hotline at 416-631-5700 for donations.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Hate propaganda thrives on Internet

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Internet and other electronic communication networks continue to be used for the dissemination of hate propaganda, but that doesn't mean lawmakers are powerless to deal with the problem, said Marvin Kurz, a spokesperson for B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights.

Canadian law applies to transmissions on the Internet if they originate in Canada. But it's almost impossible to determine whether computer hate was posted in Canada or abroad, Kurz, a lawyer, said.

Nevertheless, the Criminal Code allows for the prosecution in Canada of crimes committed outside the country. War crimes and air piracy, among others, are two such crimes deemed to have been committed inside Canada, he said.

In addition, Canada could negotiate treaties with other nations to deal with Internet hate. "We're in the infancy of this ... we're catching up," Kurz said.

Kurz was speaking at a news conference announcing the release of the League's *1995 Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents.*

The audit reported 331 incidents of anti-Semitic harassment and vandalism in Canada in 1995, the highest number ever recorded and a 12.1 percent increase over the year before.

Though vandalism decreased in 1995 to 80 incidents from 92, harassment, which includes the publication of hate propaganda and Internet transmissions, increased to 251 incidents from 198.

The audit reported some good news as well. It found that "the organized hate movement in Canada continued to struggle under the weight of legal challenges and public pressure. The Heritage Front ... is still reeling from declining membership, lack of money and the legal troubles of its leaders."

The Nationalist Party of Canada failed in its attempts to convince city governments to promote a European Heritage Day while "the meteoric rise of George Burdi (leader of the rabidly racist Church of the Creator) appears to be crashing in Canada," the audit stated.

"The sources of anti-Semitism have diversified and become more diffuse," the report stated. "Nineteen ninety-five was dominated by several issues which served to increase tensions and anxiety within Jewish communities across the country; namely, the situation in Quebec, increased incidents of anti-Semitism in the media, the targeting of Jews by proselytzing missionary groups and the proliferation of hate propaganda via the Internet."

Although the number of reported anti-Semitic incidents in Quebec dropped in 1995 (from 55 to 52), the report pointed to former premier Jacques Parizeau's post-referendum remarks (blaming the loss on "money and the ethnic vote") and those by Deputy Premier Bernard Landry as causing concern among Jews and other minorities.

There were 159 reported incidents of anti-Semitism in Toronto, up from 146 incidents the year before. Winnipeg reported 14 incidents, the same as the last four years, while Alberta and Saskatchewan reported 13, up from two the previous year.

The number of incidents in British Columbia jumped to 23 from five, representing 6.9 percent of the Canadian total.

The audit cites incidents reported to B'nai Brith offices and lodges across the country, said Karen Mock, national director of the League.

Amital calls for Jewish unity

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish unity and tolerance of dissent should be at the top of the agenda for Israel-Diaspora relations, Israeli cabinet minister Rabbi Yehuda Amital told a synagogue audience here last week.

Rabbi Amital, appointed minister without portfolio in the Shimon Peres government last November, said unity between Jews in Israel and the Diaspora "is more important than ever.

"These are difficult times that call for sophisticated solutions. The slogans of yesterday are no longer adequate," he told some 600 people at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue in a low-key address.

Rabbi Amital is also a leader in the hesder yeshivah movement, which combines yeshivah study with military service. He still heads Yeshiva Har Etzion in the West Bank and helped found Meimad, a dovish religious Zionist movement.

In government, he leads the first-ever ministerial commission on Israel-Diaspora relations.

Departing only briefly from a prepared text, he said he had been urged to cancel his North American speaking tour following the recent spate of terrorist attacks in Israel. "I asked the prime minister. He told me, 'You must go.' "

He said the attacks were motivated by religion "in the name of the one God of Jews, Christians and Muslims. No religious person can tolerate such a desecration of God's name."

Terror does not endanger Israel's security, he said.

"We are at war with Hamas. Combatting terror is at the head of our priorities, including the peace process. The Oslo accords will not prevent our security forces from acting anywhere. The entire Palestinian nation must understand it will pay a heavy price for any Hamas attack."

Rabbi Amital said he has "no doubts" that Israel will win the battle against terror.

In the meantime, he said Jews everywhere "have to preserve unity, despite disagreements." But, "unity does not mean uniformity. There are disagreements [but] it is necessary to observe the democratic process. It is the only way to avoid a rift.

"We need tolerance, but a real tolerance. It's not enough to say the opposition are traitors. Tolerance is when you understand the complexity of the situation."

Continuity and battling assimilation are top priorities for Diaspora Jews, he said.

Following the talk, several audience members voiced displeasure at not being allowed to ask questions.

CLARIFICATION

The CJN estimated that 1,500 people attended the community memorial rally which was held on March 7 for the victims of the Hamas bombings. That figure may have been too conservative. The number of people on hand may have been as high as 2,500.

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Greater Toronto Area

Palestinian's hopes creates feeling of discomfort

From the editor's desk

Trusting that there is still some interest among readers in the Jerusalem media conference, I continue in this column with notes of two more presentations made to our group – both interesting and important, to my mind – by public officials on the last full day of our conference, Feb. 1. Their comments bring a different perspective to the peace process from those which I recorded last week.

Ziad Abu Zayyad, a Palestinian journalist, lawyer and member of the Higher Committee of the Palestinian-Israeli Peace Negotiations spoke to us about Living With the Oslo Accords. In a soft voice, he expressed his deeply-felt optimism about future relations between Israelis and Palestinians. It soon became apparent though, that his optimism envisioned relations predicated upon the fulfilment of desiderata, some of which were decidedly non-desiderata for many in the room, including this writer.

For Abu Zayyad, the peace process was now irreversible. The process had already achieved many positive results for both peoples. He acknowledged that many "delicate issues," such as Jerusalem, final borders, refugees and water rights still remained to be resolved. But "we will overcome them [the delicate issues]. If we want to face the next century strong, we have to set aside political differences and try to work economically together. Economic cooperation is the key to building a prosperous future."

He then spoke about the odious Palestinian National Charter. "The charter and the peace process," he said, "are contradictory. They cannot exist side by side. To be in favor of peace means to be opposed to the charter." He was confident that Yasser Arafat would take the appropriate steps to amend the charter, but he placed some onus on the government of Israel to "help Arafat to convince the two-thirds of the council" needed to make the changes. According to Zayyad, no one among mainstream Palestinians speaks about the destruction of Israel, though he did acknowledge there are indeed some extremists who still speak of Israel's demise.

Abu Zayyad stated that a Palestinian state was inevitable "sooner or later." He emphasized that such a development was not to be feared. It was to be welcomed as a source of stability. I sensed that not too many of us were relieved by his assurances.

He also said that there was no chance for a durable peace without finding a solution to the issue of Jerusalem. Jerusalem should remain undivided but within an arrangement of "two capitals side by side and joint municipal structures. It is a matter of national dignity for the Palestinians and for the Arabs." That statement left most of us somewhat disquieted.

Later the same day, we met Dr. Marwan Muashar, the ambassador of Jordan to Israel. He described the state of peace between his country and Israel. In contrast to the understated tone of Abu Zayyad, Muashar was enthusiastic and up-beat. Where Abu Zayyad spoke of objectives yet to be achieved, Muashar described objectives already achieved.

Speaking forcefully, he made the point that "peace was good for business and that business was good for peace. The relationship [between the two countries] is progressing in a healthy manner. Last year was spent in setting the proper framework for the future. Fifteen sub-agreements arising from the peace treaty have already been concluded."

Muashar pointed out that the language of the peace treaty envisions maximum contact and interaction between the two countries. For example, there are 20 references in the treaty to "cooperation," 11 references to "mutuality" and 10 references to "joint efforts" for the development of the Jordan Rift Valley.

Optimistic message

The ambassador did confirm that indeed "there is still some opposition on the streets to peace with Israel. But as long as the opposition is expressed reasonably, peacefully and openly, there is nothing to worry about. The majority of Jordanians are in favor of peace with Israel. But peace-building, breaking down the psychological barriers, getting to know each other ... will take time. More than 100,000 Israelis have visited Jordan since the signing of the agreement. Around 20,000 Jordanians have visited Israel. We have come a long way in the last four years."

Muashar stated, as did Abu Zayyad and the other Arab speakers, that "there will not be total peace for the area and for the peoples of the region unless the issue of Jerusalem is solved." But he clearly implied that the solution to Jerusalem can be found without compromising sovereignty, on the basis of religious accommodations between peoples.

Then, choosing his words very carefully, Muashar carried his optimistic message to an even higher level. "The peace treaty with Jordan will not be affected in any way by the negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. We are committed to peace. Assassinations are things of the past. The murder of Rabin generated a great deal of sympathy in Jordan. The peace process has become truly irreversible. There are enough facts on the ground that even a change of government in Israel should not affect the momentum for peace."

In next week's column, I hope to close the notebook of my recent visit to Israel. I will share some of my observations of the people with whom we travelled and the places we saw on our second field trip within Jerusalem. MBD

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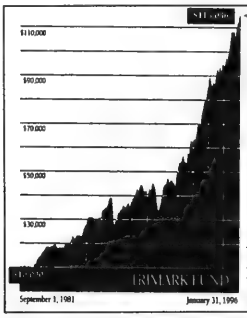
Since that first boatload of children reached Israel, some 300,000 children, Israeli-born and immigrant alike, have been touched by the special world that is Youth Aliyah and Youth Services. The projects in Israel provide facilities and assistance for the cultural, social and educational integration of youngsters aged 12-18, youngsters who might otherwise find themselves confined to the fringes of Israeli society. The projects also deal with immigrant youth from deprived countries with a current emphasis on the Former Soviet Union.



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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish Defence League seeks membership in CJC

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Jewish Defence League (JDL), long-considered a fringe group in the Jewish community, even by its leader, is seeking to join the mainstream.

Last week, the JDL applied to Canadian Jewish Congress' (CJC) Ontario office for "organizational membership." The request was forwarded to Congress' national head office in Montreal where Jack Silverstone, CJC's national executive director, said it would be considered like all applications.

However, the fact the JDL sent copies of its application to *The CJN* and to a second media outlet suggests this might be merely a publicity stunt by the JDL, Silverstone said.

"I find it unusual that an application for affiliation was also sent to the media," he said.

Meir Halevi, national chair of the JDL, said the decision to join Congress was made after the "latest round of terrorist attacks in Israel. We thought we'd like to take a more active role ... Congress is the pre-eminent organization that represents the Canadian Jewish community and we want to be part of it.

A gadfly on the fringe

"We don't want to be just a gadfly on the fringe of the community excluded from major events. We want to take part."

In his letter to Congress, Halevi also stated: "We demand the same democratic right that the Peace Now organization currently enjoys within the CJC."

Halevi said the JDL would bring its knowledge of security matters to Congress (he's employed in a firm that provides security to the retail industry, among others), alleging the threat to Jewish buildings and organizations from Hamas extremists is very real.

Silverstone said Congress is open to groups representing a variety of political viewpoints and affiliations, but they must meet criteria set out in Congress' bylaws. They must be national in scope, maintain a national office with an executive director and have a board of directors, he said.

The organization must must also subscribe to the aims and objectives of Congress as stated in its bylaws, he added.

Halevi said he'd perused Congress' bylaws and believes the JDL complies with them. He said that at its peak, the organization had a list of supporters and members that numbered 5,000. But that list was about 10 years old and "I don't have an official count right now."

Halevi said Congress had been cool to the JDL in the past and that if it will not accept the JDL, "we'll fight this in the courts."

Strike fails to halt kosher meat

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The three-week-old strike by Ontario public servants, including meat inspectors, has had little effect on the supply of kosher meat.

This, according to Rabbi Mordechai Levin, executive director of the Kashruth Council of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, is because all kosher meat in Toronto is under federal inspection.

Local butcher shops, including Perl's, Hartman's and Goldstein's, confirmed to *The CJN* that they only buy meat from federally inspected suppliers.

Phil Serriera, a meat buyer for Oshawa Foods, owner of Food City, said that the same holds true for their kosher purchases. The Food City at Clark and Hilda has a large kosher department.

Sylvia Bielak of Lazar Yitzchok, which supplies meat to several chain stores, including Miracle Mart, echoed the belief of all the kosher meat suppliers and Rabbi Levin that federal meat inspection standards are much higher in terms of quality, cleanliness and equipment requirements.

Several kosher caterers said that they have not had any problems with their meat supply either. Doreen Greenspan of Jacob's Catering said that she had had phone calls from concerned clients with simchahs coming up in the near future, but she was able to reassure them that there was no problem.

LAWYER HONORED

The Law Society of Upper Canada recently awarded lawyer Frank Bennett with a medal in recognition of his service to the legal profession. Bennett specializes in bankruptcy and insolvency law and has written many books and articles on the subject. He has also taught a Bar Admission course on bankruptcy and insolvency for more than 10 years.

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Crown withdraws charges against pro-Nazi Zundel

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

Sabina Citron led protests against the government's decision not to prosecute Nazi apologist Ernst Zundel. [Ron Csillag photo]

TORONTO — Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General has once again slammed the door shut on a bid to have pro-Nazi propagandist Ernst Zundel charged with hate-related offences.

Citing insufficient evidence, the Crown last week withdrew the charges of conspiracy to promote hatred and of publishing defamatory libel targetting several Jews.

The charges resulted from a private complaint initiated by Sabina Citron, co-founder of the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association. Citron had laid the charges against the Toronto Nazi propagandist on Nov. 8 and a Justice of the Peace subsequently accepted them.

She said she laid the charges out of frustration at the government's unwillingness to prosecute Zundel under federal anti-hate laws. The consent of the attorney general is required for such a prosecution to proceed, and Citron had hoped to sidestep that requirement by charging Zundel with *conspiracy*.

Citron was angry at the latest government announcement, and she and about 15 to 20 supporters demonstrated outside the attorney general's downtown office to protest the decision.

"This is outrageous," she told *The CJN*. "The material we provided [as evidence] is extremely virulent [and goes beyond] incitement to hatred.

"We will not allow Zundel to continue his campaign. The decision to drop the charges is misguided and ill conceived."

Citron said she planned to sue Zundel for libel. "He's defaming me personally and my people generally. No amount of damages are appropriate when you're killing someone's character. We demand he stop the vilification and defamation of the Jewish people."

According to written material provided by the attorney general's office, the evidence provided by Citron consisted of a videotape of a CBC production, *Hi-tech Hate*, a transcript of a *fifth estate* broadcast that examined Zundel's Internet computer activities, and a May 10, 1995 edition of a magazine published by Zundel called *Power*.

Evidence of conspiracy between Zundel and associates in Germany is weak and there is no evidence that a breach of the peace would result, which is required in the conspiracy charge, the Crown asserted.

In addition, there was "no reasonable prospect of a conviction" on the defamatory libel charge.

Citron was highly critical of Attorney General Charles Harnick, who, when he served as Opposition critic, she pointed out, had censured the previous Ontario government for not charging Zundel.

Other Jewish groups said they would continue to gather evidence of Zundel's propaganda, with a view to supporting hate charges against him.

"We will maintain this as the highest priority — that Zundel's hatemongering business is put out of business," said Canadian Jewish Congress spokesperson Steven Shulman.

"That [Zundel] continues to disseminate his hateful messages worldwide is a national disgrace," said Karen Mock, spokesperson for B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights.

— With reporting by Ron Csillag

Tax changes could aid UJA

TORONTO — United Jewish Appeal (UIA) anticipates that it will have more contributors as a result of recent tax changes.

In last week's federal budget, Finance Minister Paul Martin announced an increase in allowable deductions for charitable donations. The limit for charitable deductions has been increased from 20 percent of net income to 50 percent.

Michael Daren, vice-chair of next year's UJA campaign, said he is pleased the government is recognizing the difficulties facing charitable organizations under current economic conditions.

He said the increase will especially help parents who send children to day schools. "Now they can benefit from a larger deduction," he explained.

Other budget revisions affecting wills, bequests and capital asset donations will, according to Daren, "create more opportunities for planned giving and make it easier to donate capital property."

Over the next 11 months, the government will be studying other ways of encouraging the public to help charities raise funds needed more than ever as a result of recent cutbacks in social programs.

A mameloshen translation

TORONTO — Students in one popular Yiddish course hear classic stories in English and are asked to give their own Yiddish translation.

This approach has proved so popular that the class taught by David Newman at Adath Israel Synagogue will reconvene Wednesday, March 27, for 10 weeks, from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m.

About 40 students, most of them seniors, took the course first semester and an even larger enrolment is predicted for the new session, said Louis Gula, convener of the class.

Cost is $6 for seniors (60 and over), $70 for others.

Greater Toronto Area

Na'amat launching legal advisory clinic

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Inspired by comprehensive legal services offered by Na'amat in Israel, Na'amat Canada (which raises funds for those services) is launching its own legal advisory clinic here as a pilot project in mid-April.

The free clinic, geared to serve the needs of women clients, will be open one evening a week, by appointment only. Staffed by over 50 volunteers, among them 20 lawyers (all women) who will work on a rotating basis, the clinic will also offer babysitting if needed.

Appointments will run 30 minutes, and an effort will be made to match clients to lawyers with expertise in the area in which help is needed.

Participating lawyers have up-to-date information on the issue of *agunot* (women whose husbands won't grant them a Jewish divorce), an area of law in which some lawyers and judges are still not well-versed, according to *agunah* rights activists.

The lawyers are also prepared to offer advice on problems ranging from debt collection to employment difficulties to buying a house to sponsorship of relatives for immigration.

Some of the other cities in which Na'amat Canada has a presence have begun to take steps toward establishing their own legal advice projects, said Etty Danzig, national president of the organization.

In addition to its 27 clubs in Toronto, Na'amat Canada, established in 1925, has a presence in Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Windsor, Hamilton, Ottawa and Montreal. There are about 75 clubs altogether.

"Most people don't know what their [legal] rights are or what's available to them," said Danzig.

"[The clinic] will point them in the right direction," said Esther Rodzynek, outgoing president of Na'amat Toronto. "Problems can't [necessarily] be solved in half an hour."

The organization has also made an effort to help abused wives help themselves, with the recent publication of an information-packed pamphlet entitled *I Can't Believe it's Happening...Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Violence*. The resource guide can be found in places like libraries, pharmacies and doctors' offices.

Based on a similar project of Na'amat in Los Angeles and developed with input from government agencies and the Metropolitan Toronto Police, the pamphlet includes characteristics of abusers, how to help someone in a violent relationship and what to expect when police are contacted. Phone numbers for local women's shelters, telephone distress lines and 24-hour hospital-based sexual assault care centres are listed.

More than 1,500 brochures have been distributed and a second printing is imminent.

A related project of Na'amat Canada, along with the Tel Aviv Foundation, is a combined women's shelter/treatment centre scheduled to open in Tel Aviv this fall. The shelter is being built to house 18 women and their families.

Among the activities planned to raise money for the shelter is a wellness seminar series, which began last month with a session on stress management. Upcoming sessions include Re-entering the Paid Work Force (March 26), The Food and Fitness Connection (April 30) and Conflict, Resolution and Effective Communication in the Family (May 21). All sessions take place at 7:45 p.m. at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation at a cost of $10 per session.

For further information, call the Na'amat Toronto office at 416-636-5425.

Students raise funds to help out Israelis

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Once the recent community and campus vigils to commemorate the victims of the bombings in Israel were over, university and college students were among those asking themselves, "What now?"

A decision was made last week to quickly pull together a fundraiser on behalf of those injured in the terrorist bombings as well as the families of those killed in the attacks. Money raised at the March 30 event will be donated to the victim support fund set up by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

"I think it's really galvanized the Jewish student community," said Pearl Gropper, director of York University's Jewish Student Federation (JSF).

For the first time, she noted, students from campus organizations JSF, Hillel-JSU at the University of Toronto (U of T), and the Hillel groups at Ryerson Polytechnic University, George Brown College and Seneca College are joining forces with Tagar (the youth arm of Herut-Likud), UJA on Campus, Jewish fraternity AEII, the Osgoode and U of T chapters of the Canadian Jewish Law Students Association (CJLSA) and Network (the Canadian arm of World Union of Jewish Students) to organize the evening.

The fundraiser, with deejay Universal Sound, will take place at The Concert Hall on March 30. Doors open at 9 p.m. Tickets are $5 in advance and $7 at the door. For further information, contact Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto at 416-512-0814, the JSF at 416-736-5178 or Hillel-JSU at 416-978-0422.

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Symbol, not substance

In what was hailed by the speechmaker himself as "the first time a premier of Quebec has extended an invitation to such a broad segment of Quebec's anglophone community," Premier Lucien Bouchard delivered a public discourse last week to 400 specially selected leaders in Montreal. Describing the Oct. 30 referendum as a watershed event, which it surely was, the premier said it was time "to engage in a dialogue ... to create a new atmosphere."

By all accounts, the tone of the address was soft-spoken and respectful. And certainly the justification for the presentation was laudable: to ensure that channels of communication remain open. But past its tone and its justification, the premier's address was significantly devoid of substance. It did not speak at all of attempting to find new, common political ground on which to stand side by side. Indeed, its underlying premise was that separation was inevitable, merely a formality of surveying the landscape in an undefined but not-too-distant future. Anglophone Quebec should prepare, because "there are quite a few things we on both sides can do to get through the next referendum. We can be clear and fair about the rights of Quebec citizens following a Yes."

Whether we are anglophone, francophone or allophone, federalists will not detach themselves from Canada. We might as well detach ourselves from the changing of the seasons. Bouchard continuously ignores this truth. Moreover, a close reading of his remarks seems to suggest that he still aims at distorting this truth to persuade the undecided "soft" separatists to vote Yes.

In the form of a cleverly-disguised criticism of the federal government, Bouchard again suggests the possibility that Quebecers will be able to retain their Canadian citizenship and passports within a sovereign Quebec, though this is contrary to oft-expressed, unambiguous opinion in the rest of Canada and clearly flies in the face of countless contradictory statements by officials in Ottawa.

Bouchard stated: "We know that the new federal minister for Immigration has been looking at ways to ensure that after sovereignty, Canadian citizens living in Quebec who wish to remain Canadian citizens would be denied that possibility. I very much doubt this is feasible. But if it were, it would be a ruthless move that would fuel the anguish of the very Quebecers who are most attached to Canada. Quite bluntly, in the name of 'peace, order and good government,' Ottawa would be wise to abandon such a short-sighted policy."

This is an unworthy tactic by the premier, for it belies his desire to create a new atmosphere. It releases once again into an already uncertain and anxious environment, the residue of noxious and painful fumes. Moreover, his reference to "peace order and good government" is an affront to the founding, compromise-oriented ethos of the country he is trying so assiduously to dismantle. Stripped of its symbolism, what remains of the premier's first-ever invitation to Quebec's anglophone community? The premier and his government are determined to break up Canada. There is no "new atmosphere" in which that result is palatable to federalists.

The irony, and indeed one might add the disingenuousness of the premier's position falls out of his very own words. "The fact is that this question [sovereignty or federalism] will be decided, democratically, through a referendum. There will be a majority and events will unfold." In truth, the fact is that the question has already been decided twice, democratically, through a referendum. And each time, a majority of Quebec voters rejected sovereignty. Indeed, the second result, as many have observed, was recorded despite an electoral apparatus severely tilted against the federalists.

But these democratically-achieved results are not the ones Bouchard wanted. Thus it is only a feeble and faint respect that he feels he owes to them. Otherwise, he would have removed, at least for a generation, the sword of sovereignty from above the head of the majority of Quebecers that has already twice expressed its preference for federalism.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"I never think of the future. It comes soon enough." – Albert Einstein

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WHEN WE'VE BEEN PUSHED INTO A CORNER.
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Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

March 21, 1941 Rabbi Gershon Levi became the first Jewish Canadian army chaplain during World War II. Over the next five years, he organized the the chaplaincy service for the more than 16,000 Jews serving in the armed forces. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Take politics out of memorial services

Like many of the Jews around the world, in the past several weeks I have been unfortunate enough to attend two memorials for Israelis killed in terrorist attacks in Jerusalem. I do not believe that I am naive, but since when have memorials become a forum for political expression? The constant discussion amongst those attending the memorials and those addressing the community forces one to ask the underlying question, "Would these terrorist attacks have happened if Likud was in power?" Quite frankly, *who cares?*

Maybe it is just me, but perhaps it's time we condemn Hamas and its associates for the terrorism, instead of the Israeli government. Last time I checked, I was at the memorial to honor the memory of those who were killed, to wish those injured a speedy recovery and to comfort the families who continue to mourn their lost mothers, fathers, siblings and children. What is significant here is that those who perished are not "victims of peace" but "victims of war." A war that will continue unfortunately, with or without the peace process and with or without Labor or Likud leadership.

When it comes down to it, Hamas didn't stop to question the civilians on the bus as to which political party they supported, why should we? Let's put political discussion aside and mourn those we've lost.

Jason Kalman
Montreal

Palestinian calls for peace

There is a long history of violence in the Middle East. Acknowledging that neither party shall go away, new thinking emerged and a few courageous men started what is now known as the peace process, which presented itself as a credible alternative to the vicious circle of violence. No one ever said that the peace process would be easy or that it would come without cost on either side.

There is only one way out of this vicious circle and that is the resumption of the newly developed method of dealing with the conflict — i.e. the peace process. Calls for revenge shall, if successful, bring to all parties more of the same. It is the historic responsibility of the peace-oriented elements on both sides to marginalize the revenge-oriented elements on their respective sides by advancing the peace process even faster, and to clearly demonstrate by deeds its benefits to their respective constituencies. There is no other way to continue the pursuit for a resolution to this conflict and the parties have no other reasonable alternative but to continue.

During the coming few weeks and months, there shall be a great challenge to those who believe in the peace process to hold on to it, no matter what. Those who are re-evaluating their support for the peace process must remember that the alternative is more of precisely what is making them re-evaluate, except without hope for an end in sight.

Monzer Zimmo
Ottawa
A Palestinian Canadian businessman, born and raised in Gaza.

Attacks Mike Harris policies

Rabbi Dow Marmur has given us a carefully crafted and highly effective critique of the Harris government, based on our Jewish traditions and teachings. Lorie Goldstein, on the other hand, (*CJN*, March 7) has no interest in a Jewish perspective and is apparently upset because a rabbi is commenting on the real world — or maybe it's just that he doesn't like what is said. (Interestingly, Goldstein's polemic contains several powerful reasons to oppose the Tories and no convincing reasons to support them.)

As a resident of Ontario, I oppose Harris because I don't want to live in Jersey City. As a taxpayer with a PhD in economics, I fight his fraudulent fiscal and spending policies, which will leave a huge tax bill for all of us when the next government begins to undo the harm done by the Tories. But most of all, as a Jew, I fear the narrowness, intolerance and authoritarianism of Harris, the not-so-subtle endorsation of sexism, racism, bigotry and anti-immigrant sentiment.

Ernie S. Lightman
Professor of Social Policy
University of Toronto

Harmony between blacks and Jews

I suggest that black and Jewish leaders in Canada and the United States meet in harmonious dialogue, iron out our differences and live in harmony and understanding. Remember nothing is impossible.

We can't help what we are born, black, white, red or yellow; that is in the hands of the Creator. Remember we all go back to the dust from whence we came. Let's stop this eternal hate.

Please, please, if we can't love one another, at least can we not respect each other.

Arthur Brown
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Hebron — a living symbol of Jewish resistance

By RABBI YEHIEL BEN-AYON

The ride was quite typical, swaying with careening turns, and stomachs bouncing to no particular rhythm. It was late Friday afternoon, during a cold rain storm, and we were being taken into Hebron for Shabbat. An air of silent sobriety prevailed, a nagging uncertainty, as we questioned our own wisdom. To be sure, we had all chosen Hebron over other decidedly more conventional and tamer places to rest during the Sabbath. But now there was no turning back.

Through thick and foggy plastic windows, we saw a surprisingly large and seemingly uninhabited city. Street after empty street, we could only see closed or shuttered windows and shops. Friday, the Muslim holy day, and the sun's setting combined with the weather to give an eerie and deserted look.

Hebron is an ancient city. With Abraham's purchase of the "field" from Ephron the Hittite, the Torah records this as the first parcel of Holy Land real estate. It is rich in history; King David chose it over 3,000 years ago as the capital of his nascent kingdom. Above all else in significance is the undisputed fact that it is the burial place of our patriarchs and matriarchs. Here lie Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Leah. This is its essence and its focus.

There has always been a Jewish presence in Hebron. In 1929, a savage pogrom left Hebron *judenrein*. After the 1967 war, the West Bank came under the administration of the Israeli Defence Forces.

Today, there are 52 Jewish families, which together with a yeshivah, comprise Hebron's Jewish population of just under 500. The ratio of Jew to Muslim is 500 to 60,000 (or even 100,000), depending on which suburbs are included.

Our minibus came to an abrupt stop; here we were. Its door slid open and the driver pointed in the general direction of an alley. Vehicles could get not closer, he explained, pointing to concrete roadblocks. We gathered our overnight bags and ran through the rain as he sped off.

At the end of the alley, we found a modern square, an oasis amid old and decrepit buildings. Here, under an overhang, we awaited further instructions.

Jews in Israel live on the "other" side of the Green Line for a variety of reasons, mainly economic, but also for the quiet lifestyle of a Yishuv, the breathtaking beauty of Gaza's coast or the fertile hills of the Golan. One makes his home in Hebron, lives and raises a family here for only one reason — ideological. To live in Hebron is not life on the frontier. It is life inside an enemy camp. The Jews, we found, don't live in a ghetto. Instead, they are dispersed in clusters, about a half dozen, all within 10 to 12 minutes walk from each other.

Our host soon found us huddling in our shelter. After the necessary niceties, he told us we would shortly be praying at the Machpelah, the cave in which the patriarchs and matriarchs are entombed. One does not actually enter the cave, but rather the building over it, an impressive edifice of Herodian construction that serves as both synagogue and mosque.

Since the cave was reopened after the horrific massacre by Baruch Goldstein, the two faiths are rigorously segregated. There are separate entrances with dual airport-type checkpoints at each.

Inside there were five different prayer groups ranging in size from 30 to several hundred. Men, women and children from adjoining Kiryat Arba walk down to join the Jews of Hebron in welcoming the Shabbat. The groups overflow into each other, as do their melodies. The atmosphere defies definition. It is electric and joyous; there is fervor and dancing during the prayer.

Intermittently, I remind myself that this is taking place over a tomb, indeed quite a venerable one. Yet, somehow, it is all totally appropriate.

Shabbat dinner is hosted by a Yemenite family. Tall tan-skinned and beautifully fine-featured children sit around the table. The apartment, by Israel standards, could be anywhere. It is clean and comfortable, the kitchen is well equipped. But this is Bet Hadassah, one of the clusters, so named because it was rebuilt on Hadassah property that was once a hospital/clinic and general address for social assistance to Jew and Arab alike.

A scene of the Avraham Avinu Synagogue and the soldiers who guard it inside the Cave of the Machphela, just after it reopened in December 1994. [Isranet photo]

Our hostess serves us exquisite and authentic fare. We listen to our host, as he in turn patiently listens to his children review the parshah and their previous week's progress at school. Each child glows in the parental attention accorded to him. Mentally I note that the sheer normalcy of this Shabbat scene is insane.

C'mon, I tell myself, this is Hebron. I search for tension, fear and anxiety and find none. After the meal, our group is to meet at the Machpelah. Our host, perhaps sensing my own fear, tension and anxiety, walks us the 10 minutes to the Machpelah.

The streets are still deserted. Since our arrival in the city centre this afternoon, we have yet to see an Arab, such is their lifestyle. There is not a single theatre or night spot in the city; all cafes close well before nightfall. The self-imposed curfew is a carry-over from their desert existence. I marvel that even their youth dare not breach this.

At the Machpelah, we meet our guide, a charming young lady. She is as full of facts and stories as she is full of life, and quite passionate about life in Hebron. It is now fashionable to show solidarity with the Yishuvim by spending Shabbat with them. She acts as the hostess to Hebron.

The Machpelah closes promptly at 9 p.m. and the soldiers gently inform us it is time to go home. Instead, I take a different trip — one of guilt. For as we prepare to go to warm and clean beds, these same boys must remain guarding me, out in the damp, dark cold. Not only this night but every night. The selfishness of this thought haunts me incessantly. Hot coffee and cake are periodically distributed to the soldiers by the yeshivah boys — a small consolation.

Instinctively, on the way back I climb up to one roof-top sentry point. Two soldiers there are at once startled and bemused at seeing me. We sit for a while overlooking a valley of more roof-tops and trade stories. When I leave them, my guilt intensifies.

Shabbat morning, we awaken to a different city. At 6 a.m., its streets are crowded and bursting with activity. The Jewish clusters are located right in middle of the old market, a sprawling and teaming middle eastern *souk*.

I walk to the Machpelah alone. The shuttered street of yesterday holds the chicken abattoirs of today. Crates of live chickens are loaded and unloaded everywhere. Women effortlessly pass by, transporting large bundles balanced on the top of their heads. A donkey speeds by in the silliest gait.

My presence in a dark western suit could not be more conspicuous or incongruous. While no one is making eye contact, I realize all eyes are on me. Nervously, I look up to assure myself that the roof-top sentries know I am there. They do. In relay fashion, I move from one protective eye to the next.

I enter the Machpelah with five Lubavitch Chassidim wearing their distinctive hats and frocks. On their sholders are slung semi-automatics. As we exchange "Good Shabbos," I wonder if anyone back home will believe me ... I'm not certain I believe my own eyes!

Morning prayers are much more subdued and this lends itself to better observation. I'm introduced to a man who recently lost his 17-year-old daughter to terrorism and I fumble for words. He doesn't want any; instead he talks and I listen.

Someone points out a handsome young man. His father and brother both fell in Dr. Baruch Goldstein's arms (this subsequently caused him to snap). Over there is the family left orphaned by a bullet into her father's head as he sat on a bus. Just outside is the monument to the yeshivah boy who bled to death after being stabbed dozens of times. This is a tour of terror and pain. The story of Hebron is written with the quill of hatred and the ink of blood.

Lunch is at Bet Schneerson with a mature couple. He is from New York, she from Chicago and both their accents betray them.

Again, as they talk, I am struck by their serenity and capacity for articulation. It all seems so clear and logical.

"If we don't have the right to live in Hebron, we don't, or won't have the right to Jerusalem or Tel Aviv. Surely, I want peace. I want to say hello to my Arab neighbor when I see her day in and day out, as we have for years when we both hang out laundry on the roof. It's not me, not being able to greet the same faces I cross daily in the street. I would like to shop again at the *shouk*, but we don't. The hatred is simply too great.

Below the window is a collection of pens and cages. This is the Hebron "zoo," really just a collection of farm animals, but significant, as it is a project of the children themselves. Nothing amazes one more in this place than the children — how they walk about from cluster to cluster among the Arabs. Are they fearless or reckless? I don't know.

Dozens of bicycles line a wall. When it is not Shabbat, they actually cycle about! I am told that nothing irks the Arab population more than the self-confidence of these children, as they go about their business of being children right under their noses.

I look forward to the afternoon, for we are about to hear Rabbi Levinger a man larger than life, reputed to be the radical of radicals. Instead, his rebbitzen speaks, a personality in her own right.

I am dazzled by this grandmotherly figure, by her wisdom, by her force, as much as by her feminine humility. She can be gentle one moment, as she speaks about herself and the people of Hebron, and a firecracker the next, as she bemoans the decline of democracy, the calibre of Israeli politics or the bankrupt values of secularism. For over an hour, we sit mesmerized by her charisma. Truly a modern day version of the Prophetess Devorah.

Maariv is said outdoors by the burial spot of Ruth, great-grandmother of King David. With the coming of the stars, Shabbat comes to an end, all too soon. Just then a minor commotion draws our attention. Out of nowhere, rolling towards us is a tire set ablaze!

Not an uncommon event, but not as disturbing as what happened the next morning. As we were about to board for our ride out of Hebron, a car pulled alongside of us. Both driver and passsenger had expressionless faces as they filmed us, panning in particular on our faces. It was the CSS (Israel's version of the CIA).

"They are here to record your visit; because of it, you are now officially on file as extremist radicals," we were told.

Just as our arrival was in silence, so was our departure. The loudest silence of all was the silence projected by the people of Hebron, the calculated calm of a community determined and biding its time. A noose tightens daily around Hebron; it is the countdown to redeployment. My heart and thoughts remain in Hebron, the living symbol of Jewish resistance and struggle for survival. May the G-d of Abraham stand by its men, women and children.

Rabbi Ben-Ayon is the spiritual leader of Magen David Congregation in Toronto.

Opinions

Purim was a time to mourn and celebrate

On March 5, I got 22 e-mail messages. Every message was about the bombings in Israel, the suicidal bombings engineered by Hamas. Some of the messages were from my high school friends at different universities in Ontario and Quebec. But most were from my friends in Israel.

By Viva Press

Roni, Stacey, Ahron and others sent me the details the Halifax newspapers did not cover. They wrote to me about their fear and anguish and the despair and anger of the Israelis. They described the troops of soldiers stationed everywhere. A few wrote to tell me that they were returning home early from their year of study abroad; home to their families in Canada or the United States.

It was *erev* Purim. And I was deeply despondent on what was supposed to be a happy day.

When I heard about the Dizengoff bomb in Tel Aviv, I was shaken. This was the fourth bomb in nine days. I thought of my friends and family in Israel. I thought of the Israelis among whom I had lived and worked. I thought of how I felt when the Afula and Hadera bombs erupted while I was living in the Golan in 1994. I read through the e-mails again and again. And I wished I was there. In Israel. Now.

It is a strange phenomenon to many of my friends at the University of King's College that I would want to be in Israel during this time of unrest. Some have told me that I must have a death-wish. I don't. I just want to be with the Israelis at this moment in time and to share in their grief.

Of course, I would be scared stiff if I was there. But everyone around me would be scared too.

I have lived in Israel for three- or four-month stints in the past two years. And every time I leave there, I take a part of the country, the people and the life with me.

A Jewish friend asked me if I would ride the buses if I was in Israel now. I said yes. She didn't believe me. I told her that when I was in Israel in 1994 and 1995 I rode the buses all over the country. After the first suicide bomb in Afula exploded, I still took the bus. And after the Hadera bomb, I continued to ride the buses. It was my way of getting around. Yes, I would be cautious; but no, I would not stop riding the buses.

Just as I do not denounce those who choose not to ride the bus, nor condemn those who, out of fear, have returned from Israel to Canada, I had hoped that my friend would understand my feeling that if I were in Israel I would still have to live my life as normally as possible. But she couldn't or wouldn't understand. How could I be afraid of potential bombs yet still ride the buses?

And here in Halifax it was a holiday. Purim. We were supposed to be celebrating.

Ironically, the Shabbat immediately preceding Purim is called Shabbat Zachor. *Zachor* means to remember. In Deuteronomy we read the commandment to remember what the nation of Amalek did to us when we left Egypt, attacking the faint and weary Israelites at the rear of the march.

The Amalekites' goal was to destroy Israel. And it was the goal of Hamas to destroy the Jews at the very time that we were getting ready to celebrate our victory over Haman.

I went to shul with three friends, none of whom felt like dressing up. I had mixed feelings too. Yes, it was Purim. But it was also a day for mourning. It was a day to celebrate the Jews' conquest over Haman. And it was also a day to mourn innocent victims dressed in Purim costumes who were murdered by the Hamas.

Before the Purim service began at the Sha'ar Shalom Synagogue, to which I go in Oxford Street, Rabbi Pamela Hoffman pointed out that although we all felt sorrow in our hearts, it is a mitzvah to celebrate Purim.

And so, the K'El Maleh Rachamim was recited for the victims of the attacks in Israel. And then the Megillah was read. After every mention of Haman's name, the noise from the graggers filled the shul. One of my friends whispered to me that it's not only Haman we are blocking out with noise, but Hamas too. And all of our enemies who attack Israel.

That's why I dressed up. That's why I told my friends that if I was in Israel now I would ride the buses to get around. Of course I would. Hamas will not control my life.

I celebrated Purim. I shall celebrate Pesach. And I will always continue to celebrate Israel as the Jewish homeland. Nobody will drive us out of our land.

Hamas: balancing theory with emotion

The events of the last three weeks in Israel horrified, pained and frightened Jews the world over. Along with the pain and fear comes a sense of frustration that can prevent clear analysis of the political reality underlying the bombings.

By Ilan Gewurz

To properly understand the political dynamics, one must first explore the reality of the Hamas threat. What type of movement is Hamas, how is it perceived within Palestinian society and what is the true nature of the challenge it represents?

Hamas is more than just a militant terrorist organization; it is also a social organization that provides many important programs and enjoys deep-seated legitimacy among the Palestinian people. The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) emerged out of the existing Muslim Brotherhood with the start of the intifadah.

The largest Islamic movement across the Arab world, the Brotherhood is devoted to a process of educating Muslims and raising a religious Islamic society. It undertakes the establishment of religious schools, charity associations and other forms of social programming. Because of its non-violent nature, the Brotherhood was allowed to exist freely under Israeli rule. With the start of the intifadah, the newly-founded Hamas built upon the Brotherhood's legitimacy and took over its role and social functions.

The Gulf War marked an important turning point for the organization. Unlike PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, it was restrained in its support for Saddam Hussein. Following the war, Hamas became the beneficiary of Saudi and Kuwaiti anger with Arafat and was able to make significant political headway at the expense of the PLO.

Hamas enjoys a measure of public support among Palestinians. On the eve of the Oslo accord, polls showed that Hamas enjoyed the support of over 15 percent of the population in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and constituted the most significant challenge to the leadership of the PLO.

However, bimonthly polls conducted in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have shown that support for Hamas drops and support for the Palestinian Authority rises following political breakthroughs with Israel when hope of tangible results are high. Conversely, in times when the peace process appears to be stalled, support for Hamas rises. Thus, Hamas opposition since the start of the peace process has come not only to represent an alternative to the PLO for local Palestinians but also to serve as an expression of disenchantment with the peace process.

Arafat would prefer to follow Jordan's example, where the king has managed to co-opt the moderate Islamists in the political arena by constraining them within the system, rather than follow the model of Algeria, where crushing the Islamic fundamentalist group served to marginalize many moderates.

From Arafat's point of view, therefore, his "carrot and stick" approach is appropriate. He aims to appease Hamas sufficiently to co-opt its moderate supporters. Polls have shown that over 41 percent of Hamas supporters oppose violence against Israeli civilians. At the same time, he cracks down on Hamas sufficiently to appease Israel and move ahead with the process. This seems to have had some success. Following the Palestinian election, polls showed Hamas support in the West Bank and Gaza to have dropped below 10 percent .

How helpful is it for us to understand Arafat's "predicament," in determining our own best interests? Where do we draw the line between allowing Arafat to deal with his own domestic challenges in his own way and having to bear the painful consequences of his "political" challenges? Should the fact that Arafat and other leaders attended the funeral of "the Engineer" and called him a "great martyr" be written-off as necessary concessions? What if it is true, as many analysts have suggested, that the recent attacks occurred because Hamas is divided, weak and desperate? Is a weak Hamas under Arafat less or more of a threat than a strong Hamas under Israel?

On the other hand, what is our alternative to the peace process? Before we decide where to draw the line, we must seriously consider whether the bombings and the loss of life are truly the necessary cost of a successful process. Arafat may not be able to put an end to the violence against Israel, but we must ask whether he is doing everything in his power.

Rabin was not the first

It is a sad fact that Yitzhak Rabin was not the first Jewish leader to be assassinated by a fellow Jew. There was one other instance that shook a nascent Jewish nation in Eretz Yisrael, in June 1933.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

At the time Chaim Arlosoroff was among the most prominent Jews of the Yishuv. He had come from Ukraine some nine years before. A poet, prolific essayist and political activist he soon became a leading member of the Weizmann-Ben-Gurion party and developed ideas which were revolutionary for his time. Chief amongst these was a practical acknowledgement that Jews were sharing the land with resident Arabs, and that some accommodation between the two would have to be found.

Also, he foresaw the need for rescuing Jews from a desperate situation which would develop in the foreseeable future. Even though Hitler had just come to power, Arlosoroff foretold a mass emigration from the Diaspora to Palestine, and urged his fellow Jews to make provisions for it. In a secret letter to Chaim Weizmann he urged the Zionist movement to accept the inevitability of a future world war and to make provisions for such an eventuality.

As the influence of Arlosoroff grew in the Yishuv, so did opposition to his novel ideas. Heated and often vituperative public exchanges took place — and at the time many people suspected that the verbal attacks on Arlosoroff led to his terrible end. For in June 1933, he was assassinated by unknown assailants while walking with his wife on the Tel Aviv seashore.

Subsequently, upon identification by Arlosoroff's widow, various Revisionists were arrested, but all denied any involvement. A district court convicted Abraham Stavsky of the crime, but the Supreme Court overturned his conviction for lack of corroborating evidence.

No one was ever apprehended again, although some time later two young Arabs (who were in jail) confessed to the crime. They later retracted their confession, claiming that they had been bribed to make it. Chief Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook was firmly convinced that accusing Jews of the assassination was a gentile blood label encouraged by the British Mandatory administration.

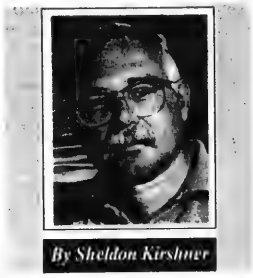
But at the time, Jews persisted in believing that it was another Jew who, for political motives had killed the labor leader, and historians have tended to agree. In Arlosoroff's memory, many streets in small and large towns have been named after him, as were three settlements: K'far Chayim, Kibbutz Givat Chavim and Kiryat Chayim (located near Haifa).

The ultimate irony in this unsolved puzzle is the way in which Stavsky eventually died. When David Ben-Gurion ordered the destruction of the gun-laden ship Altalena, in an internecine fight, 14 men were slain, amongst them Stavsky. The head of the Palmach forces that fired on the ship was Yitzhak Rabin.

Arlosoroff was only 34 years old when he died.

The Kirshner File

The making and breaking of a neo-Nazi



By Sheldon Kirshner

When I was last in Germany on assignment two years ago, I tried to contact Ingo Hasselbach. My efforts were in vain. Hasselbach, a neo-Nazi who had defected from the movement in a blaze of publicity, was said to be in hiding. Little did I know that he and an American journalist, Tom Reiss, the son of a Holocaust survivor, were at that very moment collaborating on a book.

It has now been published under the title of *Fuhrer-Ex: Memoirs of a Former Neo-Nazi* (Random House, $33.50). The latest in a stream of volumes about neo-Nazism which have hit the market since the reunification of Germany in 1990, *Fuhrer-Ex* is a well-written, fascinating story of a man who was almost spiritually and physically destroyed by a hateful creed.

To the best of my knowledge, it is the first insider's account of the German neo-Nazi movement, which has shocked the civilized world with its rhetoric and violence.

By any yardstick, Hasselbach, 29, was a picture-perfect Aryan: tall, blond and xeonophobic, a stereotypical racist-cum-brawler who headed the National Alternative, one of the first neo-Nazi political parties in Germany.

Hasselbach was not only a budding ideologue. He was a common street fighter who revelled in bruising battles with anarchists. He was a terrorist who plotted the assassination of Gregor Gysi, the reformed Communist party leader, and of Ignatz Bubis, the president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany. He was the organizer of paramilitary camps for neo-Nazis who fought on Croatia's side in the Yugoslavian civil war. And lest we forget, he was the desecrator of the grave of Rosa Luxemburg, the Jewish revolutionary.

One wonders, then, why such a person, someone whom Hitler, Goebbels or Streicher would doubtless have admired as an exemplar of patriotic youth, gave it all up in a public display of contrition and repentance.

Hasselbach's road to sanity was long and tortured, and for a neo-Nazi, he sprang from the unlikeliest of backgrounds. He was born out of wedlock in the now-defunct German Democratic Republic (East Germany), where his father, an ardent Communist, rose to be chief of the official state radio.

Hasselbach was not the apple of his father's eye. Indeed, he was a great embarrassment: a hippy, a hard-core punk, a drunk. Apart from being an incorrigible rebel in a state which demanded conformity, he was prone to violence.

When he was still a teenager, he spraypainted swastikas on buildings in his neighborhood. It was purely an act of defiance, Hasselbach having little idea what the symbol denoted.

In 1987, he was detained by the authorities for shouting, "The (Berlin) wall must fall!" He was packed off to jail for one year. In the next two years, he flitted from one prison to another, charged with insulting a policeman and giving the stiff-arm Nazi salute.

In his cell, Hasselbach acquired the rudiments of Nazism from hardened Nazi war criminals. Primarily, they poisoned his mind with anti-Semitic ravings. Hasselbach had never knowingly met a Jew, nor was he inherently ill-disposed toward Jews, but now, willy nilly, he was launched on the path of anti-Semitism.

With his flight to West Germany two days before the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989, Hasselbach enlarged his education as a right-wing radical. In a refugee camp in Hamburg, he met West German neo-Nazis who plied him with propaganda literature which was hard to come by in East Germany. He was also introduced to Michael Kuhnen, the most prominent neo-Nazi leader in West Germany, a cany individual whom he would regard as a father figure.

With Kuhnen's encouragement and help, Hasselbach founded the National Alternative, the first ever neo-Nazi party in East Germany, a professedly anti-fascist state which would soon implode and be swallowed up by West Germany.

Under Kuhnen's guidance, Hasselbach became a confirmed anti-Semite. And with the passage of time, he learned the ways of capitalism, charging reporters a fee for interviews.

As his star rose, Hasselbach frequented the homes of old Nazis. One such salon, in Berlin, was presided over by an elderly woman. Her guests were a jumble of academics, attorneys and doctors who had been fanatical Nazis during the Third Reich. As Hasselbach recalls, they were obsessed by their collective hatred of Jews. One venomous 80-year-old woman, eating cake and dribbling coffee onto her blouse said, "We absolutely should desecrate more Jewish cemeteries this month."

Besides meeting such people, Hasselbach regularly found himself in the company of Gary (Gerhard) Lauck, the American neo-Nazi who cynically mails anti-Semitic materials under false Jewish surnames so as to avoid official detection, and Gottfried Kussel, the Austrian neo-Nazi whom he describes as "the world's greatest anti-Semite."

Hasselbach began to turn his back on the movement when a foreigners' hostel in Rostock was firebombed by neo-Nazis. "I saw violence against them as idiotic and also cowardly." At that stage of his development, he believed that terrorism should be directed against big companies — Opel and Mercedes-Benz — which employed foreigners!

Perhaps the most decisive turning point in Hasselbach's ultimate rejection of neo-Nazism was his unlikely friendship with a left-wing filmmaker named Winfried Bonengel, whose hard-hiting movies, *Profession Neo-Nazi* and *We're Back*, received critical acclaim.

We're Back, which stars none other than the blond beast himself, was a cathartic experience for Hasselbach. As he watched it, he was assailed by self-doubts. "My attitudes and goals (seemed) ridiculous, as well as frightening," he confesses.

Torn by uncertainty, and contemplating a new life free of racism, Hasselbach embarked on the path of redemption.

If there was a defining moment of truth, it was the neo-Nazi firebombing of a house in Molln in which two Turkish girls and their grandmother were burned alive. "I felt a certain boundary had been overstepped ... I felt sick." Much to his disgust, his comrades celebrated the tragedy.

As his disillusionment grew, Hasselbach finally realized how absurd were the neo-Nazi claims that the Holocaust was a hoax. At the end of 1993, he decided to quit and to renounce the movement, a decision his former *kamerads* denounced as an act of treachery and promised to avenge.

By way of retaliation, they sent a powerful, though defective, bomb to his mother's house in Berlin. If it had exploded, the device would have brought down the four-storey building.

Hasselbach was not intimidated. He wrote a book, in German, about his fling with neo-Nazism, and he told the security services everything he knew about the movement. His testimony prompted a nation-wide crackdown on neo-Nazism and still more threats from his former friends.

Today, Hasselbach lectures frequently on right-wing extremism, knowing that his life is still in danger. But he persists, secure in the knowledge that the battle against neo-Nazism is a never-ending task.

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Librarian Glassman turns her passion into life's work

Communities cannot function and prosper without the commitment, care and tireless efforts, mostly unrecognized, of countless hard-working individuals. They are the "unsung heroes" of the community. Spotlight *will appear occasionally in these pages to shine a light on some of these heroes. If you would like* The CJN *to cast a spotlight on the unsung heroes you know, please contact Carolyn Blackman at* The CJN *any Friday before 3 p.m.*

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — One of Zina Glassman's fond memories of her childhood in Russia is of her father filling their home with books.

Now the librarian at Beth Tzedec Synagogue's Max & Beatrice Wolfe Library, Glassman has turned her lifelong passion for books into a career.

"As a student in Russia, I had wanted to study literature, but because it was difficult for a Jew to get into university, I took library studies at Minsk Pedagogical Institute. In the end it was a good decision. Sometimes things in life steer you in a particular direction and it turns out for the best," she says.

Zina Glassman

Glassman, who has worked at the Judaica library since 1987, is responsible for stocking the shelves with books, tapes, magazines and newspapers, as well as running adult education programs and guiding students from the congregational school in their research projects.

Recent adult programs have included a symposium on literature and anti-Semitism and a lecture on modern Jewish writing.

"Our Judaica shelves have thousands of books in English, Hebrew and Yiddish, and separate sections are devoted to our religious legacy, Israel, Zionism, art, philosophy and fiction.

"I spend hours poring over book reviews and periodicals, ensuring that we have the best current publications," Glassman says. "Along with Marjorie Rasky, chair of the library committee, I make sure we order the best reading material available while not overspending. It is a delicate balance. Other libraries have come to see us so that they could model their library after Beth Tzedec's."

Glassman says when she was growing up in Russia, her family retained their Jewish identity and observed most Jewish holidays.

"My grandmother never spoke to us in Russian — it was always Yiddish. Our Jewish bond was strong. This helps immensely with my work in the library. I also keep abreast by a lot of reading and taking courses on Judaic subjects."

A mother of two daughters, she says one of her favorite parts of the job is working with students and helping them develop a love of Judaism.

"Recently, I have begun working on a genealogy project with them so they will have a better knowledge of their roots. The project involves their parents and grandparents, if possible, and they research various topics about their background — meaning of their name, languages spoken, occupations of their ancestors and those who fought, survived or died in the Holocaust. Everybody is really enjoying it."

Glassman also belongs to the Association of Jewish Libraries of America and is on the executive board of the Ontario chapter. A convention to be held in Toronto in June, of which she is one of the organizers, is "a major cultural event for librarians. Its theme is Culture and Community — A Jewish Commitment, and it should give me ideas how to make our library even better."

Kolel to honor Rose Wolfe

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In recognition of her extensive voluntary contributions, Rose Wolfe, chancellor of the University of Toronto, will be honored on April 25.

The tribute dinner at the Inn on the Park is sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, an institute of adult learning in the Greater Toronto Area.

Despite her refusal to accept awards, Wolfe told *The CJN* she accepted Kolel's tribute because she believes this event will raise the profile of Kolel and attract more people to its educational programs.

"Over the past five years," she says, "I have watched Kolel grow and I am impressed with the programs and participants the institute is attracting. The program is for adults, many of whom are successful in their own fields in business and the professions. Students range from those with little or no Judaic background to those who wish to continue in the field of Jewish studies.

Rose Wolfe

"At a time when there are growing concerns about assimilation and intermarriage, Kolel has emerged as a strengthening and unifying force for the Jewish people."

Her daughter, Elizabeth Wolfe, was a driving force in founding Kolel and is now its chair. On her return to Toronto after a year of study in Israel, Elizabeth realized that it was difficult for her to find a locale for liberal studies.

She worked with Stephen Morrison, the founding chair of Kolel, to establish the institute, which started with 40 students in its first semester and now has an enrolment of 1,500 people. More than 70 percent of the students are between 20 and 45 years of age.

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel, says Rose Wolfe is an outstanding example of a person totally committed to both educational and Jewish continuity.

"She understands that the best way to reach young Jewish adults on their journey to spiritual and religious discovery is through solid, serious yet accessible and welcoming Jewish educational programming," Rabbi Goldstein said.

"She has spent her life finding a way in both secular and Jewish worlds. We at Kolel are delighted that she has accepted this honor. Her goals and vision are totally in spirit with ours — a deepening of Jewish identity through Jewish education.

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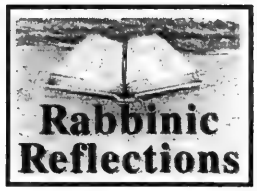


Making sacrifices

By
RABBI YAACOV BENAMOU

Parshah Vayikrah starts with an unusual format: "He called to Moses, and HaShem spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting, saying: Speak to the Children of Israel and say to them: When a man among you brings an offering to HaShem."

The theme of this parshah is the *korbanot* (sacrifices). Throughout generations, the Laws of *Korbanot* have been discussed extensively. It is interesting to see the viewpoint of the Ramban (Leviticus 1:9) and many others, who emphasize the eternal, intrinsic and sacred values of sacrifices. Our prayers, too, give fervent expression to our hopes that the complete service of the Temple will be restored. It is told that the Chofetz Chaim always had a group of *kohanim* studying most carefully all laws pertaining to the *Avodah* in the Temple, in order to be fully prepared at the moment of its restoration.

This much should be clear: The whole system of *korbanot* was rooted in holiness and its basic aims were of a high and lofty nature. What are some of these aims?

The word *korban* has great significance, for it has two meanings: to draw near; and to sacrifice.

Life presents us with many serious conflicts. We all recognize the need for drawing near unto G-d, for living by noble ideals and principles. But we often discover that the hard realties of life or the temptation and weakness of human flesh make the realization of these ideals a more difficult task.

The Jew who keeps his Shabbat in spite of economic hardships has learned to bring a *korban*, a sacrifice, for the sake of his Torah and convictions.

The word *oleh*, which means a free-will burnt offering, comes from the root "to ascend," for it signifies the desire to ascend towards G-d and place oneself in His service. Likewise the word *korban*, which means sacrifice or offering, comes from the root "to bring near", for not only is the offering brought near to G-d at the altar, but the spirit of the offering brings one close to G-d.

There is a famous story about the well-known prime minister of England, Sir Benjamin Disraeli. After Disraeli was converted to the dominant faith of England, Queen Victoria said to him: "Mr. Disraeli, I know you to be a wise and brilliant person. It is, therefore, difficult for me to believe that you have abandoned the ancient faith of the Patriarchs and the Prophets for a new faith which owes its very existence to your own religion. I, therefore, have doubts as to whether you really are a full-fledged Christian and likewise as to whether you have really severed completely all of your ties with your own people. Now then, Mr. Disraeli, if you are neither a Jew nor a Christian, may I ask you what you are?"

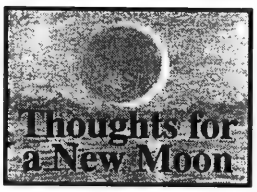
Disraeli bowed politely and replied: "Your Majesty, I am the blank page which separates the Old Testament from the New Testament in the newly published Bible of England." What a brilliant and what a frightfully painful answer!

Fortunately, however, in those days, the number of Disraelis or "blank page Jews" was rather limited. In fact, the Jew was never, whatever else he may have been, blank either in his actions or in his appearance. Can there be any brighter color added to one's life than kiddush and *zemirot* on a Friday night; a seder with questions and answers presided over by parents; an evening in the sukkah with the stars gazing at you and some of the towering biblical heroes as your guests.?

Judaism pursues this approach. It insists that our ideals have priority, "yikov hadin et hahar" and that we must be prepared to sacrifice and to surrender for the sake of Divine Commandments and inner convictions. Parenthood, liberty and all other virtues can only be achieved through some degree of sacrifice.

Korbanot had to come from a man's own wealth and possessions. One could not bring from *hefker* (ownerless possessions). This teaches us that we are not to use our wealth only for personal gain and comfort, but devote it also to the service of G-d and man.

Rabbi Benamou is the spiritual leader of Herzlia Adas-Yeshurun Synagogue in Winnipeg.



Virtues of the matriarchs

By **RACHEL TURKIENICZ**

As we all sit down to our Passover seder, the symbols and images of slavery and redemption overwhelm our senses. Yet at the same time, the subtle tribute being paid to Jewish women of past and present should not be ignored.

From the very first seder in our memories, we notice the repetition of the number four. There are four questions asked by the youngest child; there are four sons addressing their parents; there are four cups of wine that we consume throughout the evening; there are four commandments that outline the minimum of our obligations. The number four weaves itself into the seder ritual and spans the imagery from start to finish. What is the significance of this number and why does it frame our commemoration of redemption?

Throughout the ages, there have been many commentaries and suggestions to solve the puzzle of "the four." But one need not search far and wide for the answer; it appears in the Haggadah itself. The book we read at the seder contains a song toward the end that centres on the question of numbers. Children use this song as a form of quiz to test their knowledge of the numerical symbols of the holiday.

The song begins with "Who knows one? I know one! One is our Lord who is in the heavens and on the earth." It continues through the numbers, listing each number and its parallel significance. Interestingly, when the song lists the question for number four it appears in this way: 'Who knows four? I know four! Four are the matriarchs." Could this be the answer to the repeated appearance of the number four at the seder table?

But what is the significance of the matriarchs at the Passover seder?

The Babylonian Talmud states that the Jewish women enslaved in Egypt modelled themselves on the four matriarchs: Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel. In fact, according to the Talmud, it is due to the merit of the women enslaved in Egypt that the entire nation of Israel were redeemed.

Yet one wonders how the matriarchs served as models for an entire generation of women, to the point that this alone forced God's intervention for an entire people?

A closer look at these biblical women answers our questions. Embodied in the model of our matriarchs are the virtues to which all Jews strive. Sarah teaches us diplomacy and respect; Rebecca teaches us kindness to all living creatures; Leah shows us the strength necessary to persevere; while Rachel embodies the traits of loyalty and love. Each had good and bad qualities and each strove for what she believed to be true justice.

All of Israel were redeemed because these women were used as models for a generation of women facing cruelty and hardship. Women today are rightfully demanding that the matriarchs be studied and honored. When we encounter the number four in our seders this year, perhaps a moment could be taken to pay tribute to these women — and all women who struggle and strive for greater goals.

Jewish Life

Genre commemorates the dead

Roots & Remembrance

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Out of the ashes of the Holocaust has come a sombre genre of books, known as memorial books or yizkor-bikhur, that attempt to capture the essence of life as it was lived in hundreds of destroyed Jewish communities in Eastern Europe.

In the half-century since the Shoah, more than 600 titles have appeared, chronicling communities large and small, at least 450 of them in Poland. The others deal with an uneven sprinkling of towns in Belarus, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Ukraine and the former Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. While Lodz, Warsaw, Kalisz, Bialystok and other Polish localities each boast a plurality of volumes, the genre has unfortunately neglected Odessa, Kiev, Zhitomir, Moghilev and many other important eastern communities.

Most yizkor books were compiled after 1945 by groups of survivors belonging to *landsmanshaft* societies in Israel, the United States, Canada, Argentina and Brazil. They were usually written in a combination of Hebrew and Yiddish, and printed in limited numbers expressly for other survivors and their families. Their purpose was generally to fulfil a deep-felt need to commemorate the dead.

The books generally adhere to an established format. The typical volume contains a historical sketch of the community, usually in a chapter about the town's pre-WWI days. There follows a chapter on the interwar period, featuring personal reminiscences and rich descriptions of communal and educational institutions, social and religious life, and prominent personalities from the revered rabbi to the local water-carrier.

Then, like the darkest thunderclouds intruding on a sunny Shabbat picnic, come details of the Shoah: descriptions of witnessed atrocities, deportations and death camps. Necrologies – lists of the dead – are presented on pages with heavy black borders. Some books offer full obituaries with photographs of beloved mothers, fathers, children, grandparents, cousins and friends who, strangely and eerily, are almost never smiling.

Although not comprehensive, the necrologies still make yizkor books uniquely valuable to genealogists and family historians. A foremost authority on yizkor books, Zachary Baker, chief librarian at the YIVO Institute in New York, laments that professional historians have underutilized these first-hand sources, preferring more "objective" views that have not been filtered through the bleak prism of the Holocaust. Alas, a scholar once cavalierly dismissed these earnest monuments of love and grief as "tombstones, not books."

Verily, they are both. As sociologists Jack Kugelmass and Jonathan Boyarin observe in *From A Ruined Garden: The Memorial Books of Polish Jewry,* their 1983 anthology of translated excerpts from yizkor books: "The volumes typically open with a frontispiece featuring symbols of mourning as well as symbols of life destroyed: a *tallit* (prayer shawl) draped over a tombstone; a ghostly figure rising from the grave, his eyes covered by his hands and tears falling; a menorah overturned, its candle flames igniting the entire town; a tree cut down at the height of vitality, with a small green shoot growing from its stump."

Kugelmass and Boyarin ask an essential question: if there were no precedents for yizkor books in Jewish literary history, how did these tomes emerge as a distinct genre so quickly after the Shoah? The answer is that they were with us all along, in slightly disguised form, probably right from the Babylonian exile following the destruction of the First Temple.

Devastated by Christian crusaders on the march to Jerusalem, Jewish communities along the Rhine began to read from lists of dead at prayer services; over time, the names of victims of later massacres and catastrophes were added to these books. Many German communities maintained such memorbuecher; so did Vienna, Amsterdam and other diverse communities.

Such works were likely a precursor to Rabbi Nathan Hannover's famous 17th-century chronicle *Yeven Metzulah (Abyss of Despair),* which depicted Jewish life in Ukraine and eastern Poland during the Chmielnicki massacres of 1648-49. The author gave a vivid and graphic account of atrocities committed, but his first-hand narrative lacks a black-bordered necrology, the hallmark of the modern yizkor book. Less than three centuries later, in 1919, upon the very same Ukrainian killing fields, modern-day Cossacks slaughtered thousands of Jews in the town of Proskurov, now tellingly renamed Chmielnicki. Khurbn Proskurov, the memorial volume that appeared in 1924, is regarded as the first of the modern yizkor books.

Canada boasts two excellent yizkor-book collections, belonging respectively to the Jewish Public Library of Montreal and the Robarts Library of the University of Toronto.

***Roots and Remembrance** is a new monthly feature which explores Jewish genealogy, heritage and history.*

Rehovot rabbi urges unity

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "Don't worry, G-d understands English perfectly," joked Rehovot Chief Rabbi Simcha HaCohen Kook, as he urged Jews to add personal petitions for fellow-Jews in their daily prayers.

"At least once a day, mention the situation of your brothers in Israel. Urge G-d to have *rachamim,* mercy."

Rabbi Kook was speaking at Or Chaim Yeshiva to a joint program of JEP, the Or Chaim Kollel, Bnei Akiva and Yavne Olami.

Especially in this time of tragedy in Israel, Rabbi Kook said, "every Jew has to be friends with each other."

To be a Jew, Rabbi Kook said, "means to try to find holiness in each person, at any time," and "to build a bridge between [the different] groups, or we will lose everything."

It also means, he said, recognizing the sanctity of the land.

Israel, he said, is called Eretz Yisrael, rather than Eretz Avraham or Eretz Yitzchak, because we have partners in our descent from Avraham and Yitzchak — Ishmael and Esau, who have, theoretically, the same right to the land.

"Jacob's name was changed to 'Israel' when he fought with the angel and won.

"Eretz Israel, then, is a country you have to fight for, but in a spiritual way, with hard work, attention and holiness," he said.

"While the Jews were wandering in the desert of Sinai, they got everything from G-d — maana, water, Moshe, the Torah itself. The moment we crossed the Jordan, that all stopped. We had to study the Torah ourselves."

Similarly, "The Torah won't come by itself to Toronto or Jerusalem. It will take time, effort and money."

Both the Temples were destroyed, Rabbi Kook said. Only the mishkan, the temporary sanctuary that housed the tablets of the covenant, was never destroyed, although it has been lost for centuries.

"That is because it was built directly according to the direction of Moshe, not with the help of foreign kings like the Temples were."

Holiness can only come from holiness, he said, decrying the many secular Jews who see no holiness in either Israel or Jerusalem, because they don't learn it in school.

"Five years ago, they would at least get one class about Yom Kippur. Now many don't hear a word. They don't even know the basics."

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From coast to coast

JTS students get taste of pulpit life

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

NEW YORK, N.Y. — The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS), New York training ground for Conservative rabbis, is making its presence felt at over 100 synagogues in the United States and Canada as part of its National Seminary Shabbat.

The last weekend in February was the Seminary Shabbat's main weekend, with 26 students travelling individually to take part in a program designed to give them a taste of pulpit experience while giving each congregation exposure to the type of person attending the seminary. The program resumed this year after a hiatus of several years.

"We often have images of rabbis being old and with grey beards," said Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl of Toronto's Beth Tzedec Congregation. "There are young rabbis, and it's very important for synagogues and particularly for young people to see rabbis as vibrant, young participants in Jewish life, because they become an accessible model for them."

Beth Tzedec was one of three Canadian shuls participating in Seminary Shabbat. Toronto's Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation and London's Congregation Or Shalom also took part.

"Having a national Seminary Shabbat links Conservative synagogues to one another and to the Seminary," said Rebecca Jacobs, co-ordinator of the program, in a news release. "On that Shabbat, thousands of Jews in synagogues from Manhattan to Louisville, KY to Prairie Village, KS, will all meet Seminary students face to face. There is something truly inspiring in that."

Rabbi Larry Lander of Or Shalom called first-year rabbinical student Jennifer Tobenstein "a good role model." The 23-year-old native of Montreal, a third of whose classmates are female, spoke at the egalitarian London synagogue about her experience as a Canadian female rabbinical student and led a study session on Beruriah, a respected female Talmud scholar of the second century.

"I enjoyed it so much, I'm doing it again in Minneapolis at the end of March," said Tobenstein in a phone interview from New York. "I don't have many opportunities to give sermons to large numbers of people. Every time I do I enjoy it more and more."

A former Jewish Theological Seminary student, now serving at Beth El Synagogue in East Windsor, New Jersey, considers the Seminary Shabbat in which he participated in Toronto 10 years ago "the pivotal change weekend for me."

At the time, Rabbi Jay Kornsgold, then an undergraduate student, planned to become a lawyer and enter politics. Congregants at Beth David, where he spoke on Shabbat morning about life at the seminary, broke into spontaneous applause at the end of his sermon.

Rabbi Philip Scheim recalls being impressed with Kornsgold's obvious potential. This year his shul hosted student Lewis Warshauer, who met with congregants after services to discuss the issues raised in his sermon on a less formal basis.

"It's nice to see what the future's going to look like," said Rabbi Scheim.

Fifth-year rabbinical student Ron Fish, 26, who took part in the Seminary Shabbat at Beth Tzedec, would advise young people considering entering JTS that they "should expect to benefit greatly from the community the seminary provides," but cautions that they must commit themselves to working hard.

Diamond lands Israel project

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Architect Jack Diamond and his company have won the design competition for the new Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, the $40-million building to be completed by 1998 for the state's 50th anniversary.

The Foreign Ministry facilitates diplomatic relations with 105 countries that recognize Israel. It will be located in the national precinct, which also houses the Knesset and the Supreme Court.

The contract was won by A.J. Diamond, Donald Schmitt and Company in a joint venture with Kolker, Kolker, Epstein Architects of Jerusalem. This team recently completed the City Hall complex for Jerusalem and is currently producing the Gateway project at the entrance to Jerusalem, a mixed-use complex including a multi-purpose stadium, retail space and hotels.

It's been a banner year for Diamond, a South African-born architect, who became an officer of the Order of Canada, and whose firm beat out 26 other competitors to design a new Jewish Community Centre on New York's Upper West side, north of Lincoln Centre.

Model of a new foreign ministry in Jerusalem.

This year as well, his firm, in association with Boigon Pillow Architects, won the contract for the new Baycrest Home for the Aged.

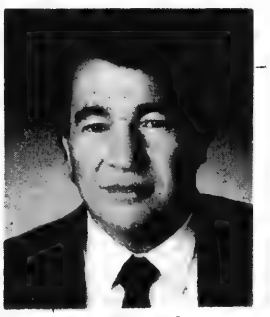
Diamond is ecstatic when he speaks of Jerusalem (he has visited Israel's capital at least 50 times) and of his relations with the Jerusalem architects associated with the winning design.

"When the first stage was finished, the Israel government representatives asked the remaining contenders to have their refined designs ready by Jan. 29," he said. "I objected because there was a lot to do and I had promised my family a holiday. My Jerusalem associates agreed and they joined my family in a rented house in Venice, where we finished the design and all had a wonderful time."

To cap it all off, 72 of Diamond's water color paintings and drawings of Israel, Italy and other countries are on exhibit until April 20 at the Italian Cultural Institute, 496 Huron Street (416-921-3802). The exhibit, titled Spirited Places comprises travel sketches from his many voyages.

This year also saw the culmination of his intensive work as one of the five commissioners who produced the Anne Golden report on the future of the Greater Toronto Area.

"My work with the commission was better than any PhD seminar," he said. "I'm extremely fond of Toronto."



Jack Diamond

Sandy and Kitchie Hofstedter

GUESTS OF HONOUR

Ner Israel Yeshiva is privileged to bestow this well deserved tribute on Sandy and Kitchie for their respective roles as founders and officers of the Yeshiva and Women's Auxiliary.

This evening coincides with Sandy and Kitchie's 50th Wedding Anniversary and they have chosen to mark this occasion with the establishment of The Torah Endowment Fund that will help the Yeshiva carry on its holy and beneficial work in higher Jewish Education.

The Hofstedter's noble personalities, dynamic efforts and philanthropic endeavours have indeed enriched Toronto as well as Jewish communities throughout the world.

HaRav Yaakov Perlow, שליט"א

GUEST SPEAKER

The Novominsker Rebbe, is the Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshivas Kol Yehuda of Brooklyn, New York. Rav Perlow, a renowned orator and prominent Torah personality, is the author of "Adas Yaakov", a classic work on various topics of Talmud. He serves as a presidium member of the prestigious Council of Torah Sages of Agudas Yisroel of America.

בס"ד

You are cordially invited to attend the

36th Annual Dinner

of the

Ner Israel Yeshiva of Toronto

in honour of

Sandy and Kitchie Hofstedter

Keynote Speaker,
HARAV YAAKOV PERLOW, שליט"א
NOVOMINSKER REBBE

Thursday, April 18th, 1996
א'דר"ח אייר תשנ"ו

Regal Constellation Hotel
Galaxy Ballroom
900 Dixon Road, Rexdale, Ontario

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m. Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Subscription per couple $180 $120 for Alumni

For reservations and further information please call the Yeshiva office: 905-731-1224

Mission members reveal hundreds of memories

Some, like David McKee, were experiencing Israel for the first time. Others, like Marsha Zinberg, were returning after several decades. All were members of Mission 3000, the largest organized tour to Israel in Canadian history.

Last month, Mission 3000, a United Israel Appeal/United Jewish Appeal mega-tour, whisked 1150 participants-among them, nearly 400 Torontonians - from Israel's northern border to its southern tip.

At the mission's opening ceremonies in Metulla's Canada Centre, UIA Canada executive vice-president Steve Ain spoke proudly of the Lebanese border town's Canadian connection. "It is incredible to reflect on what we've accomplished together," he said.

The Canada Centre recreation complex, with what was then Israel's first skating rink, was built in the early 80's, largely with Canadian donations. Today, Canada Centre, thanks to William and Dorothy Drevnig, houses Israel's only Olympic-size rink.

In Jerusalem, Prime Minister Shimon Peres congratulated participants for joining the mission. "You bought a ticket with your heart," he said.

Before stepping off the plane at Ben Gurion Airport, mission member David McKee had explored Israel only through Amos Oz novels. He was particularly impressed with the northern Israel countryside and the "magic of Jerusalem." David's wife, Elaine, lived in Beersheva for 9 months, 22 years ago, and hadn't been back since. "I didn't recognize the country," she told *Community Matters*.

For Marsha Zinberg, light years of history had passed since her last visit in 1966. "The last time I was here," she recalled," Jerusalem was partitioned."

Dr. Warren Sinukoff, whose memories of Israel were 31 years old, said his head was "swimming" from everything he saw. "Israel is so much more than just pieces of land or sculpture," he observed.

Mission 3000 was a birthday present from his wife, Annette, for 65 year old Philip Schenker, a survivor, who lost 5 brothers and 2 sisters in the Holocaust. "If only we had an Israel then," Philip reflected on the bus ride to Eilat, Israel's southernmost resort city.

Behind the grandeur of Eilat's luxury hotels, lie underprivileged neighbourhoods requiring assistance supplied by UJA, which designated Eilat and the neighbouring Eilot region, Project Renewal communities.

"I want to personally thank the Jewish community of Toronto," said Eilat mayor Gabi Kadosh, "for helping us strengthen our city."

Mission bus 22 captains Carole Sterling (L) and George Weinberger present a Mission 3000 t-shirt to Greta Gal of Kibbutz Kfar Szold where bus 22'ers stayed on the first night of the trip.

Meeting makes family history

Family get togethers couldn't get much more emotional than this one.

During the trip, Mission 3000 participant Michael Levy met his grandfather, a Tel Aviv area resident, for the first time.

"I was nervous in the car on the way over," Michael remembered. "I saw him pacing in the lobby as we drove up to his flat. We hugged and kissed. I said 'shalom saba, nice to meet you.' We were both very emotional. We stared at each other for a few minutes. He was so pensive. He asked me 'what took you so long?'"

Michael's grandfather, Shalom Zacharowitz speaks no English and Michael does not speak Hebrew, but the language gap was quickly bridged.

"He's my only living grandfather. I was so glad to meet him," Michael said.

Face to face for the first time. Michael Levy (2nd from left) meets his grandfather, Shalom Zacharowitz (far right) for the first time. On the left is Tina Zacharowitz. Michael is sitting with his wife, Jill Greenberg.

Rosanne Ain, who co-chaired Mission 3000 with Herb Rosenfeld holds up her city banner at opening ceremonies in Metulla.

Ready for takeoff, Harold and Fredelle Brief check-in for Mission 3000 at Pearson Airport.

David and Elaine McKee in the Negev desert. David finally got to see the Israel he only read about in Amoz Oz Novels. Photo: Elliot Halperin.

The places & faces of Mission 3000

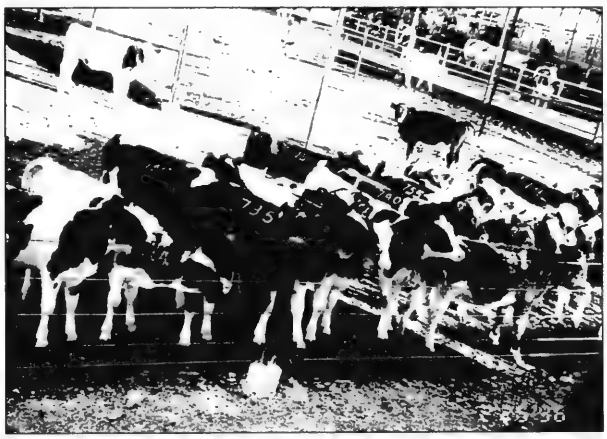
Pomelo Heads. Mission 3000 members display the fruit they picked at Kibbutz Ktura.

A fast friendship between bus 20's Dr. Allan Fox and a little boy in Beit Dagan, one of UJA's Project Renewal communities.

Marc Grenville (L) and Jay Sterling wait for a bus in Tel Aviv to take them back to Ben Gurion airport and the long journey home.

Bus 19 tour guide Reuben Sheffa (with the big hat) leads mission members through the Red Canyon near Eilat.

Mission 3000 was no sweat for Jewish Federation President Sandra Brown.



Some four legged members of Kibbutz Yotvata take in the scene as Mission participants start their tour.

Even Jim Carrey adorns Tel Aviv's streets in this ad for Ace Ventura. Carrey says: "I wasn't nominated for an Oscar".

Dozens of flowers pay tribute to slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the Tel Aviv square named after him.

Military thank you. Bus 22's Jerry Korman thanks this Israeli soldier during a visit to a military base.

Junior UJA: here's your chance to join

If the success of the Junior UJA Club is any indication of the younger generation's commitment to tzedakah, the future looks brighter than ever. In just five months, more than 700 kids have joined the only club of its kind in North America.

The Junior UJA club was launched, together with junior UJA news, in December, 1995 to familiarize children with UJA's activities. To date, Junior UJA and the Bathurst Jewish Centre have hosted both a Chanuka party and a Purim party with more special events planned this year. Permanent cards and neon rulers have been sent to all club members, who can expect the next fun filled issue of junior UJA news before Passover.

Many Junior UJA Club members are also participants in UJA's Tzedakah All Star program, in which children deposit unopened gifts at several depots. The presents are distributed to less fortunate kids across the city. Over 500 gifts have been collected so far at Tzedakah All Star boxes located in schools and the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

"The Junior UJA Club and the Tzedakah All Star Team are pioneering projects for us, not just in the Greater Toronto Area but across North America," said UJA Campaign Director, Ted Sokolsky. "We're introducing a new generation to tzedakah at its best and the success of this experiment is really heart warming."

For kids in grades 1-6, who have not yet joined the Junior UJA Club, please complete the application below and mail it to us. Your gift and membership card will be sent soon after.

Two princesses and a mouse were among 200 party goers at a recent Junior UJA/Bathurst Jewish Centre Purim party.

YES!
I want to be a Junior UJA Club Member

Please send me my official membership card, ruler and future copies of junior UJA news!

Please print clearly and mail or fax to:
JUNIOR UJA
c/o United Jewish Appeal
4600 Bathurst Street, North York, Ontario M2R 3V2
Fax #: (416) 635-9565

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone #: _____

Age: _____

Birthday: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

March and festival salute Jerusalem

The 1996 Community March for Israel is shaping up to be an event fit for a king. King David, that is. That's because this year's march, *Journey to Jerusalem*, and the festival that follows, are celebrating Jerusalem 3000, the 3000th anniversary of King David's designation of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

UJA's single largest community event, which attracts up to 7000 participants, will take place on Sunday, May 26. This year's route will begin at the Promenade Shopping Centre and end at North York's Centennial Centre on Finch, west of Bathurst for the *Jerusalem 3000 Festival*.

Jeff Cohen, the co-chair of *Journey to Jerusalem* with Maura Cooperberg, says although the march has always taken place rain or shine, this year's indoor festival will be dry no matter what. "Weather," he noted, "is just not a factor this year."

For the first time, the *Jerusalem 3000 Festival*, which will feature Israeli music, entertainment and cuisine, pony rides, a petting zoo and a barbecue is being co-sponsored by UJA and the Canadian Zionist Federation.

According to festival co-chair Gilda Niman, "the cooperation between CZF and UJA is really helping people get into the Jerusalem 3000 spirit, marking a milestone in Jewish history. The partnership of two key community organizations symbolizes just how strongly Jewish life centres around Jerusalem."

Organizers are looking forward to a record turnout at this year's Community March for Israel and Jerusalem 3000 Festival.

Recruitment for the march, at over 30 supplementary and day schools, will begin after Passover, with special school assemblies and presentations.

Recruitment co-chairs Fran Grundman and Arlyne Zimmerman say they're going "full force" to find even more participants than in previous years. Those who bring in sponsor sheets with a minimum of $18.00 in pledges before the march, will receive a free t-shirt. Participants raising more than $50.00 will be eligible to win other prizes including two round trip tickets to Israel.

Funds raised through the march will assist youngsters who are recent immigrants to Israel.

This year, UJA and CZF march and festival organizers will be encouraging more participation by people living in the southern section of Metro Toronto.

Federation relieves financial confusion

Keeping up with budget changes is a tough but important task, especially when your financial future is at stake.

In order to clarify the new rules, UJA and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto are hosting a series of educational seminars, primarily for senior members of the community, on financial and estate management.

Experts will cover topics such as new regulations for charitable donation deductions, RRSPs and RRIFs, the importance of wills, estate planning and the Substitute Decisions Act.

The first seminar is scheduled for Sunday April 14, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, 4th floor. The following two will be held Wednesday, May 8 at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 9 at 9:30 a.m.

To register call Sylvia Astrug at (416) 635-2883 ext. 115. For more information contact Marc Bookbinder at (416) 631-5703.

A warm welcome from Shalom Toronto

Sylvia Peck (2nd from left), the Co-chair of Shalom Toronto, a program of Jewish Women's Federation, and Rosalie Flomen, JWF Vice-President, were on hand to host a reception following a March 1st Citizenship and Immigration swearing in ceremony.

Congratulations greet Federation web site

It's been a mega-byte debut for *Jewish Toronto*, the Federation's new web site at htpp://www.feduja.org.

"The response has been great," says Jewish Toronto steering committee member, Bob Cherniak, the leader of the site's technical team. "We've had a lot of inquiries about posting information on the site and a lot of good reviews about what's already on there."

One 'weber' thanked the Federation "for providing the Toronto Jewish community with a tool that I think will be invaluable for the future."

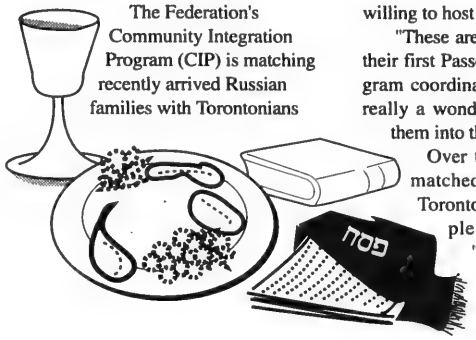
Ed Goldenberg from Philadelphia's Jewish Federation believes *Jewish Toronto* will be "the envy of every Federation."

Jewish Toronto includes a community calendar, a directory of community institutions and organizations, Jewish holiday information, the Federation's *Community Matters* newspaper supplement, recent news releases, a "youth lounge" with an "e-zine" publication and even links to other sites.

A team of more than 75 volunteers, led by project coordinator Jay Brodbar, worked for several months on building and implementing the site, which was officially launched on March 5. Federation internet specialists are now conducting seminars about the internet. The next one is scheduled for March 26, 7-10 p.m. at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

Jewish organizations interested in promoting their activities or events on the web site should contact the Internet Hotline at (416) 635-2883 ext. 700.

Seeking seder partners for Pesach



The Federation's Community Integration Program (CIP) is matching recently arrived Russian families with Torontonians willing to host them for Passover seders.

"These are people who are spending their first Passover in Canada," said program coordinator Marsha Slavens. "It's really a wonderful feeling to welcome them into the community."

Over the past 6 years, CIP has matched about 500 Russian and Toronto families. "A lot of people," pointed out Slavens, "have hosted the same family for 6 years in a row." One man, she said, who hadn't been to a seder in 70 years, stood up to ask the four questions.

Slavens and her committee are very careful about matching people by age, interests and religious observance. She believes "that's probably why we're so successful."

CIP surveys show that lasting relationships often result from seder hosting. "A lot of things happen spontaneously," noted Slavens.

If you are interested in hosting a Russian family this Passover, please call (416) 636-1880 ext. 380.

Cards that Care

"The Blessing" by Lynne Feldman

Passover, the celebration of our freedom, also celebrates our responsibility to each other. As we remember the exodus from Egypt, we also remember those whose freedom from poverty, pain and uncertainty has yet to arrive.

UJA Passover Tribute Cards symbolize the spirit of this special holiday. Proceeds will assist Jews wherever they need our help, and you'll also be honouring recipients with a donation in their name.

For more information, call Michelle Birman at (416) 631-5685 today and order Cards that care!

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO UJA

Community Matters, *a supplement of the* Canadian Jewish News, *is sponsored and produced by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.*
4600 Bathurst St., North York, Ont. M2R 3V2
(416) 635-2883

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Happy Passover

Watch for Our Moonlight Mayhem - 8P.M. to Midnight, Saturday, March 30th

Clover Leaf
White Tuna
Flaked or Chunk, in Water
184 g tin
1.99

Kadem or Tampree Sparkling
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Concord or Muscat
750 ml. Btl.
2.99

Garden Patch or Zapp
Kettle Chips
Regular or Unsalted
170 g bag
1.39

Best
Vegetable Oil
2 L plst. btl.
5.39

Welch's Kosher
Grape Juice
Unsweetened, Concentrate
1.36 L Btl.
2.99

Migdal
Margarine
1 lb. pkg.
1.99

Memorial
Candles
Menorah, Her Zion, Rokeach or Hechal, each tin
2/.99

Potato
Pancake Mix
Manischewitz, Carmel, Streits or Horowitz
1.99
6 oz. box

Squeeze
Ketchup
Festive, Unger, Season or Rokeach
2.49
22 oz. plst. btl.

Instant Chicken
Soup Mix
Carmel or Croyden House
1.59
5 oz. jar

Haddar
Apple Sauce
Unsweetened or Regular
2.99
50 oz. jar

Haddar or Gold's
Duck Soup
Sweet & Sour, Hot & Spicy or Spicy Garlic
2.69
40 oz. jar

Mayonnaise
Unger, Season, Haddar or Itzkowitz
3.49
32 oz. jar

O'Sprey
Spring Water
1.5 L btl.
.89

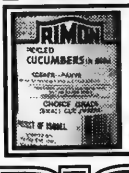
Manischewitz
Egg Noodles
Assorted Cuts
2.49
12 oz. pkg.

Manischewitz
Cereal
Fruity or Honey Stars
3.99
9 - 11 oz. box

Cheese
Lovers
Assorted Varieties
2.49
227 g stick

Ceres
Fruit Juice
Product of South Africa, Pure, Assorted Varieties
1.89
1 L tetra pkg.

Progress
Chocolates
Assorted Varieties
5.49
150 g box



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Kosher, Canada Grade "A"
Turkeys
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3.95 kg
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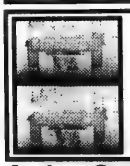
lb.

Mrs. Whytes
Dill Pickles
Original
1 L Jar
1.99

Large
Salami Chubs
Levitt's Kosher
7.99



Gefilte
Fish Loaf
Frozen, Benz's
680 g pkg.
5.99

Kosher DELI

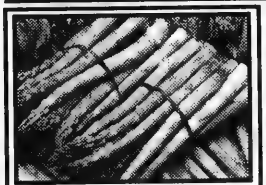
Mozzarella
Cheese
Levitt's, Skim
1.67 100 g
7.59
lb.

Kosher FISH

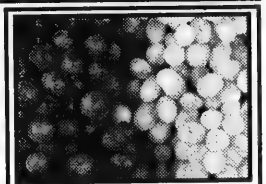
Whole Atlantic
Salmon
Fresh
13.21 kg
5.99
lb.

Atlantic
Salmon Fillets
Fresh, Boneless & Skinless, 14.52 kg
8.99
lb.

PRODUCE



Asparagus
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade,
4.39 kg
1.99
lb.



Black, red or Green
Seedless Grapes
Product of Chile,
No. 1 Grade, 5.29 kg
1.49
lb.

Celery
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Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade, each
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Oranges
Product of U.S.A.,
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Prices effective until closing Saturday, Mar. 23, 1996. AT CLARK & HILDA FOOD CITY, 441 CLARK (AT HILDA)
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We will Not be Undersold on Matzos by Our Competitors! We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.
Passover Product Pricing in effect until April 11, 1996. While Quantities last!

From coast to coast

Condo residents upset by Kalejs

[Cont'd. from page 1]
revulsion at having Konrads Kalejs, a former commander of a Latvian killing squad, living in their building.

Kalejs, a citizen of Australia and a visitor to Canada, is currently the subject of deportation proceedings that have been in process, off an on, since June 1995. He has already been barred from the United States after an immigration judge found Kalejs served as a company commander in the Latvian Auxiliary Security Police (Arajs Kommando) and commanded guards at Nazi concentration camps where thousands of civilians were killed.

Ironically, the building in which Kalejs now lives has many Jewish residents, including Holocaust survivors. Their anger and frustration was palpable at the residents' meeting last week.

"I've lost faith in the Canadian government," Smith told *The CJN*. "The government cannot protect me. I'm a citizen and he is not."

Vera Peter, who has a tattoo from Auschwitz on her arm, said she had met Kalejs, who exercises at the building's pool, before she knew who he was. After she learned about his past, "I bumped into him and I felt very uncomfortable. I looked over him like he was air."

Anastasia Schwartz pulled no punches, expressing her displeasure at Kalejs' presence. "Let's kick the s.o.b. out of here," she said. "What right does he have to be here? We're Canadians, we have rights."

During the meeting, which was chaired by condominium resident Rhonda Pasternack, one participant complained that "the [legal] system is not working for Canadians here. It's protecting war criminals. It's disgusting."

Pasternack said she organized the meeting after seeing a newspaper photograph of Kalejs and his female companion about three weeks ago. She and other building residents recognized the pair as living in the building.

"I see him every morning coming out of the men's health club after his workout," she said. "I knew I had to do something."

She decided to organize the meeting to convey to public officials the displeasure and frustration of the building's residents at having an accused war criminal in their midst.

Pasternack said she is hoping to organize condominium members to attend Kalejs' next deportation hearing on May 1 as well as write letters to the ministers of Justice and Immigration.

"Maybe something can be done," she said. "And maybe we can make him a little uncomfortable in his surroundings because we're uncomfortable that he lives here."

Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, told the meeting that government officials "bungled" the Kalejs case. "The government appears not to give a damn."

Kalejs "knew he could come here and have an easy way of it."

In Parliament last week M.P. Jim Peterson said "Kelejs is alleged to have participated in the death of 27,000 Jews. I ask the Minister of Immigration why the unconscionable delay in dealing with the continuing presence in Canada of this alleged Nazi war criminal. Surely we can do better."

Robillard responded that "Canada is not and will not become a refuge for war criminals" and that she views the issue with concern.

The government "will act with all due speed," the minister added.

Bouchard review mixed

[Cont'd. from page 1]
and Quebec, economically and socially."

Kussner was not impressed by Bouchard's assurances of English rights in education and health care. "He's saying 'trust me,' but past history has shown we should be wary of him."

Businessman Thomas Hecht was disappointed that Bouchard did not clearly repudiate Parizeau's referendum-night words, while Rabbi Reuben Poupko found Bouchard's attempt at humor about "anglos go home" graffiti "inappropriate."

Law professor Irwin Cotler appreciated the premier's affirmation that minorities are equal citizens and should feel at home here. "I was pleased by his honesty ... This was not an attempt to get people on board or to make promises ... He's saying we should not feel alienated or marginalized."

Lawyer Morton Bessner feels Bouchard has "opened the door a crack" but "the real test is where we go from here."

Perhaps 20 percent of the 400 invited persons were Jewish, with large representations from Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and FEDERATION CJA, as well as individuals from the fields of law, academia, business and the media. Jack Jedwab, CJC Quebec director, said Bouchard's office had asked CJC to suggest 50 names for the guest list.

"It was mostly motherhood and apple pie," said Robert Libman, regional B'nai Brith director and former Equality party leader.

Libman thinks Bouchard held the event to squelch the partition movement and, in so doing, divide anglophones. "Because there was no major announcement, such as softening the language laws or setting up a task force on anglos, you have to question his motives."

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Jewish Magazine
a weekly Television Series

Do Jews have a future in the new Quebec? Robert Libman, former leader of the Equality Party in Quebec and a staunch fighter for the rights of all ethnic communities in Quebec talks about what Quebec Jews can do to fight for their rights as residents of Quebec. Join us for an inside look at the state-of-the-art Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital. Enjoy an exciting new singing sensation from Israel, and a Chassidic Passover tale.

The inaugural program of the *Jewish Magazine* a new national television series that features Jewish life and issues will be broadcast **Wednesday, March 27, 1996 at 9:30 p.m.** local time in Ontario, Quebec & British Columbia; 8:30 p.m. in Manitoba; 10:30 p.m. in Alberta & the Maritimes; and 11:00 p.m. in Newfoundland over Vision TV (basic cable service). In Toronto, Vision is broadcast on Rogers Cable 24.

Hosted by Ellie Tesher, Toronto Star Columnist and award winning author and humorist Morley Torgov, the show is produced by Howard Bernstein, Stephen Gardner and Janice Maser.

Yom Ha'atzmaut Teen Cartoon Festival

We are asking all teenagers to turn on their creative juices and submit to us cartoons dealing with the subject of Israel. In particular, we are looking for cartoons which have both artistic and intellectual merit. They may be funny, serious, satiric or cute. We are looking for cartoons which poignantly and tastefully convey one of the many truths about life in Israel.

Who can enter: All teenagers are eligible except the children of *CJN* employees.

How to enter: You may submit as many entries as you like.

The judges will choose cartoons which are well-illustrated, clever and tasteful.

Six cartoons will be selected as winners: three cartoons from contestants 15 years of age and younger, and three cartoons from contestants 16 to 19 years of age inclusive.

The cartoons must be drawn in black and white. This will ensure that the cartoon reproduces as well as possible.

Please write your name, age, address and phone number on the back of your submission.

You may mail or deliveryour submission to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont., M3C 3A1. If you want us to return the cartoon, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on April 15, 1996.

Prizes: The "winning" cartoons will be published in *The CJN* Yom Ha'atzmaut issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a $50.00 cheque.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only six will be chosen for publication. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: The contestants whose cartoons are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, April 19, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning submissions will be published in *The CJN* of April 25, 1996.

We hope the contest generates original, witty, imaginative and possibly even inspiring thought. We look forward to receiving your entries.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Youth & Hechalutz
and Betar, Young Judaea,
Hashomer Hatzair,
Habonim Dror, Tzabar
invite all youth (ages 8-18)
for a
SPRING DAY
"This day you came forth in the month of Spring"...
חג חפסח - חג האביב
Sunday, March 31, 1996
at Kortright Provincial Park
We will meet in front of the B.J.C. (north)
at 12:00 p.m. and return at 4:30 p.m.
Transportation provided
For more information please call:
(416) 633-2511
or (416) 398-6931

From coast to coast

Police lay charges against former JCC employee

By JUDY SHAPIRO
Jewish Free Press

CALGARY — A former employee of the Calgary Jewish Community Council (CJCC) has been charged with at least 18 counts of possession of child pornography, sexual assault and sexual interference with a child under 14 years of age.

David Webber, 35, was arrested Feb. 22. Police seized a number of Polaroid photographs and written materials.

Several children alleged to be victims of sexual assault have already been interviewed.

Police are "wading through a variety of written and photographic materials that identify potential victims," said Sgt. Jim Fisher of the Calgary Police Service.

One document alleged to have been written by Webber contains several names. A page seen on a television news report here showed seven of the 14 entries marked with stars of David.

While police are not certain of the significance of the lists, they are regarding those named as potential victims of abuse, Fisher told the *Jewish Free Press*.

In 1991, Webber was hired as *mashgiach* of the CJCC, a job he held until December 1992. At the time of his arrest, he was working as a local kosher butcher.

On Feb. 23, Webber was granted bail, with the condition that he not go within one block of a school or playground, or anywhere children are present. His bail was posted by Rabbi Allen Saks, principal of Akiva Academy, "to facilitate [Webber's] immediate professional psychiatric handling of a medical situation," Rabbi Saks said in a statement.

But Webber was rearrested just hours after making bail for being near a schoolyard.

Fisher said he believes Webber is in Edmonton undergoing psychiatric assessment.

No court dates have yet been set because police need time to wade through the materials, Fisher added.

B.C. launches campaign against racism

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — A campaign to combat racism in British Columbia has been launched by the province's multiculturalism minister, Ujal Dosanjh.

In one of the events, the minister unveiled a transit bus poster which read: "Don't be blinded by color." The message was based on the winning entry by Vancouver Technical School students in a province-wide multicultural video contest.

"I am heartened to see our young citizens taking initiatives towards multiculturalism and eliminating racism," said Dosanjh at the unveiling held at the school. "Racism is not someone else's problem. It affects us all."

Whether it takes the form of name-calling and fighting in schools, hate slogans, spray-painting on buildings or jokes exchanged in social groups, racism isolates, oppresses and excludes people, he said.

In another event, Multiculturalism B.C., a government agency, invited over 1,500 participants from a wide cross-section of communities to a two-day forum held in the Justice Institute of B.C. in Vancouver to discuss ways and means to deal with the problem of racism in society.

A highlight of the campaign was a ceremony at Vancouver city hall where Mayor Philip Owen read a proclamation declaring March 21 as the International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination. This was sponsored by city council, the Vancouver Multicultural Society and the Vancouver police department.

Holocaust Memorial Day will be marked at Beth Israel Synagogue on April 16 and Shalom Vancouver, an agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, will hold a Jewish newcomer party at the Jewish Community Centre on April 17.

A pictorial remembrance, The Warsaw Ghetto, opens at the Holocaust Education Centre on April 18.

MIDNIGHT MADNESS SALE
SAT., MARCH 30
8:00 P.M. -MIDNIGHT
SUNNYBROOK
The Passover Specialists...
WILMINGTON HOLIDAY STORE HOURS:
Mon.-Thurs. 9-9, Fri., 8-6, Sun. 9-6, Closed Sat.
FINCH STORE HOURS
Mon.-Fri. 9-9, Sat.-Sun. 9-6
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FROM THE TROPICS ... BANANAS .39 lb/.86 kg
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FRESH! KOSHER SKINLESS & BONELESS CHICKEN BREASTS 6.99 lb/15.41 kg
Exercise your good taste. Reach for fruits and vegetables today.
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KEDEM CRANBERRY JUICE 64 OZ. BOTTLE 2.99
KOSHER (NEW YORK) BLADE ROAST 4.49 lb/9.90 kg
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6:15 P.M.
TO WILMINGTON STORE ONLY! FROM SHOMER TRANSPORTATION
9:30 AM PICK UP AT Cedarcroft & Bathurst (Cedarcroft next to Royal Bank)
9:35 AM PICK UP AT 135 Antibes Dr. (in front of apartment building)
9:45 AM PICK UP AT 15 & 25 Canyon Ave. (Canyon, near Bathurst Street)
9:50 AM PICK UP AT 4455 Bathurst St. (in front of apartment building)
10 AM ARRIVES AT SUNNYBROOK
11 AM DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK
12:40 PM PICK UP AT JCC, 4588 Bathurst St. (at main entrance)
12:45 PM PICK UP AT B'nai Brith Building 4266 Bathurst (on Reiner Rd.)
1:00 PM ARRIVES AT SUNNYBROOK
2:00 PM DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK
Bus Shuttle runs Thursdays only and will not run Jewish or Civic Holidays
Advertised specials effective W.E.D., MARCH 20 - TUES., MARCH 26. We reserve the right to limit quantities to normal family requirements. Limited quantities on some items. We reserve the right to correct printer's errors.

From coast to coast

Keegstra saga comes to a happy conclusion

Scene in Ottawa

By RICHARD CLEROUX

OTTAWA — Alberta's most famous motor mechanic, James Keegstra, had his day in the Supreme Court here three weeks ago and he lost big.

He was branded a hatemonger by the highest court in the land. If you put any store in judicial rulings, it doesn't get any clearer than that.

And now Keegstra is staring at the possibility of up to two years in jail later this year. He has already been fined $3,000. The Alberta Court of Appeal will decide.

The decision against the former Eckville, Alta., high school teacher, who spewed vile hatred against Jews in his classroom for 14 years before anybody cared enough to complain, brings to an end the longest legal case over hatemongering in Canadian history.

There is a certain irony no doubt in the fact that it took exactly 14 years for the crown prosecutors to get Keegstra — the same length of time he was at his dirty business in the classroom.

The students whose minds he systematically tried to poison have grown up and today many have families of their own to whom they are passing on life's lessons learned in Eckville.

Reporters who have gone out and located them across Canada and North America have discovered that in some cases Keegstra's lessons stuck, in varying degree, of course. In others they didn't. They were rejected utterly.

Keegstra didn't have to go before the Supreme Court. It was entirely his own decision.

It was he who approached the Supreme Court to challenge a decision by the Alberta Court of Appeal that he should go on trial again — for the third time — on the original 1984 charge of willfully spreading hatred against an identifiable group.

Who knows what a third trial would have brought? With a sympathetic jury, he might have gotten off. He could have pleaded that 14 years before the courts amounted to an undue delay and an infringement of his constitutional right to a speedy trial. The case might have been thrown out.

Instead he went for a *big* victory. He wanted the Supreme Court to rule that Canada's hate law is unconstitutional, even though it ruled only six yeara ago that the law is constitutional.

As the judges explained to Keegstra and his lawyer Douglas Christie in court three weeks ago, the Supreme Court can reverse itself, and it did recently, but it usually doesn't do it "in the same generation" and never without what it considers good reason.

Apparently they didn't find good reason in the Keegstra case.

The judges decided what the criminal court had ruled was "a complete answer."

That means that in hate propaganda cases, the accused has to prove the truth of what he advances. This is called "the reverse onus" in hate propaganda cases, and last week Supreme Court ruled that it is quite constitutional.

If it wasn't, it would mean that when someone is charged with spreading hatred against a particular group, the crown prosecutor has to prove that not only did the accused know what he was saying was false, but that he spread the hatred deliberately, maliciously, on purpose, knowing fully all the time that it was false.

That's asking a lot of a crown prosecutor. It almost means having to go inside the hatemonger's head and prove what he was really thinking, to win the case.

Virtually every hatemonger in the country would have a legitimate defence, because almost all of them really believe the hatred they are spewing. That's why they are so persistent and so unrepentant.

If the Supreme Court had ruled the hate law is unconstitutional, it would have amounted to open season on Jews and every other identifiable group in Canada.

The decision is bad news for Ernst Zundel and about half a dozen others whose trials were awaiting the outcome of the Keegstra Supreme Court case.

Keegstra, in a way, went to bat for all of them. He was in the Supreme Court for the whole Canadian hate movement.

If he had won his case on constitutional grounds, they would all have gotten off. It was a chance in a thousand and he took it, on the advice of his lawyer, Christie.

In the end Keegstra lost, and the hate movement lost.

Irwin Cotler, the Montreal jurist, who attended the case, sees it slightly differently: "No, I think the country won," said Cotler, smiling.

Yerushalmi to be honored

OTTAWA — Congregation Beth Shalom West will host a gala honoring Eli Yerushalmi on May 12 at 7 p.m.

Laila dé Oro (A Night of Gold) will feature a presentation of Sephardi music by the shul's Cantor Daniel Benlolo. Traditional Sephardi food will be served.

During the evening, the Ottawa Jewish community will pay tribute to Yerushalmi and his family, who are returning to Israel after three years of service in the Israeli Embassy. Yerushalmi has been the charge d'affaires for the embassy and, most recently, Israel's acting ambassador to Canada.

Representatives of the Ottawa Va'ad Ha'Ir, the Canada-Israel Committee and the Israeli Embassy will be participating in the tribute.

The cost of the evening is $36 per person (with a tax receipt for $18 each). Tickets can be reserved by calling Bev Glube at Beth Shalom West 613-723-1800.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

A Large Spring Singles Party, age 30-55, Sun., Mar. 24, 8 p.m. in Restaurant Vermissage, 4700 Dufferin St. $20 includes full dinner & unlimited soft drinks. Live band entertainment. 739-7371, Lily.

Avoid hearing " I told you so!" The 30 most eligible single Jewish bachelors will all be on one stage! **Thursday, March 21, 1996** at Paradise Banquet & Convention Centre, 7601 Jane Street. (just north of Steeles) For information call: 416-410-5677. Tickets available at Israel's Judaica Store locations, Negev & at Jewish Singles Registry, 416-398-7068. $18 for advance tickets. $25 at the door. They are selling quickly!

BEIT HALOCHEM NEW LEADERSHIP
Aid to disable veterans of Israel presents an evening at YUK YUK'S
THURSDAY MARCH 28 1996
SHOW TIME 8:30PM
(doors open at 7:30pm)
place:YUK YUKS SUPERCLUB
(Yonge St. north of Eglinton)
TICKETS: $15 available
IN ADVANCE ONLY
TICKETS & INFO: (416)488-7649.

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APRIL FOOL'S PARTY
SUNDAY, MARCH 31st.
at COMEDYWOOD
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CJN5

LIGUE DES DROITS DE LA PERSONNE DE B'NAI BRITH CANADA

LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OF B'NAI BRITH CANADA

The Community is Cordially Invited to
A Public Lecture

"Democracy and Human Rights - Clinging to our Ideals in the Face of Anti-Semitism, Racism and Violence"

Guest Speaker:

Racelle Weiman, Ph.D.

Institute for Holocaust Research University of Haifa, Israel

Dr. Weiman is well known internationally as a dynamic speaker, facilitator, mediator and educator. She is the Director of the Northern Region of SOVLANUT, (Tolerance) - a non partisan movement against violence in Israel, and the coordinator of programs that focus on Tolerance Education. Dr. Weiman has travelled around the world teaching and writing on the Holocaust, anti-racism and interfaith relations; and she works closely with the League for Human Rights "Holocaust and Hope" Educators Study Tour to Germany, Poland and Israel. Racelle will discuss current strategies for Processing Peace during the Peace Process.

Date: Thursday, March 28, 1996
Time: 7:30 pm
Place: B'nai Brith Building
15 Hove Street
(1 block west of Bathurst St.
1 block north of Sheppard Ave.)

ADMISSION FREE

HOLOCAUST & HOPE

From coast to coast

Holocaust scholar captivates audiences

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The Jewish community is the only community that has not come to grips with the Holocaust, said historian and Holocaust scholar, Raul Hilberg, recently at McMaster University.

Hilberg was here as the Hooker Distinguished Visiting Professor, to deliver two lectures sponsored by the Department of History, with the Faculty of Humanities and the Theme School on International Justice and Human Rights. Both drew a packed audience of mostly students and faculty, with a sprinkling of Jews from the community.

In the first, Auschwitz and the Evolution of Nazi Mass Killing, Hilberg traced the history and technology of mass killing as it evolved from the eugenics theories already current among German scientists in the 1920s, through the gassing of mentally and physically defective children and adults in the '30s and early '40s, to the extermination camps.

In the second, The Holocaust: Modes of Memorialization, he said that in the years immediately following World War II, "there was almost an ideology" of forgetting the Holocaust.

Survivors and veterans were told to forget, he said, and the silence continued until the turning point in 1978 in the United States, with the showing of Gerald Green's TV mini-series, *The Holocaust*.

Students had become interested in the Holocaust even earlier, but now they were coming to him with questions, and people in universities all over the country were sending "frantic letters asking if I had a syllabus for teaching a Holocaust course," Hilberg said.

The Germans had "difficulties" in dealing with the Holocaust, but today, Hilberg said, "nowhere is the Holocaust discussed more, written about more and understood more than in Germany."

Yet in the Jewish community, Hilberg said, "there has been no education until very recently."

Part of the Jewish community's problem in dealing with the Holocaust, he said, is that it will not look at the perpetrators, and that its "organized research has not extended to an understanding of the mechanism by which [European] Jewry was destroyed."

The Jewish attitude is: "Depict the victim but do not depict the perpetrators," Hilberg said, pointing out that the reason can be found in the biblical injunction "to remember what Amalek did to the Jews, but may his name be erased."

Another problem, he suggested, is Orthodox Jewry's position "that G-d does what he understands and we do not question it; nor do we question why G-d does it."

"It is ironic," observed Hilberg, "that those who call the most for remembrance, the Jewish community itself, are left with these taboos. But how can one remember without knowing the details?"

I CARE CAMPAIGN

The students of United Synagogue Day School Richmond Hill campus recently held a successful fundraising campaign called I CARE for the victims of the recent bombings in Israel. The money was donated to Magen David Adom. Seen above (from left) are Michael Cohen, Tyler Hauer and Lea Kaplan.

ברוך שהחיינו וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה

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Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am
Continuing Education Committee
presents
THE SEARCH FOR MENGELE'S PROFESSOR:
Medicine's Continuing Nazi Heritage
Guest speaker:
Dr. William Seidelman
• *Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Toronto*
• *Medical Director, HIV Ambulatory Program, The Wellesley Hospital*
Sunday, March 24th at 8 p.m.
Free Admission
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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadline changes due to Passover holidays: Thursday, March 28, is deadline for April 12 issue; Monday, April 1, is deadline for April 18 issue; Monday, April 8, is deadline for April 25 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, March 21

ORA ACADEMY

Ora Academy, Rochester's new high school for young Jewish women, open meeting for prospective parents at the home of **Rabbi and Mrs. Ira Berman** in Willowdale. Meeting details, 221-6799. School information 716-271-8711.

Saturday, March 23

RABBI BEIGEL HONORED

Beth Tzedec Men's Club Shabbat honors **Rabbi Irving Beigel**. Luncheon following, $13.50 adults, $10 children. Reserve. **Rosemary** 781-3511, ext. 13.

KOL YISROEL

Kol Yisroel Congregation resumes Shabbat services led by **Meir Bester**, 9:30 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Kiddush follows.

BBYO DANCE-A-THON

BBYO seventh annual Dance-A-Thon, 8 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. Members $5, non-members $8. **Stefanie**, 635-9411.

Sunday, March 24

MILKIS FAMILY CONCERT

Musica Beth Tikvah features **Jascha, Julian** and **Marianna Milkis** in a program of music for violin, clarinet and piano, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

GENERATIONS

Sisterhood of Adath Sholom Synagogue breakfast meeting with Bernard Betel Players in *Generations; Grandmother, Mother, Daughter*, 9:30 a.m. $2. 635-0131.

JERUSALEM EXPERIENCES

At Shaarei Shomayim Congregation a panel reminisces on their experiences in Jerusalem during the British mandate in Palestine, the 1948 War of Independence and the establishment of the State, 8 p.m.

MENGELE'S PROFESSOR

The Search for Mengele's Professor: Medicine's Continuing Nazi Heritage, **Dr. William Seidelman** of Wellesley Hospital, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

BROTHERHOODS MEETING

Beth Tzedec Men's Club and Shaarei Shomayim, Holy Blossom, Beth Sholom brotherhoods present urologist **Dr. Morton Brown**, speaking on Recent Advances in Cancer of the Prostate. Breakfast 9:30 a.m., speaker at 10 at Beth Tzedec.

JEWISH SOULS

Julius Ciss, director of Jews for Judaism, speaks about The Battle for the Jewish Soul at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda brotherhood breakfast meeting, 10 a.m. $3. 633-3838.

DISCOVERY SEMINAR

Pride of Israel Synagogue presents Aish HaTorah's all-day Discovery Seminar, exploring the basis for belief in Judaism, 9:30 a.m. $15/person, $27.50/couple, includes lunch. To register, **Susan** 226-0111.

Monday, March 25

MY JERUSALEM

Bronwyn Drainie, author of *My Jerusalem* talks about her experiences in Israel, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. $5.

Tuesday, March 26

JEWISH VALUES

Rabbi Mitchell Cohen, director of Camp Ramah Canada, discusses Sexual Decision-Making in the '90s, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

NORTHERN LIGHTS, JWI

Northern Lights chapter, Jewish Women International, monthly program meeting for members and interested women, 7 p.m. in Aurora. 905-836-6658.

LIVING WILLS

Beth Tikvah sisterhood presents Living Wills: The Ethical, Legal and Medical Aspects from a Jewish Perspective, Jewish educator **Ed Goldman**, lawyer **Esther Lef-**

[Cont'd. on page 27]

WE WERE SLAVES IN EGYPT ... WHY BE A SLAVE IN THE KITCHEN?

With 5 oz plastic wine glasses, I would not have drunk as much.
With disposable tableware every daughter would be saved from washing dishes.
The wise son asks: "Why didn't she buy discounted disposables at Party Supply Depot?"
And Mom heard their groans and she promised "... this year we wash dishes again, next year we buy diposables from Party Supply Depot"
The simple son asks: "• Is it cheaper? • Is it easier? • Is it useful? • Is it colourful?".
The wicked son says: " ... Oy! A plastic tablecloth would not have stained".
PASSOVER HAGGADAH
Wine

Illustration with acknowledgement of Artist: Julius Ciss – (416) 784-1416

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FREE! PLASTIC NAPKIN HOLDER WITH EVERY $20.00 NAPKINS PURCHASED AT OUR LOW, LOW PRICES

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

ler, family practitioner **Dr. Sharon Domb**, 8 p.m. Guests $5.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Bialik parent education committee features child psychiatrist **Dr. Paul Steinhauer** speaking on Children and Youth in the '90s: The Needy Generation. How Can We Meet Their Needs in a Time of Diminishing Resources?, 8 p.m., Bialik Hebrew Day School, 14 Viewmount Ave.

Wednesday, March 27

ADOLESCENTS, FAMILIES

Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary's health education lecture, Adolescents and Their Families: Myths and Realities, psychiatrist **Dr. Randy Gangbar** and child psychiatrist **Dr. Douglas Weir**, 1 p.m., Ben Sadowski Auditorium, Level 18. Reserve 586-8290.

JEWISH MUSIC TORONTO

Jewish Music Toronto presents The Russian Connection: The Origins of Jewish Art Music featuring **Cantor Louis Danto, Senya Trubashnik** and others. 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Information/Tickets 636-1880, ext. 299.

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogical Society meeting focuses on Revelations on the Holocaust From Newly-Opened Soviet Archives, **Prof. John Garrard**, University of Arizona in Tucson, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $3.

HOW TO HOST A SEDER

How to Host a Passover Seder, **Rabbi Barry Schneider**, 8 p.m. Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue boardroom.

PRIDE OF ISRAEL

Pride of Israel adult education series continues with Why is This Night Different From All Others?, **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich**, 7:30 p.m. 226-0111.

WOMEN'S SEDER

Business and Professional chapter, Toronto ORT, annual women's seder featuring Jewish educator **Marlene Myerson**, gathering 6:30 p.m., seder 7 p.m., Yonge/Finch area. Ceremonial seder food, Passover desserts and fruit served, no meal. $50 patrons, $20 members, $25 non-ORT members. RSVP **Fran** 787-0297.

Thursday, March 28

HUMAN RIGHTS

League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada lecture, Democracy and Human Rights: Clinging to Our Ideals in the face of Anti-Semitism and Violence, **Racelle Weiman**, Institute for Holocaust Research, University of Haifa, Israel, 7:30 p.m. B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St.

EVENING AT YUK YUK'S

Beit Halochem New Leadership (Aid to disabled veterans of Israel) Evening at Yuk Yuk's (Yonge north of Eglinton); doors open 7:30 p.m., showtime 8:30. $15 in advance only. 488-7649.

SINGLE PARENTS

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue Single Parents monthly lecture series, Stress Can Be Good For You, **Nancy Kumer**, educator and group facilitator, Jewish Family & Child Service. $5. 633-5500.

And What Else Is New...

MARDI GRAS BALL '96

Second annual Mardi Gras Ball fundraiser in support of Reena Foundation, entertainment, music, casino, silent auction, Cajun food, prizes, Saturday, March 30, 8 p.m., Design Exchange, 234 Bay St. (TD Centre). $50 in advance, $60 at door. Ticketmaster 870-8000 or Reena 787-0131.

KOSHER PASSOVER MEALS

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is offering kosher Passover meals to residents/patients in care facilities and to the general public. Meals under supervision of Orthodox Division of the Kashruth committee of Canadian Jewish Congress. $7 for each meal. Order by March 27. **Sonia Krass** 225-2112 or fax 225-2097.

UPPER CANADA LODGE

Upper Canada Lodge, B'nai Brith, celebrating its 50th anniversery, calls all UCL former and charter members and all B'nai Brith members to join in a black-tie evening of cocktails, dinner, dancing, topped off by TV personality **Larry King**, Sunday, May 5, Beth Tzedec Congregation, $100. Reservations **Ben Sands** 633-0520. Souvenir Book announcement, **Moe Greenspoon** 663-8462.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan Shabbat services with visiting student rabbi **Allison Henteloff** Friday, March 22, 7:15 p.m. at Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. Also, an adult education session on Pesach Saturday, March 23, 4 p.m. **Hilary** 928-1784.

ART OF CELEBRATING

Art of Celebrating, Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am's bridal/bar and bat mitzvah and fashion event takes place Wednesday, Oct. 9. Trades take note and book early. **Gloria Dadoun** 905-881-1124.

JIS PASSOVER INFO

You are invited to call Jewish Information Service Sundays, March 24 and 31, starting at 2 p.m. for Passover information. Volunteers will answer questions about the holiday, provide information about congregational seders and sources for matzot, haggadot. 635-5600 or 635-2883, ext. 221.

YIDDISH THEATRE

Actor **Gloria Valentine's** four-part workshop series on Yiddish theatre (reading, interpreting, acting, telling stories in Yiddish) at Earl Bales Community Centre, Mondays, April 1, 15, 22, 29, 7:30 p.m. $50 (Friends of Yiddish and JASS members $40). **Gloria** 638-2222.

AISH HATORAH

Annual Off-Broadway Seder seminar, Monday, March 25, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-784-1818.

Symbols in the Seder, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamensky**, Tuesday, March 26, 8 p.m., Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W.

The Seder: A Deeper Look, **Rabbi Yosef Michalowicz**, Tuesday, March 26, 8 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W.

FUNDRAISER FOR CANCER

Two CHAT Grade 12 students, **Daniela Friedman** and **Jeff Perl** have been working closely with **Arlene Tubman** of the Canadian Cancer Society, planning a musical evening fundraiser for CCS, Sunday, March 31, 7:30 p.m., Inn on the Park, Centennial Ballroom. Guest speaker is **Bob Rae**. $35. 905-731-9705 or 789-0704.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service Parenting Groups: Parenting the Difficult Teen, begins April 16; Parenting the Young Child, April 22; Living with Teens, April 25; Single Parent Challenge, May 2; Successful Step-Parenting, May 1. Details/fees, **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

AARON NUSSBAUM AWARD

Dr. Aaron Nussbaum Award is for students (graduates of United Synagogue Day School) furthering their Jewish education or planning careers in Jewish education or Jewish communal service. Application deadline March 29. **Selena** 225-5928.

For Seniors

A Time For Me, a personal growth workshop for seniors over 55, co-sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service, Senior Care, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, Baycrest Centre, with support from Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. **Ann Gleberzon**, 638-7830, ext. 799.

Free dentistry from City of Toronto Department of Public Health is available to low-income seniors living in the city. For details/locations 392-0907.

Wanted: Senior singers, male and female to join friendly, established performing choir affiliated with the re-named Bathurst Jewish Centre. Rehearsals are Thursdays, 10-11:30 a.m. Musical director **Esther Ghan Firestone**, accompanist **Michael Khinkis**. President **Dolly Brown** 636-9468.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trips to Pines and Raleigh Hotels. **Helen** 635-6343.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Catskills Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11; *A Chorus Line*, ArtPark Aug. 1, *The Music Man*, Stratford, Sept. 24. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Lifestyle Retirement Communities Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. : Tuesday, March 26, 2 p.m., current events lecture, **Doug Haddow**; Thursday, March 28, 2 p.m., Say It With Music, **Gordon Bean**, former program director at Ryerson's Continuing Education Division. Reserve **Marlene White** 785-1511.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building) 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club; Sunday dance to live band March 24; *A Little Night Music*, April 17; Atlantic City, April 22; Markville Mall, May 9; *Beauty and the Beast*, May 16; *She Loves Me*, May 30. All activities in full swing. Membership open $12. 395-7881.

Association of Jewish Seniors annual seder Thursday, April 4, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Doors open 7 p.m., seder begins 7:35 p.m. $18. Tickets at Bernard Betel or AJS, 530 Wilson Ave. W., **Goldie Leibman**. Reserve by March 29.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. phone 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute and Etrog present North York Concert Orchestra with arias by mezzo soprano **Lilac Canan** and sopranos **Adele Rozaar** and **Nina Scott-Stoddart**, Wednesday, March 27, 7:30 p.m. Tickets at Information Desk. **Bookie Kwart**.

La'Briyut Wellnes Centre lecture, Write Your Way to Good Health and Creativity, psychotherapist/writer **June Swadron**, Thursday, March 28, 1:30 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, March 26, 1:30 p.m. with occupational therapist **Joan Turner**.

The movie *Hello Dolly*, Sunday, March 24, 2:30 p.m.

Songs in many languages by **Lenka Lichtenberg**, Wednesday, March 27, 1:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

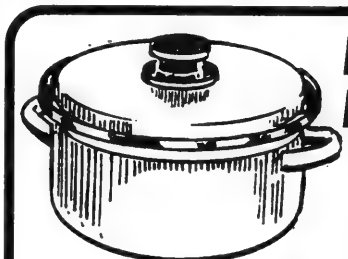
Bloor JCC Sundays at Bloor features readings by **Erna Paris** from her new book, *The End of Days*, Sunday, March 24, 11 a.m. Non-members $8.

Klezmer Music Workshop at Bloor JCC **David Buchbinder**, Sundays 4-5:30 p.m., beginning March 31, six sessions, ages 14 and up, or Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. beginning April 1. Members $80, non-members $100. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Good Age Club Yiddish Film Festival presents *I Want To Be A Mother*. Thursday, March 28, 2 p.m.

BJC Special Needs spring session programs begin Sunday, April 14. **Trish** 636-1880, ext. 265.

Stress-free birthday parties at BJC provides the room, activities, instructors, food and loot bags, and address and send out invitations. 636-1880, ext. 248.



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PASSOVER FOODS

Passover really begins with a cleaning frenzy

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Ladies and gentlemen and children of all ages, it's time to start your vacuum cleaner engines. Purim is over and the frenzy of cleaning that proceeds Passover is about to begin.

It's the time of year that we all love and dread simultaneously. We're going to clean and polish and clean and move stuff and clean and throw things away and clean and change dishes and clean and shop and *then*, we get to invite more family and friends than we have room for to join us for the seders. All the while, lurking at the back of our minds is the knowledge that we've got to get rid of all our chometz before this whole megillah gets started (oops, sorry, wrong holiday).

Now, nobody wants to throw away stuff that's still good. It's taken us all year to collect it. But, then, nobody really wants to store it either. We just don't have the room. Closing up all the cabinets and leaving the Passover food stuff on the counter doesn't always work either. There's never enough space for the dishes let alone eight jars of gefilte fish and 12 boxes of matzah. It's so much easier to just clean out your pantry and stock it with all the stuff you purchase *just* for the eight days of Pesach. (Confess, would you *really* eat that Passover cereal any other time of the year?)

So the question becomes, what do you do with those half eaten boxes of cookies and pasta and bottles of ketchup? My solution ... Improvise with style. Take what you've got and create combinations that will knock your families socks off. I'm not, however, advocating a casserole with 27 different types of beans and cookies in it. Just something a little different and unique. The following recipes should help get you started.

FRUITY RICE SALAD WITH RASPBERRY VINAIGRETTE

2 cups cooked rice (brown works really well)
2 cups broccoli, cut into small pieces, blanched and chilled
2 cups canned pineapple, drained
1 can mandarin orange, drained
1 red pepper, diced
½ cup chopped onion (red onion add a sweet taste)
1 can (12 ounces) tuna, drained
Salad greens

Raspberry Vinagrette Dressing

½ cup apple cider vinegar (regular will do)
1 tbsp. raspberry preserves
2 tbsp. orange or lemon juice
1 tbsp. brown sugar
1 tsp. seasoned salt
½ tsp. crushed red pepper
1 tsp. minced garlic
½ cup olive oil

In a large bowl, combine the rice, broccoli, pineapple, oranges, pepper and onion. Toss well. Add raspberry vinegrette dressing and toss well. Cover and refrigerate for several hours before serving. Just before serving add the tuna and toss gently. Serve on salad greens either as individual servings or as a main dish. Yield: 6 main course servings.

SPICY CHICKEN AND PASTA WITH GARLIC AND PINE NUTS

3 tbsp. olive oil
3 tsp. minced garlic
2 cups sliced mushrooms
½ cup chopped onions
½ tsp. crushed red pepper
2½ cups chopped plum tomatoes
2½ cups chicken broth
½ tsp. salt (optional)
¼ tsp. coarsely ground pepper
8 to 10 oz. uncooked linguini
1½ to 2 cups cooked chicken, cut into bite size pieces
⅓ cup chopped fresh cilantro or parsley
⅓ cup toasted pine nuts (almonds will work as well)

In a large skillet heat olive oil and sauté garlic, mushrooms, onion and red pepper. Sauté until just tender. Add tomatoes, salt, pepper and chicken broth. Bring the mixture to a boil. Break the linguini noodles in half and mix them into the boiling mixture. Cover, reduce heat and cook for about 10 minutes or until the noodles are cooked throughout. Check at about five

[Cont'd. on page 33]

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Just try and say no to those snacks

If you were told that you had to stop eating snacks, how long would it be before you wanted one?

The snack experts at Christie Brown & Co. say the answer is less than one hour for 15 percent of Canadians while for 35 percent it's less than a day (source: February Omnitel survey of 2,000 Canadians). Residents in Atlantic Canada are most likely to want a snack within an hour (23 percent) while those in Quebec showed the greatest fortitude with nine percent noting they could last at least a month before temptation struck.

But how long could you actually resist the temptation to snack if told not to? Christie Brown notes that willpower lasts only slightly longer than desire with 23 percent of Canadians snacking within 24 hours and 43 percent succumbing within a week!

In the survey, Christie Brown asked Canadians to name the person they would most like to share a snack with. Spouses were the most popular choice, identified by 41 percent of male respondents and 32 percent of women. Children were a distant second (13 percent) followed by a friend or best friend (10 percent). Quebecers were most likely to choose a friend/best friend to share a snack with and least likely to choose a spouse. And Albertans were twice as likely to choose their parents for a snack partner than respondents in the rest of Canada.

The most popular suggestions were to give up television followed by alcohol. According to the survey, British Columbians were twice as likely to give up sex as respondents elsewhere in Canada, while Ontarians were more eager to forego vegetables such as spinach, broccoli and turnip.

What prompts a snack attack. Through other Christie Brown consumer surveys, the company found the number one reason is a "craving for food' — seven out of 10 Canadians snack to keep going until the next meal. But the second reason for snacking is the desire to treat yourself. There's no doubt that snacks and pleasure go hand-in-hand.

Despite what many people think, less than one-third of Canadians snack because they feel depressed. But, Christie Brown noted that significantly more English Canadians tend to sanck when bored compared to French Canadians.

"Nearly 75 percent of Canadians eat snacks at least once a day and snacks have become much more than a bite to eat between meals," said Sara Feldman of Christie Brown & Co. "Today, snacks are actually replacing meals. Approximately 16 percent of Canadians prefer to snack throughout the day rather than eating three meals."

Not surprisingly, the most frequent snackers are those between 17 and 24 years of age. Christie Brown notes that you're most likely to snack in the evening or mid-afternoon — and if you're watching TV or a movie.

Support for snacking is now coming from health professionals who are encouraging healthy snacking as an important part of a healthy diet, recognizing the importance of smaller meals throughout the day. That's good news because according to Christie Brown & Co., one out of two Canadians say that "although they watch their diet, they will not give up snacking."

"People seem to understand the moderation message of Canada's Food Guide to Healty Eating," said Feldman. "Surveys we conducted over the last two years indicate consumers know that snacks have a role to play, so it's all right to indulge as long as you usually follow a balanced diet."

Snacking with Cindy Crawford

Christie Brown notes that while only three percent of Canadians surveyed said they'd most like to share a snack with an entertainment personality, *Baywatch* actress Pamela Anderson and supermodels Cindy Crawford and Claudia Schiffer did rate particular attention.

And yes, there are solitary snackers. Five percent of Canadiansd said they would prefer to savor the snack experience alone.

Let's say you had to make a choice: give up snacking or give up something else. What would you choose? When Christie Brown asked Canadians, their answers ranged from housework to paying taxes and bills to exercise to work. Only three percent of respondents would prefer to give up snacks.

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⅓ cup Passover balsamic vinegar
1 clove garlic
½ tsp each salt and pepper
⅓ cup Passover olive oil
½ lb small mushrooms
Vegetable oil
2 filets or rib eye steaks, about 1¼ lb total
6 green onions
1 small head radicchio
1 small head leaf lettuce
1 large tomato, cut into wedges

In a small bowl, whisk vinegar with garlic, salt and pepper. Gradually whisk in olive oil. Set aside.

To grill mushrooms easily, thread them onto skewers. Brush lightly with oil; then place on greased grill over medium-high heat. Add steak to grill. Cook for five minutes, turning mushrooms frequently and brushing with oil if necessary; turn steak.

Lightly brush green onions with oil and place on grill. Cook three to five min. more, turning onions frequently and brushing lightly with oil if necessary, until steak is rare or medium rare. Remove steak and vegetables from grill. Let steak stand about five min; slice thinly on the diagonal.

Meanwhile, tear radicchio and leaf lettuce into bite-size pieces; arrange on four dinner plates. Slice green onions into one-inch pieces. Arrange green onion, mushrooms and steak on dinner plates around lettuce. Garnish with tomato wedges. Whisk dressing and drizzle over salad.

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Passover Foods

How to overcome your fear of matzah

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

It is with equal parts of joy and dread that I look forward to the coming of Passover.

The joy comes from the knowledge that most of the people I love best in the world will be with me and my family celebrating and sharing our seders. It also comes from the awesome realization that at no other time in the year will my house be quite this clean.

The dread part comes from the knowledge of what all that matzah is going to do to my digestive track. Don't misunderstand, I love matzah. I gobble it up with butter and jelly in the morning. I inhale it with chopped liver for lunch and I snarf it with everything for dinner. *However*, for me, consuming more than a piece or two of matzah a day is like having your car double parked in a no parking zone. You never know when things are going to start moving.

I know that there are fellow sufferers out there who have the same love-hate relationship with matzah. The only way to keep things moving along (sorry about that) is to make sure that when you're eating your annual ton of matzah that you also consume an equal or greater amount of fruits, vegetables and liquids.

Cutting back on the amount of meats and fats you consume during the holiday is also a great help in keeping things going (sorry again, I just couldn't resist the pun). Snacking on dried or fresh fruits and raw vegetables is also helpful. This year, we should all promise to use a little more self-control when it comes to opening and eating that entire last can of chocolate chip macaroons or that seventh matzah ball.

The following recipes are simple and totally pareve so that they can accompany any meal. With these recipes you can eat to your heart's (and stomach's) content.

HONEY AMBROSIA

4 medium oranges, peeled and sliced crosswise
3 bananas, sliced
½ cup orange juice
¼ cup honey
2 tablespoons lemon juice
¼ cup flaked coconut
canned cherries, drained, optional

Combine sliced fruit in a medium bowl, toss lightly. Combine orange juice, honey and lemon juice and pour it over the fruit. Mix well. Sprinkle with coconut and cover. Chill at least one hour. Toss and garnish with cherries. Serves 6. Can be doubled.

CARROT AND CABBAGE SLAW

2 cups shredded cabbage
1 cup shredded carrots
½ cup raisins
¼ cup slivered almonds, toasted
½ cup Passover mayonnaise
2 teaspoons lemon juice
1/8 teaspoon nutmeg

In a large bowl combine cabbage, carrots, raisins and almonds. In a small bowl, combine the mayonnaise, lemon juice and nutmeg. Pour dressing ovr salad and toss. Serves 6. Can be doubled.

MELON VEGETABLE SALAD

3 cups honeydew, in balls
3 cups watermelon, in balls
1 carrot, coarsely shredded
1 medium cucumber, peeled, quartered, seeded and sliced
½ cup blueberries
½ cup apricot preserves
¼ cup sweet white wine
2 tablespoons orange juice concentrate, thawed

In a large bowl, combine the fruits (except the blueberries) and vegetables. Toss gently. In a small bowl combine the preserves, wine and orange juice. Mix well and pour over the melon mixture. Stir well and cover. Refrigerate until just before serving. Remove from refrigerator, gently stir in the blueberries and serve on salad greens if desired. Serves 10.

HERBED CARROTS AND GRAPES

2 tablespoons margarine or butter
3 cups thinly sliced carrots
½ cup finely chopped onions
3 tablespoons dry wine or water
1 cup seedless red or green grapes, halved, at room temp.
dash of dried dill or thyme
1 tablespoon honey

Melt margarine in a medium skillet. Add the wine or water. Saute the carrots and onions until crisp tender, approx. four to five minutes. Stir occasionally. Remove from heat and add the remaining ingredients. Stir well and cover. Let stand two to three minutes to warm the grapes then serve. Serves 4 to 5. Can be doubled.

SPINACH STUFFED TOMATOES

2 small tomatoes
2 tablespoons margarine
1 teaspoon minced garlic
¼ cup chopped green onions
2 cups shredded fresh spinach
½ teaspoon dried tarragon or basil
1 egg, hard boiled, chopped

Cut the tomato in half. Scoop out the inside and discard it. Set the 4 shells aside. In a large skillet melt margarine and sauté garlic and green onions for about one minute. Stir in the spinach and tarragon or basil. Cook one to two minutes until the spinach starts to wilt. Remove from heat and spoon the spinach mixture into the tomato shell. Sprinkle the chopped egg on top and serve warm. Serves 4. Can be doubled.

HOT FRUITED TEA

5 cups boiling water
4 tea bags
10 whole cloves
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup sugar
¼ cup lemon juice
½ cup orange juice
orange slices or wedges

Place the tea bags, cloves and cinnamon in a large pan. Pour the boiling water over them and let set steep for five minutes. Strain into a teapot and add the sugar and juices. Heat till simmering and serve hot. Garnish with orange slices. Serves 6.

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NKM Chapman 309 York Mills Road
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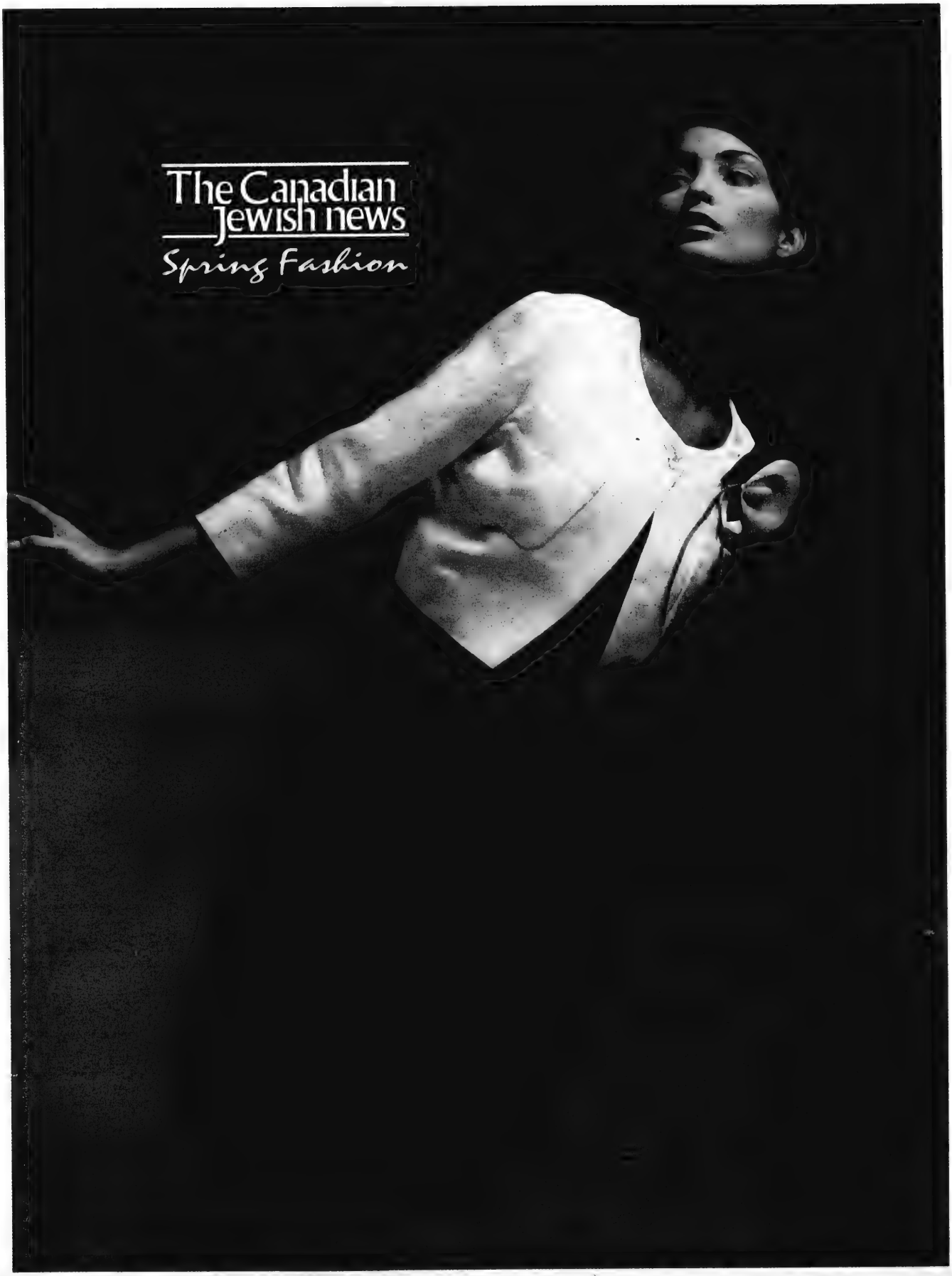
The Barn Fruit Markets, Hamilton
Wynford Market Place (60 Wynford Heights)

Healthy eating at Pesach

No time to eat, let alone prepare a nutritious meal? You can eat well on the run, even when busy preparing Pesach, if you make it Nutrition To Go! March is Nutrition Month and dietitians across Canada will be busy offering Canadians advice on how to incorporate nutrition into their busy lives — whenever and wherever they go.

When you're on the go, healthy eating becomes even more important to maintain stamina, but keep the principles of healthy eating in mind. Here are a few tips to get you started:

- Breakfast gives you the energy you need to start a busy day. Get your day off to a good start at home — eat cereal with fruit, scramble eggs in the microwave, drink a blender shake made with fruit and milk or yogurt, or finish the leftovers from the fridge. If there's no time to eat at home, pack something or buy something to eat on the way or once you arrive.
- Stock your office/lunchroom/briefcase with nutritious snacks that you can reach for on those "dining at your desk" days. Some suggestions from dietitians: hard-boiled eggs, fresh fruit, yogurt, crackers, cheese, leaner deli, cereal bars and cartons of milk or juice. Make your snacking choices count! This can be a great way to use up leftovers, too.
- Plan meals ahead of time to make shopping quick and easy. Think about your grocery list while you watch TV, ride the bus or wait in a line.
- Batch cook meals on weekends and freeze. On time-crunched evenings, pull out a frozen chili, spaghetti sauce or stew and microwave. Use leftovers for lunches.
- Keep your freezer and cupboard stocked with frozen vegetables, entrées and canned goods. These will provide short cuts on busy nights when you still want a family sit-down meal.
- Cut up carrots, broccoli, peppers and other vegetables when you have some time and refrigerate — they can be grabbed as a quick snack or quickly stir-fried or steamed as an accompaniment to pasta, rice or meat for a quick and nutritious dinner.
- When time is short, grab a bite while walking to the car or bus, getting ready for work, sitting at your desk or waiting between appointments and in line-ups.
- Dietitians recommend choosing a variety of foods from the four food groups of the *Canada Food Guide To Healthy Eating*. Choose leaner meats and lower fat dairy products; foods prepared with little or no fat; and more grains, cereals, breads, fruits and vegetables.


The Canadian
Jewish news
Spring Fashion

Spring Fashion

Witness the bright colors of Edith Strauss

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Fashion designer Edith Strauss is known for her bright palet. "I do all colors, but on the whole I specialize in bright colors," she says. "No matter what Paris and Milan say, we do our own shades. The mills do color especially for me."

Strauss chooses to work in "high shades" like royal blue, fuchsia and jade because bright colors tend to flatter most women, she says. "It brightens them up. Not every color is right for every person. At a certain age, a woman realizes she can wear certain colors and she asks for them. Canadian women like bright colors."

Creating a new collection twice a year gets her adrenalin working, she says. "There is great pressure to be on time and to be better than the next designer. You have to have an intuitive knowledge of what the Canadian woman is going to want."

And Strauss is certainly well versed in the fashion needs of Canadian women. She has been designing with their needs in mind for more than 40 years. She started as a teenager in Montreal and by her early 20s was the executive designer for the country's largest dress manufacturer.

She launched her own label in 1965, following a move to Toronto when her late husband, Norman, shifted his business here. One of the most established designers in Canada, Strauss has navigated some unchartered fashion territory.

She was the first Canadian designer to sell to Saks Fifth Avenue in the United States and to crack the tough Japanese market. She dreamed up the concept of the executive dress for working women and in 1990 she was the first recipient of the prestigious City of Toronto Award for Excellence in Fashion Design.

The designer – her label can be found in many department stores – says she wouldn't like to be starting her career today because it is a difficult time for the Canadian fashion industry. The last recession wiped out many retail stores reducing the market share for Canadian designers who also face tough competition from imports from the Far East and Europe.

The industry has also been hurt by the grunge look, a general trend in fashion recently. Women who in the past looked to designers for direction have been confused by the "anti-fashion" statements of grunge which teams a chiffon dress cut out in back and front with army boots, she says.

Canadian women tend to choose designers by the cut and fit of the garments rather than by the stature of the designer, she explains. "Once they get accustomed to a certain cut and fit they always come back."

One store tracked their customers' purchases: 380 were consistently buying her label, she says. "They were asking for my name not because I am Edith Strauss but because they feel comfortable in my designs."

For her new spring collection, Strauss is showing linen suits in navy and white and her trademark high shades. A round neck navy jacket with white linen inserts is teamed with a straight white linen skirt which can be worn long or short. A similar white skirt is also shown with a longer round neck navy jacket that buttons on the side.

Straight linen dresses with inserted panels of contrasting colored linen give the dresses a couture look, she notes. "The insert in that dress can only be done by a very experienced craftsman." Her bestseller is an A-line dress in an array of colors and trims with three gold buttons; linen dresses with matching coats or jackets are also an important part of the collection, she says.

For evening, Strauss has created mid-calf gorgette dresses in an array of styles and colors: black dotted on fuchsia and royal backgrounds gathered at the waist or straight dress with a double-flounced flirt skirt. She is also showing a three-piece chiffon ensemble – a pleated skirt, camisol and flowing jacket – in a striking art-deco print as well as a cream-colored cocktail suit with a vest-like jacket in satin-back crepe teamed with a white gorgette circular skirt.

The spring is Strauss' busiest season becuase she is shipping the summer lines and getting the showroom ready for her fall collection. "Every new collection is a challenge. You have to be excellent. You have to be better than the competition to survive."

For her new collection, Strauss is showing Linen Suits in navy and white, and her trademark high shades.

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JONES NEW YORK

The latest Jones New York spring collection will emphasize creating a casual, relaxed but professional polished look for today's lifestyle. Showcased at a special runway presentation hosted by The Casual Way on March 1 at 1 p.m. will be Jones New York career separates Jones Sport (pictured above), weekend wear and the Jones & Co. line relaxed co-ordinates in the latest fluid fabrics which can be worn for work or weekend wear. The Casual Way has the largest selection of Jones New York collections of any independent retailer in Toronto.

Advertisement

Winners relocates flagship store

*Workers apply finishing touches as **Winners** prepares to move into spacious new quarters at Lawrence Plaza*

On Wednesday, March 27, **Winners**, Canada's largest off-price retailer, will relocate its flagship Lawrence Plaza store. Situated in the same mall, the new store is moving to a second storey location (over Sportmart). The new store will nearly double its original size and feature over 30,000 square feet of first quality, brand label and designer fashions for men, women and children; domestics; and giftware.

Store to double in size

Opened in 1982, the Lawrence Plaza store was the first Winners location. "Because this was our first store and our flagship store, it has always had the strongest and most dedicated customer following. Many of our Lawrence Plaza shoppers are amazed when they hear that we have over 17 more stores in the city, 38 more nationwide!" explains David Margolis, company president.

*High fashion, low prices — that's the **Winners** formula*

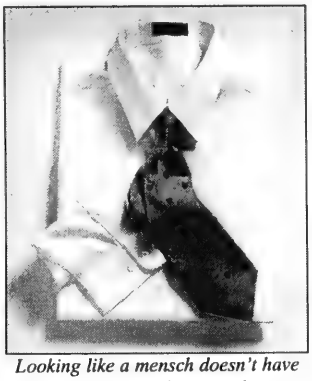
More famous labels

*Picture this: double the **Winners**, twice as many great gifts*

The aggressive expansion plan to take the chain's value message across Canada began in 1990 when the TJX Companies Inc. (parent company of TJ MAXX and Marshalls in the U.S.) acquired Winners. At that time Winners was a five-store Toronto-based chain. With strong, secure financial backing, Winners has been able to take advantage of the immense potential of the off-price market in Canada.

Grand opening Wed. March 27

"Our newer stores are bigger, brighter and more shopable than the original Lawrence Plaza store. Over the past few years we have been looking for a way to improve and expand this location. When this opportunity arose, we jumped at it," says Margolis. "There's going to be more of everything, more famous labels, more great fashion. We're sure our regular customers are going to love it, and we hope to attract new ones too."



*Looking like a mensch doesn't have to be expensive when you shop at **Winners***

*Career dressing's a snap at **Winners**, with 30,000 square feet of fashions to choose from*

Fashion, giftware, and more

The Lawrence Plaza store is located at Lawrence and Bathurst. Store Opening Hours are Monday to Friday 9:30 to 9:00, Saturday 9:30 to 6:00, and Sunday 11:00 to 5:00. For more information, call 1-800-646-WINN.

*An enthusiastic **Winners** shopper holds court with his best friend*

'Don't spill any on me!'

By PHYLLIS FELDMAN
Special to The CJN

In a dilemma about what to wear to that upcoming function or party? You're tired of the same old thing. You want to look great, make a statement and be different? Then you may want to consider this.

Contrary to the belief some women seem to have that wearing less is more effective, wearing less has actually become so commonplace that in reality, the thrill is gone. Why is it that in this day and age, when women have fought so hard to be recognized as intellectual equals, there has never been so much cleavage displayed at a social event?

Exactly what message are you leaving — or more aptly cleaving — when you wear clothing that leaves nothing much to the imagination? Are you saying, "I really have nothing much to offer, I'm very boring, but in case you haven't noticed, I do have these"? The message you may be sending is: "This is *all* I have!"

Think about how you really want to be seen before you get dressed for that special evening out. If being the *gâteau maison* isn't what you had in mind, then maybe you should *not* display your hidden assets.

The point isn't how beautiful or well-toned one's body is, it's about self-respect and how we regard ourselves.

Mothers of b'nei mitzvah should be especially conscious of how they dress for their own simchah. You can look beautiful, radiant, elegant, fabulous ... but sexy should not be in this particular list. Remember that this is your child's special day and it's up to you to set the tone for the occasion.

Discretion is usually shown at daytime luncheons following synagogue services. However, when it comes to evening parties and dressing options are more varied, some women unfortunately forget where they are going and literally let it all hang out.

They think it's their party and they'll show what they want to. Wrong! Do you really want your

daughter's bat mitzvah teacher to be front row centre at your coming out party?

Please use your common sense and save the sexy outfits for another type of occasion, definitely not your son or daughter's bar or bat mitzvah.

To all those who insist on flaunting what they've got, I say, "It may be fine for you if your cup runneth over, but please do me a favor and try not to spill any on me."

Beauty tricks to help you look perfect for your wedding

By CAROL BIRKEN WISE
Special to The CJN

Your wedding day, a day you've dreamed about for years is quickly approaching and you are in tears. Why? You are five pounds overweight, your skin is blotchy and you hate your hair. That is the dilemma of wanting to be perfect for your wedding day! The good news is you are not alone and there are many beauty tricks that can create that perfect beauty for you.

Skin care is your first step. It is a good idea to get a professional opinion and begin your cleansing procedure at least three months prior to your wedding date.

Your diet is important: avoid all caffeine, including chocolate, and drink at least eight glasses of water a day.

Exercise is a great stress reliever. Do it every day. If you don't have time for a full workout, stretch or go for a 20-minute walk.

A great makeup application should be reasonably easy. Enhance your best features and camouflage your less attractive ones. The golden rule is "Less is more."

BEAUTY TIPS

Foundation: Match your skin tone, use a minimal amount and blend well, stopping at your jaw line. Choose a color that is closest to your natural skin tone. Apply loose or pressed powder in a translucent shade, as this will increase wearing power.

Blush: Use a large soft brush and dust high on your cheekbones, blend with a soft sponge. Dry powder blush is the best choice, as it blends well and stays on the longest. The best color choice is rose, which is the most natural.

Eye shadow: Use neutral shades such as taupe, mocha and beige, blend well. Leave the frosting for your cake.

Eye pencils: Apply close to your

Enhance your best features.

lash line, blend with a soft sponge or Q-tip to avoid that owl look. The most effective colors are black, grey and brown.

Mascara: The only colors to use are black or brown. Apply lightly and evenly, as mascara clumps are awful in photographs.

Lipstick: The day of your wedding is not a day for change. Choose a lipstick that you love and feel comfortable wearing. The days of ruby red lips are long gone.

My advice is practise, and then practise again. If you are still not happy with your beauty results, it might be a good idea to hire a professional.

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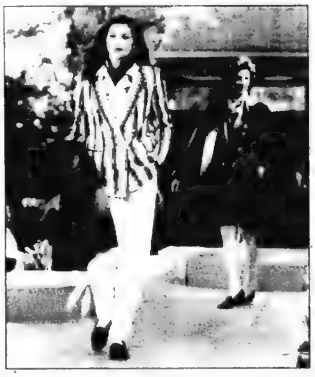
Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre

Advertising feature

Hazelton Lanes: the very finest in the very heart of Yorkville



Fashion shows are a regular attraction in Hazelton Lanes

At the heart of Bloor-Yorkville, between Avenue Road and Hazelton Avenue, lies what many consider the best indoor shopping in Canada. **Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre** opened in 1975 and has grown considerably over the years. "The Lanes," as it is commonly called, is an interesting mix of old and new architectural styles which include winding cobblestone walkways, an enclosed outdoor courtyard and a soaring atrium, which was added in the Lanes' 1989 expansion.

The Lanes is comprised of over 85 specialty and one-of-a-kind retailers, and features Canadian, European, and American fashions for men, women, and children. Designers such as Alfred Sung, Adrienne Vittadini, Gianni Versace and Ralph Lauren are just a few of the top names featured at The Lanes. For casual and everyday wear, stores such as Club Monaco, Tristan, Marci Lipman, Arrow, and Jacob are also available.

Hazelton Lanes also provides a great array of unique shops which sell everything from Cuban cigars to Canadian folk art and exquisite antiques. Be sure to peruse the unusual and "out-of-the-ordinary" accessories at The General Store, or scoop up that elusive recording you've been searching high and low for at The Classical Record Shop. These are just a few of the exclusive and original shops that can be found at Hazelton Lanes.

Father/Daughter Fashion Show Thursday March 28

Hazelton Lanes is also pleased to provide entertaining events such as their first Father/Daughter Fashion Show to be held on Thursday, March 28th at 6:30 p.m. Twenty-five pairs of contestants selected from hundreds of entries will model clothing from participating Hazelton Lanes retailers alongside local Toronto celebrity pairs of fathers and daughters. Among the celebrities participating are Citytv's Ann Rohmer and Kevin Frankish, CFTO's Robin Ward, and CFNY's Humble Howard and Fred Patterson. There is no admission fee and seating is based on a first come first served basis.

The "See & Do Club": a place to learn, a place to play

Children can also find amusing and fun things to do at Hazelton Lanes. Monthly workshops are held in the "See & Do Club" located on the lower level beside Brown's. Children have a great time participating in fun and creative workshops. Upcoming workshops include a sign up class on Saturday, April 13th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (each session is 1 1/2 hours in length) that will focus on music and colour theory, and then on Saturday, April 27th there is a drop-in class where the children will create their very own birdfeeder for the spring. For more information or to sign up please call (416) 968-0853. A minimum donation of $2.00 per workshop is required in order to participate, with all the proceeds going to the Hospital for Sick Children, Children with AIDS Fund.

If you're looking for an extra special "perk", be sure to sign up for a Hazelton Lanes Loyalty Card. The card allows you to receive extras such as 3 hours of free parking (with minimum $10.00 purchase), discounts, reserved seating for special events and gifts with purchase from participating retailers. All of this is listed in the bi-monthly newsletter you'll receive once you've signed up. Be sure to sign up for your card at the Customer Service Centre.

For more information about Hazelton Lanes and its events or shops, all you have to do is call (416) 968-0853 and one of their friendly customer service staff will be pleased to assist you.

The atrium is enlivened by larger-than-life sculptures suspended from the skylit ceiling

HAZELTON LANES SHOPS AND SERVICES FEATURED IN THIS SECTION:

SHOP OR SERVICE	PAGE	TELEPHONE	CONCOURSE
Andrew's	B7	969-9991	UPPER
Chez Catherine	B6	967-5666	LOWER
Conway & Gower	B6	923-7003	UPPER
Crabtree & Evelyn	B6	929-0109	LOWER
4 You	B5	413-4968	UPPER
Marci Lipman	B8	921-1998	UPPER
Mondi	B7	962-3333	LOWER
Roots	B7	961-8479	UPPER
The Village Shop Plus	B6	960-3099	UPPER
Yorkville Design Centre	B8	922-6620	UPPER

Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre

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Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre

Advertising feature

The Village Shop Plus enters spring with colourful attitude

Fresh, vibrant colour and a host of lightweight novelty fabrics highlight a spring renaissance at **The Village Shop Plus**. Along with the basic-colour knits that are still a staple of your workwear diet, you'll find blouses, pants and jackets in exciting new feather-weight blends of wool, silk, linen and viscose, in pastel blue, powder blue, and banana yellow. Fresh, clean hues to spruce up your day wardrobe. Properly coordinated, they'll put to shame the uniformed look of seasons past, while still commanding the respect a professional environment demands.

Continuing The Village Shop's tradition, buyer Beverley Lerner has personally sought out the finest offerings of the European market. Among her new acquisitions for The Village Shop Plus is *Samoon*, a sporty new line featuring fluid dressing, soft fabrics, and some delicious tunic tops. It all spells Comfort with a capital "C", and these pieces will blend seamlessly with your existing wardrobe, adding depth and versatility.

If you love the look of blue denim but not its feel or presentation, The Village Shop Plus is ready and waiting for you with a heavenly denim line made of *tencel*, a lightweight, ultracomfortable fabric that maintains the textured look of denim without its stiffness, and lends itself to a dressier style suitable for any office environment. It also dyes beautifully and will "coral" your world if blue is already well-represented in your wardrobe.

The finely tailored clothing which has always defined The Village Shop Plus is still there in force; the suits and jackets you require for more formal corporate dressing are ever-present, in the size you require.

Darren Mason, who operates the store with Ms. Lerner, has seen a general return to image dressing for work, though this has always been a prime focus of The Village Shop Plus. "The range of options is much broader than in the past," he says, "but with this greater freedom comes an increased responsibility to coordinate properly." The importance of presentation cannot be overemphasized, according to Mason: "The bottom line is that when you look good, you feel good, and this impacts directly on your performance and on how your colleagues and associates perceive you." Inner confidence and outward appearance are interdependent, says Mason: "You might be able to dissociate them at home, but in the workplace the reality factor kicks in. The positive feedback you get on what you're wearing may seem superficial until you *don't* get it; then it seems very important indeed."

The **Who's Who** of European fashion design . . . Ferre, Lacroix, Lagerfeld, Krizia, Versace, and more . . . spring collections *sans pareil* at

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Conway and Gower a gift giver's paradise

Losing yourself in Hazelton Lanes can be fun — especially if you happen to find yourself in the friendly confines of **Conway and Gower**, a wonderful "furniture" shop that carries "Everything for the dining room but the food". "Everything" in this case means English and European china, crystal, Irish and French linens, oil paintings, watercolours, prints, and many other items. If it will enhance your home, chances are it's at Conway and Gower, tucked invitingly into some little nook.

It's a gift-giver's paradise, and with the help of Proprietor Hilary Jones, you'll find yourself scooping up the perfect birthday, wedding or anniversary gift in a matter of minutes. For as little as $10 or as much as $12,000, Conway and Gower can satisfy any gift-giving need. Bridal registry is a specialty, and Conway and Gower offers 10% off all pre-wedding registry purchases and gives the couple a gift both on their wedding day and on their first anniversary.

Warm personal service and free gift wrapping, storage and local delivery are all the more reason to visit this charming niche. Conway and Gower can deliver your gift worldwide. Phone and mail orders are accepted to assist out-of-town guests.

In fine china, Conway and Gower carries several renowned lines, including Richard-Ginori, to grace your dining room table. They'll also be happy to supply the table itself; their showroom always has a select few exquisite antique dining tables fit for a regal feast.

This is not a mass-merchandising environment, but a special place where items are selected lovingly, one by one.

Crabtree & Evelyn: goodness through & through

Scarcely do you set foot in Crabtree & Evelyn than you are enveloped by sights and scents evocative of a simpler — and in its simplicity, richer — time.

Based on the old English stillroom, used to store the fruits and flowers of the fall harvest, the **Crabtree & Evelyn** shops reflect the architectural design of the store on Kensington Church Street in London, England. They operate on a simple but compelling formula: purveying everything that's good for the body, both inside and out.

In this case, the "goodness" is through-and-through; all products are made slowly, painstakingly, often by hand, with no animal testing. Soaps, triple-milled, are fragrant to the core; preserves (three different kinds of strawberry, and several sugar-free varieties sweetened with apple juice) are hand-cooked in copper kettles and hand-bottled with no preservatives; and some of the pure butter biscuits are actually yellower in the summer because the cattle who cooperated in making them are meadow-grazed at that time of year!

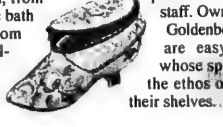
Soothing skin care products abound, from the *La Source* line of aromatherapeutic bath gels, moisturizers, Dead Sea and epsom salts to the ever-popular *Goatsmilk* collection of soaps, body creams, and gels. Luxurious fragrances for the home include hand-crafted potpourri, scented drawer lining papers and perfumed candles.

Complementing the range of comestibles are fine teas, chocolates, and a mouthwatering variety of exotically-flavoured biscuits, notably orange and lemon. There are some incredibly quaint gift items, including *DuBarry* collector boxes from Limoges, France (see the shoe-shaped box pictured below) and the hand-made sterling silver *Yard-O-Led* pen (a perennial favourite as a bar mitzvah gift) recently featured on *Venture*.

Toiletries for men and women include such items as brushes made by hand (literally, bristle by bristle!) and bath and shaving ensembles that make a perfect gift for almost any occasion. Giftwrapping is free.

The shops derive their name from George Crabtree and John Evelyn, two renowned 17th century horticulturalists and naturalists. Some of their notes are reproduced on the packaging of a few of Crabtree and Evelyn's fine products.

The sensory pleasure of a visit to Crabtree and Evelyn is further enhanced by the presence of friendly, knowledgeable staff. Owners Sam and Rosemarie Goldenberg and manager Jennifer are easygoing, gentle people whose spirit of service embodies the ethos of the products that line their shelves.



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Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre

Advertising feature

Versatility, colour keynote Andrew's spring lineup

Updating and augmenting **Andrew's** stellar complement of traditional sportswear this season are some exciting twists on old themes.

Remember the pants suit? It's back in a big way, with an important difference. Add a jacket, and it carries effortlessly to evening; subtract the pants and add a skirt — knee-length or below the knee — and it *is* evening.

Navy still captains the colour fleet, but now it's got company: a resplendent array of bright yellows, mints, emeralds, and fuschias are ready to spell it at a moment's notice. A fresh tropical breeze of orange, citron yellow and lime green underscores the festival of colour that is Spring '96.

In this rainbow-like setting, it's not surprising that companion whites seem crisper, more radiant. Even classical black-and-whites have put on a fresh face, with innovative, novelty checks more commonly associated with fall popping up everywhere in lightweight, eminently wearable fabrics.

All shine and no rain being a Utopian concept, the real world (i.e. Canada) sees Andrew's transcend the simple trenchcoat with a glittering array of rainwear in irridescent shades of silver, gold and bronze.

Among Andrews' hot new fashion-forward Italian imports, *MK* has carved an impressive niche. Furthering the Italian-inspired clean, fluid look is the increasingly popular option to support your suit or blazer with knits as opposed to blouses. It's all about choice and the ability to dress down within acceptable limits, yours being the freedom to determine just where those boundaries lie. There's a caveat, however: know thyself well enough to know what co-ordinates. Or better yet, rely on Andrew's expert staff to know thyself!

This trend towards the relaxed is reflected not only in sportswear, but throughout the store. In the lingerie department, microfibre has emerged as a fabric of choice for its comfort-enhancing properties. In cosmetics, clean, pure, natural colours are coming to the fore, with all eyes on eyes this season.

For its customers, the Andrew's advantage lies in the fact that it is one of a very few Canadian stores whose buyer (Beverley Lemer) still personally scours the European market in search of the styles that best define and exemplify the seasons. That she does likewise for the American market makes Andrew's rarer still. "We're not limited to one market, nor are we slaves to a single designer," she says. "Whatever speaks to us and measures up to our standards of value, quality, style, and versatility will find its way into our shop."

Mondi's Spring '96 features new sporty

New directions. Mondi's City Collections have been joined by three complete Activewear Collections offering natural, comfortable chic with freedom for active lifestyles.

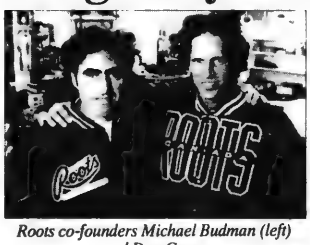
- Sporty colour-blocking styles in cotton and poly/cotton/lycra — easy to wear, easy to care for.
- Sweat shirts, leggings, bermudas and T-shirts in navy, red, and yellow, as well as pink & black and cream & black.

Ever the frontrunner in clean, classic sportswear, Mondi has unveiled a spring '96 collection that underscores this reputation with several key ingredients:

- Building on the nostalgic inspiration of the 1940's, Mondi brings the world of "cruising to Europe for the first time" back to life with the elegant yet sporty "tennis club" influence. The colour club's classic navy and red welcomes enthusiastic new members turquoise and yellow.
- Coming into the fabric fold is a new wool/poly mixture of crêpe piqué, a lovely lightweight addition that braves spring breezes and summer sun with equal panache.
- The beautiful, clean pant lines you've come to expect from Mondi are out in full force with a twofold advantage: straight leg and slim for an alluring silhouette, yet with built-in stretch for comfort.
- Suits — a Mondi signature — are at once classic yet fresh as a breeze, some sporting twists with Jackie 'O' inspiration that make them a wonderfully versatile addition to your wardrobe. In the boardroom or on deck — suit yourself!
- After many requests, Mondi now offers a collection of "Fashion Classics" that include favourites such as navy jackets, stretch denim jeans, fine cotton T-shirts and silk blouses — even a Mondi Fashion Classics Teddy bear, wearing a navy blazer! It's all waiting for you at Mondi Boutiques in Hazelton Lanes and four other convenient locations.

Hazelton Lanes	962-3333
Bayview Village	224-0780
Eaton Centre	599-5433
Yorkdale–Holt Renfrew	256-0118
Sherway Gardens–Holt Renfrew	621-3514

Originally Canadian company also a Hazelton Lanes original



Roots co-founders Michael Budman (left) and Don Green

How do two young men parlay a love of nature into a multinational retail empire spanning several continents? Marsha Sinetar might say that they "did what they loved, and the rest followed." In a Nathaniel Hawthornish way, Michael Budman and Don Green, the co-founders of Roots, allowed the butterfly of business success to alight on their shoulders by *not* pursuing it too vigorously.

The company's humble beginnings — and the name **Roots** — are the first clues that this is not your typical in-your-face-dollar-driven success story. Rather, it's the outgrowth of a childhood friendship and a love of the outdoors. The love came first; the money followed.

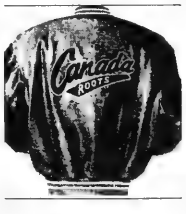
Out of days spent in the pristine woods of Camp Tamakwa in Algonquin Park — a Jewish day camp recently eulogized in the movie *Indian Summer* — grew a desire to translate their love of nature into something tangible that their peers could relate to. The results — from the original negative heel "earth" shoe through the myriad of products for men, women and children that now comprise the Roots product line — reflect an uncanny ability to tap the pulse of consumers with active lifestyles. Roots' dramatic corporate growth ("corporate" being an oxy-moron in this case, since "suits" are noticeably absent from Team Roots) has seen it supplement its contingent of some 95 Canadian stores with openings in the Far East and major American centres such as Chicago, Detroit, Aspen, San Francisco, and Beverly Hills.

The Hazelton Lanes store is one of a very few that can trace its roots back to the opening of The Lanes in 1973.

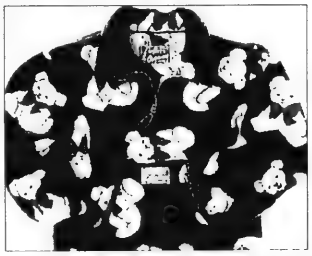
Unlike many modern retail chains in which the marketing concept often precedes not only the opening of stores but even the manufacture of product, the company's evolution has always been predicated on the response of the people who actually use its products. Employing some 1,000 Canadians and utilizing some 180,000 square feet of state-of-the-art production facilities right here in Toronto, Roots is at this very moment busily preparing goods for shipment to Roots stores in Hazelton Lanes and around the world.

And, unlike many big companies, says Budman, Roots is answerable not to shareholders but "directly to our customers." Likewise, new product decisions are based not on what some ivory-tower brain trust thinks may twig the market, but on which product samples Budman, Green and their spouses like enough to use themselves every day.

As *Toronto Life* commented in its October 1993 issue, Budman and Green " . . . have turned what might have been just another clothing chain into a legitimate cultural icon." Indeed, so ubiquitous are Roots' wears that they have come to be almost as much a part of the Canadian landscape as the environment they revere. Roots products are everywhere. Such is their popularity that, in addition to the casual settings where you'd expect to find them, it's not uncommon to see people wearing a Roots sweatshirt in the workplace or even — gasp! — the boardroom. Or, to put it another way — do you know anyone who *doesn't* wear Roots — sometime, somewhere?



Among the new offerings from Roots for spring '96 are a new line of stylish leather jackets and some fabulous new bags made of "the world's finest water-repellant nylon," according to Budman.



From jackets to ball caps to bags and everything in between, Roots' products generally feature the clever interplay of leather and fabric, marrying sport and fashion in a way that transcends both.

Roots is also an active player in the charity field, supporting among many other causes the United Jewish Appeal, the Children's Wish Fund, the Hospital for Sick Children, the Sunrise Youth Group, Variety Village, and the David Suzuki Foundation. Obviously, two important elements in the genesis of Roots — childhood and the environment — have not been not forgotten.

As Roots moves towards the twenty-first century, Budman promises that it will continue to go forward by going *back* — to its roots.

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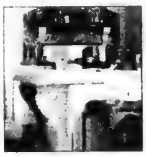
Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre

Advertising feature

Yorkville Design Centre boasts impressive credentials

From their charming Hazelton Lanes showroom that portrays, in microcosm, the kind of design taste that graces their award-winning residential and commercial interiors, the **Yorkville Design Centre** offers home and office planners a one-stop solution to their space-planning and decorative needs.

In a 25-year history that has seen them serve a devoted clientele not only from Toronto but all over the United States, their work can now be seen in homes and office buildings in New York, California, Connecticut, and numerous other locales across North America. Partners Jo Goebel and Barbara Munn, who have been on board for the past 17 years, can also lay claim to being Toronto's oldest dealer of Downsview Kitchens, a name synonymous with quality.



So strong is YDC's reputation for kitchens, however, that some people are unaware of its real forté, namely space planning and interior design.

The consultation begins with an interview so thorough that even veterans of the process are impressed. "We ask a lot of thought-provoking questions," says Barbara. "Long before we get into any specifics about design elements, we talk about the lifestyle you want and the environment you envision. We merge the house in your head with the house in your heart; then we put it on paper."

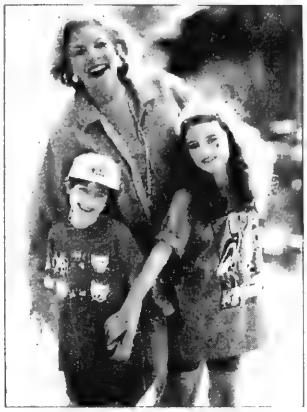
Herein lies another advantage of dealing with YDC: your dream home (or kitchen, or bedroom, or office) is hand-sketched, often before your very eyes, in a warm, realistic three-dimensional rendering that puts you right inside the space in a way that a computer rendering or a cross-section simply cannot.

The fees charged by YDC are surprisingly affordable for a firm whose work has graced the pages of *Towne and Country*, *Chatelaine* and *Toronto Life*. "Working with budgets is part and parcel of the design process," says Barbara. "We pride ourselves on being able to find solutions that fit, financially as well as architecturally." The range of services offered is broad, from decorating a single bedroom to designing an entire house or office building. And their expertise is second to none; as stated in a recent issue of *Toronto Life*, Yorkville Design Centre has "... a fine tradition of craftsmanship as well as style," and is "probably the finest kitchen department of any supplier [of Downsview Kitchens] in the city."

When the head and the heart(h) meet

New fabrics, same old comfort from Marci Lipman

For spring '96 **Marci Lipman** features a new Signature Collection with innovative fabrics that add a new, more sophisticated dimension to her line without taking away any of the comfort her clothes are famous for.



Marci Lipman's feel-good apparel knows no age boundaries

Front and centre in this "renaissance" is *tencel*, nature's newest luxury fibre. It looks just like denim, but is much softer and drapes beautifully. The dresses, skirts, pants, shorts, and vests that have resulted will make a comfortable, useful and *washable* addition to your spring wardrobe.

Another first for Marci this spring is a rayon program featuring a beautiful garden flower print. This rayon is fully washable and feels fabulous. Soft yet cool, it's the perfect thing to have next to your skin on those transitional spring/summer days and evenings. This grouping offers a multitude of mix and match possibilities, and is also available in youth sizes.

Pure cotton continues to be a Marci Lipman forté, and this spring you can look forward to a number of hot new items and yummy colours. A highlight among Marci's sporty casuals is a flat back rib cotton group which includes an embroidered crop jacket, a crop T shirt and matching pants.

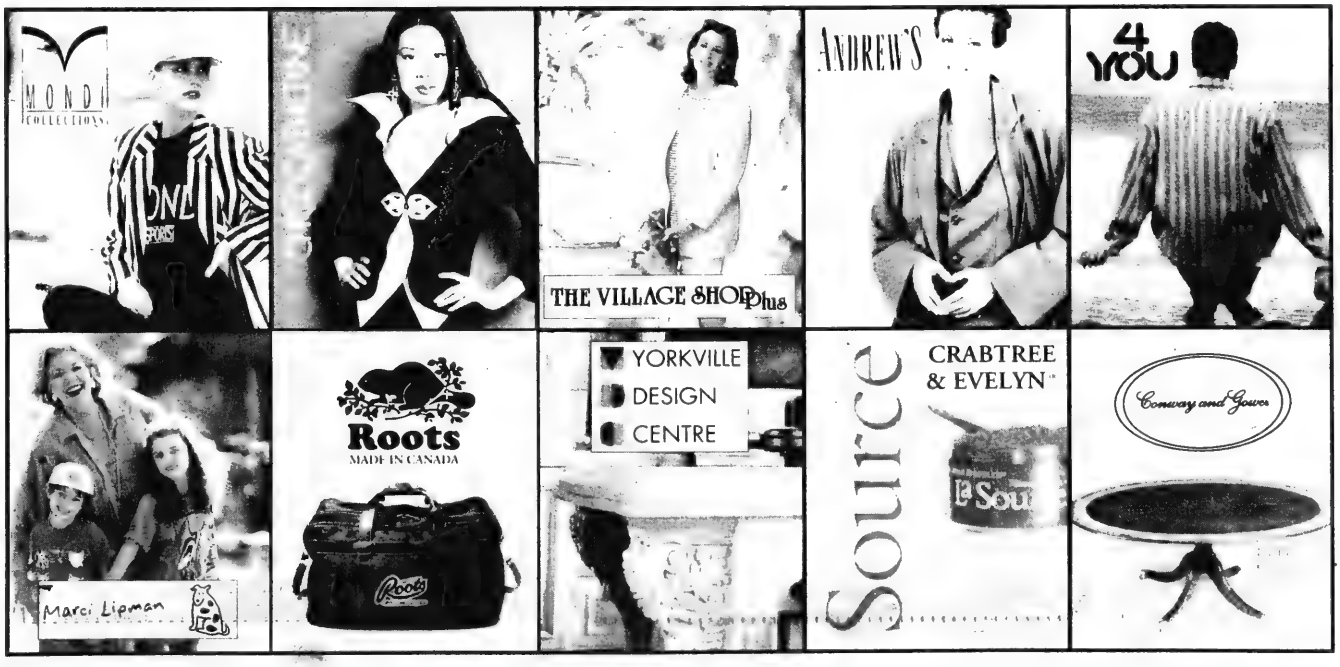
In terry cotton — a new program for Marci Lipman — there's a button-front overshirt, crew T, shorts, miniskirt, and tank dress. Especially inviting are the solid colour T shirts in raspberry, sage, and periwinkle highlighted by small, subtle prints, which team up beautifully with matching leggings and bicycle shorts. There's a new garden series of T shirts decorated with wildflowers and hummingbirds. Also included in this series is the "Ladybug" design by Canadian artist Ruth Adler Dayan, now living in Israel.

The Marci Lipman chain is now eight stores strong, with the latest store having opened recently in the Promenade Mall at Bathurst and Centre.

Of course, the traditional casual wear and sleepwear you've come to know and love is still very much in evidence, as are the animal prints that made the Marci Lipman line famous. Whether shopping for yourself, your better half, your children or your grandchildren, you do so in the knowledge that you're giving the gift of comfort.

Hazelton Lanes Shopping Centre

HAZELTON LANES – THERE'S NO OTHER PLACE QUITE LIKE IT



Spring Fashion

Beauty SHOP

By Carol Birken-Wise

Spring '96 splashes forward with palettes of color and a collection of styles. Whether you fancy clear red lipstick or mod beige, you will be considered in the height of fashion. A word of advice, though. If you are wearing a lady-like black dress with an elegant strand of pearls, don't wear mod beige lipstick with purple eye shadow. Makeup should be in keeping with your clothes.

As the weather becomes warm and humid, change your winter cleansing routine. Treat yourself to a professional facial, and welcome spring with a sparkling clean face.

Skin Care

A velvety and youthful complexion can be a dream come true. Learn what type of skin you have before purchasing cleansing or moisturizing products.

Chanel: new, four superb cleansing and moisturizing products. **Douceur Lactee** is a cleansing milk for the face and eye area. It has a light, milky texture and leaves an invisible moisturizing and protective film on the skin. It is best for normal to dry skin types. **Aquamousse Fraicheur** is a foaming cleanser to be used with water. It neutralizes drying effects of water and moisturizes the skin. It is good for all skin types. It is great for the woman who likes the feeling of soap and water. **Lotion Fraiche**, with its low percentage of alcohol, tightens pores, tones and soothes the skin. **Pure Reponse** is a light-textured emulsion that will leave your skin radiant through the day and night.

Bobbi Brown: Exfoliating Face Wash sloughs off dead skin cells, thus uncovering a more youthful appearing skin. Exfoliation is essential. Do it once or twice a week depending on your skin type. It is well worth the effort.

Foundation

Foundation will help you create that sought after, flawless finish. It will also protect your skin from the environment and most often provide a SPF sun block. Choose a color that matches your natural skin shade, and always apply a pressed or loose powder for longer wearing action.

Lancome: Maquilumine, a new cream powder foundation, promises to fade fine lines and wrinkles. Its whisper-light texture creates a non-oily veil of color. Thanks to the inclusion of lumi-spheres, the reflection of light is modified, resulting in an even complexion erasing signs of fatigue. **Lancome, Poudre Majeur** is a lighter than air, micro-bubble formula that imparts a fine imperceptible matte finish. It is oil free, yet never drying.

Chanel: Teint Extreme Lumiere formulation is like a skin care cream. Along with light corrective pigments, its rich creamy texture gives dry or sensitive skin a new lease on life.

Blush

Using the best makeup brushes should be equally as important as using the best makeup products. Try M.A.C. brushes for a superior result.

Lancome: Blush Subtil provides soft and subtle color that lasts for hours. This blush-on is oil free, oil absorbing, moisture-balanced and perfect for all skin types. New shade this spring is Lilas, similar to the color of lilacs.

Hair

Hair designer, Daniel Fiorio, says, "The mad for mod movement is still strong, but it's now more about creating a look for the modern age, instead of riding a purely retro wave. For short, medium or longer lengths, longer layers still rule. Shapes are fresh and clean."

Eyes

Make you eyes sparkle with spring's spectacular color collections. **Lancome** offers three sensational quartets of color, with different combos of pastel and bronze shades. For a touch of fantasy, add a line of **Crayon Khol Blanc (Lancome)**. Bobbi Brown, introduces two fabulous colors. Shell, a soft shade of pink, can be worn on the whole lid or just under the brow bone. Sable, a milk chocolate brown, blends beautifully with shell to create a soft and natural look. It can also be used with a brow brush, as a contour blush or to add depth to the crease.

Lips

With an abundance of colors to choose from, you will be fashionable whether your favorite color is rouge noir (red black) or silver gloss. The trendiest newsmakers are shine and gloss.

Lancome: Rouge Sensation Naif has a stunning pink-hued shine. It will make your lips look quite voluptuous and the shine will stay all day. To enliven any lipstick, try **Sorbet De Lancome**, a gloss that glistens.

Chanel: Rouge Noir Nail Enamel is joined this season by the equally dramatic **Rouge Noir Creme Lipstick**. Another exciting introduction is **Levres Cristallines/Crystal Lip Gloss**, two exciting lip effects, a silvery metallic and pearly shine embedded in a stunning compact, creating a luscious opalescent mouth. This new silver lining lip wear is accompanied by **Le Vernis Fluorine/Metallic** (nail enamel), which dries rapidly and definitely imparts a long lasting and intense shine.

Fragrance

Paloma Picasso, a new scent, is a breeze of light floral and fruity notes. It has smoldering femininity and freshness that feature lily of the valley, osmanthus and apricot.

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Spring Fashion

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Spring brings choices galore for fashion shoppers

By CAROL BIRKEN WISE
Special to The CJN

Spring bursts into motion with glam queen veracity. Whether you choose to emulate Audrey Hepburn or Marilyn Monroe, you will be right in vogue. From hourglass to mini-skirts, fitted jackets to swing coats the choice is yours.

The spring runways are filled with absolutely everything. Black and white are still the most prominent, but many designers showed a full spectrum of color ranging from bold turquoise to flaming red.

Brian Bailey showed numerous pastel shades, such as, peach, yellow and mauve. Bailey's line was the ultimate in femininity. His clothes are sensibly wearable for women of all sizes.

A tribute to Wayne Clark, who after a few years has proven himself once again to be the Dean of Glamor. His evening collection was filled with simple columns; however, his show-stopper was a strapless gown of black and white polka-dot silk with a full crinoline cascading skirt. Clark's designs are comfortable, sexy and fun to wear.

Linda Lundstrom makes fashion and comfort synonymous. Her color story is sumptuous pastels and her styles suit women from all walks of life. Designs are generously cut for easy wear and all items easily mix and match to make your wardrobe fun and versatile.

Comrags clothes are for the young woman with a modern attitude toward style. Their designs are witty, with a tough modern sensibility. Most of their fabrics are soft, flowing and often see through, quite frankly, a look for someone who wants to reveal all her "assets." Their styling is decidedly eclectic and unique.

Wayne Clark's designs are comfortable and fun to wear.

Minimalism is in the air at all fashion centres, but it is definitely the motto of fashion designer Ron Leal, tossing aside all decorative touches, leaving the clothes simple and easy to mix and match. His line is a complete lifestyle, meaning that evening and casual clothes work together. For example, a sequined tank top can be worn with a pair of jeans. Just a few garments creatively put together will take you to many different occasions.

Finally you can dress to suit your body shape and not look like last year's news. The spring designer collections are comfortable, feminine and often sexy, highlighting the brightest designing talents in Canada today.

CWF fashion show

The Canadian Women's Foundation (CWF), Canada's only national public foundation for women and girls presents Options, a fashion show and silent auction to provide women and girls with options for change in their lives.

The show will be held April 21 at the Toronto Marriott Eaton Centre from 2-4:30 p.m.

Some of the designs on view will be Doraz, Kasper, Jones New York and more.

The CWF is a registered public charitable foundation that grants funds to women's organizations for innovative and diverse programs and projects designed to help women and girls across Canada.

Tickets are $30 and a $15 voucher for Images That Suit will be given with each ticket. For more information call 416-484-8268.

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Spring Fashion

Euphoric state of relaxation

By CAROL BIRKEN WISE
Special to The CJN

Expert therapists smooth warm lavender oil over your body, soothing aching muscles and releasing sensual energies. Fitness instructors, registered dietitians, psychologists, and even psychic readers, cater to your every need. Tasty low fat meals nourish your body as it shrinks in size. Surrounded by luxurious decor, your body and soul are guided to a euphoric state of healthful relaxation. Welcome to the world of spa living — where, for the right price, all things are possible.

Spas today are indeed more health oriented than ever. I recently visited two in the southern United States and one in Canada with a full range of services.

I began at the Healthwinds Day Spa in midtown Toronto. Featuring a variety of esthetic, therapeutic and stress relief treatments, this little hideaway is a gem.

Thalassotherapy, a mouthful to pronounce, is their signature treatment. It begins with an invigorating exfoliant body scrub, followed by a hydrotherapy bath enriched with marine algae and essential oils.

Along the way, a therapist massages the tension from your muscles with a water-wand that stimulates the lymphatic system and assists in the elimination of cellulite. There are fitness classes, nutrition consultations, dining and even cooking instruction in their private cafe. After five hours of being pampered from head to toe, I felt stress free and totally rejuvenated. Package rates begin at $100, with all services available a la carte.

My next stop was The Bonaventure Spa in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Nestled amidst 1,250 lush, subtropical acres, it has been acclaimed by the 1995 Zagat Survey as one of the "Best Values" amongst the Top 10 U.S. spas.

Tanya Lee, the facilities director, describes it more succinctly: "The Bonaventure is a necessity that masquerades as a luxury." After four glorious days there, I can fully agree.

The fitness supervisor, Kristen Felty, is one of the reasons. She actively motivates men and women to make exercise part of their life. Felty teaches her clients to work at their "Target Zone," which means working at 65 to 85 percent of their maximal heart rate. She believes this will maximize the effectiveness of their workout.

I realized that to get a fat burning and conditioning workout I should take this woman's advice. Classes and instruction were available all day, and the results were well worth my effort.

"Weight must be lost the way it was gained, otherwise it will be gained the way it was lost," according to the Bonaventure's registered dietitian, Jennifer Anderson. How true. We all know quick fix diets just don't work.

Among the all-day pampering and myriad body treatments offered by Bonaventure, the most popular is their Hungarian Kur Treatment which begins with a deep cleansing scrub, followed by a private whirlpool featuring Hungarian Kur crystals, and finally a luxurious application of aromatherapy oils mixed with thermal Crystal Body Creme. The body is then wrapped for 20 minutes to allow absorption.

It relieves tension and dry skin, and supposedly promotes detoxification. It's enough to make you shout, "Hallelujah I'm born again."

The Bonaventure Mini Perfect Day rate is $99 U.S., with two night packages starting at $175, based on double occupancy. Rates go down in off season.

The Spa at Doral in Miami, Fla., is in a class all its own. Described by the management as a whole-world spa resort, it combines the best state-of-the-art American fitness techniques with old-world European soothing treatments.

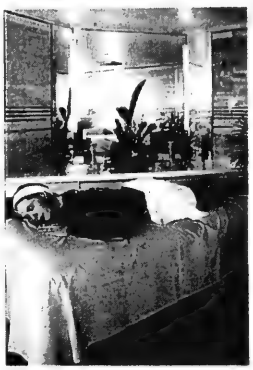
The facilities are surrounded by formal gardens, splashing fountains, tournament quality golf courses and the Arthur Ashe Tennis Centre — definitely world class.

In the spa, you'll find vaulted ceilings, luxuriously appointed suites, cascading waterfalls to sit under, spiral staircases and physical and esthetic comforts galore.

Jossie Feria, the spa director, says, "The Doral is not a boot camp operation. We are results oriented and our goal is repeat business. We get people thinking healthy and design a take home program to keep them that way."

Debbie Daley, registered dietitian, works closely with the chef designing menus that are low in calories and fat.

Daley designs programs integrated with a wellness instructor to suit guests' individual needs. According to Daley, the red licorice I love had to go.



Relaxing with a mudwrap.

Fitness classes begin at 7 a.m. with walks through the Doral's beautiful grounds, and continue until 5 p.m. From Tai Chi to the cardio-circuit, the choice is yours. Instructors are available to guide you at all times. Results will depend on how much effort you are willing to exert.

The Doral Spa Renewal Day is $99, with their two-night Grande Getaway Plan starting at $650 based on double occupancy. Again, rates go down in off season.

Whether your spa experience is for a week, a day or a few hours, it is possible to find a spa that catches your interests and budget. Spas now offer shorter stays that are as affordable as they are tempting. So, get out that piggy bank, because your health is your best investment.

For further information contact: the Health Winds Day Spa, 416-488-9545; the Bonaventure Resort & Spa, 954-389-3300; the Spa at Doral, 305-593-6030.

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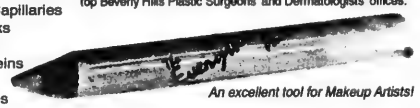

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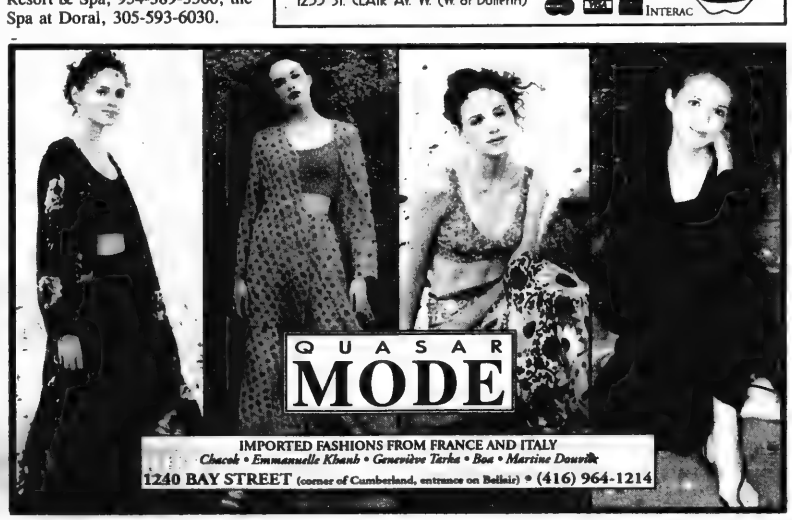

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Spring Fashion

Green Notes environmentally-friendly line

By CAROL BIRKEN WISE
Special to The CJN

The textile industry is making efforts to reduce pollution by introducing fabrics made using environmentally-friendly methods. One example, designer Linda Lundstrom, has created a label called "Green Notes," which she incorporates into each of her collections.

"As a manufacturing company, we feel very strongly that we must take responsibility for our own actions when it comes to environmental issues," Lundstrom says. "The processing, dyeing and finishing of fabrics often uses harsh chemicals. Even natural fibres are often treated with pesticides and chemicals, contributing to the pollution of our waters, especially in countries where pollution controls are not enforced. We attempt to find environmentally safe fabrics and use them in our line."

Linda Lundstrom Ltd. is one of the first Canadian companies to try a new fabric called Tencel, supplied in Canada by Doubletex.

Tencel is a natural cellulosic fibre produced from wood pulp harvested from replenished tree farms. The fabric is made using a solvent spinning technique, in which the dissolving agents are recycled. The process emits no pollutants and the resulting fabric is soft, light and has a wonderful fluidity.

Dresses, skirts and pants made of Tencel are in Lundstrom's Green Notes collection for spring. Her spectacular color story is created using dyes that are environmentally friendly.

One of the Green Notes fabrics is an Austrian linen that is bleached using ash, a natural and very old method. The resulting pearly white parchment color is one of the many initiatives that reflects Lundstrom's commitment to being environmentally responsible.

Remember singer Joni Mitchell's song in which she asks farmers to put away their DDT because she'd rather have spots on her apples than harm the birds and the bees? Since the fabric, Tencel, was produced from wood pulp harvested from replenished tree farms and the technique used recycles all dissolving agents, it only made sense to use environmentally-safe dyes, but like spots on the apples, irregularities in the color are unavoidable.

Linda Lundstrom and the textile industry have proven themselves committed to the environment. Now, it is up to us to do our part. I know a few imperfections in color won't bother me; in fact, they could make the fabrics more interesting.

Linda Lundstrom's new line is environmentally-friendly.

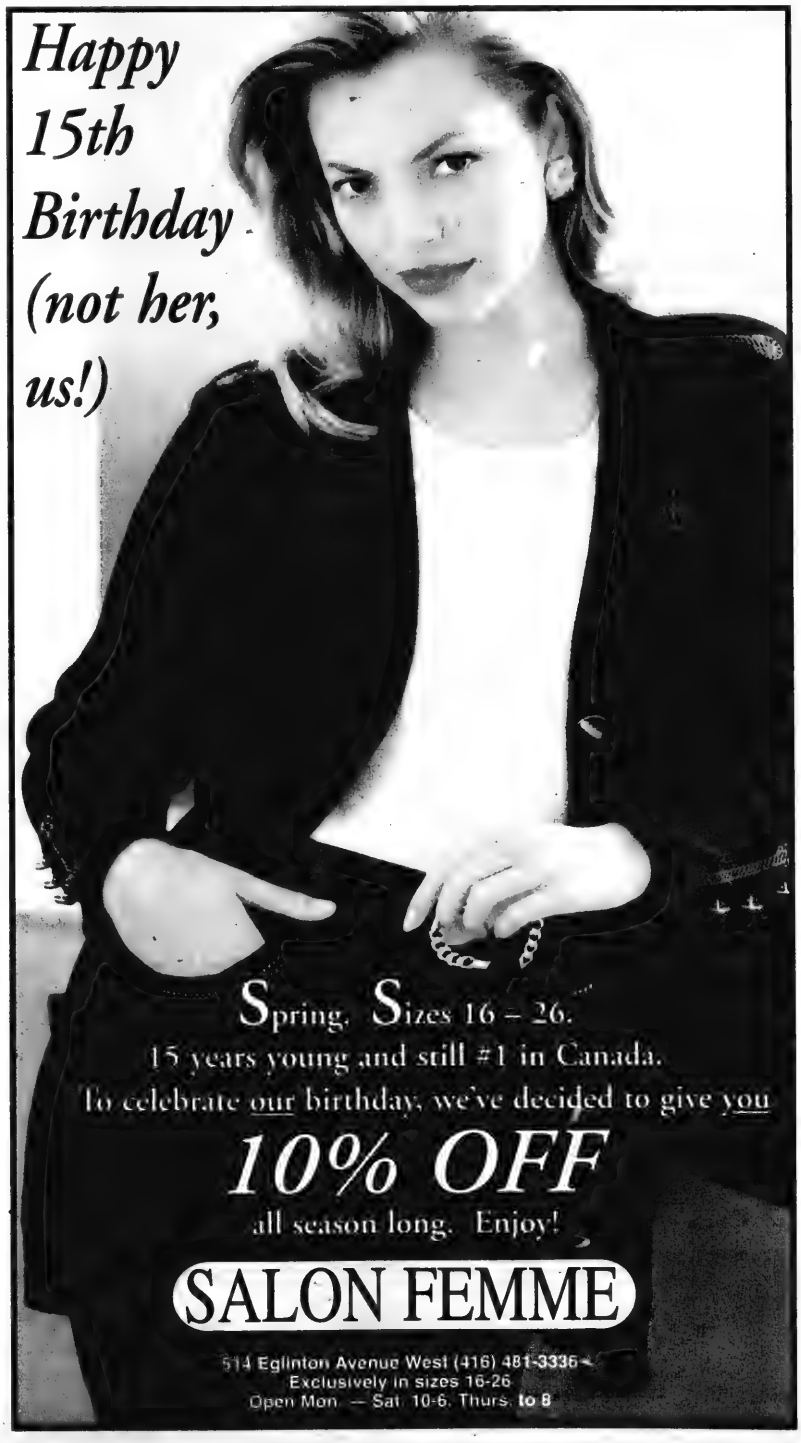
Fashion show for arthritis

The second Flower Pots and Fruit Slices fashion show is being held on March 27 at the Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W, Toronto, at 7 p.m.

The show is organized by the Arthritis Society. It will highlight the spring women's fashions of Canadian designer Ross Mayer. Evening apparel is provided by Wayne Clark and Winston Designs.

The men's collection will be presented by Joseph Abboud, a leader in men's fashion, C.K. Calvin Klein, Mani, Valentino, Strellson (a new Swiss line) and Baulmer fashions from Austria. Outfits will be modelled by Elite Models Management. There will also be a silent auction and raffle tickets.

Tickets cost $75 and a tax receipt will be issued. To buy tickets call Doug Hawe at (416) 967-1414.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Passover Foods

Tasty holiday recipes

MARINATED VEGETABLE SALAD

Salad:
2 cups cauliflower florets
2 cups broccoli florets
8 medium brussel sprouts, quartered (¼ lb.)
12 small mushrooms
6 cherry tomatoes
3 green onions, chopped
2 medium carrots, cut into julienne strips
1 stalk celery, chopped

Dressing:
¾ cup vegetable oil
¼ cup Passover white wine vinegar
2 tbsp. chopped fresh parsley
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tsp. dried basil
1 tsp. dried oregano
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper

In large glass bowl, combine all salad ingredients.

In jar with tight-fitting lid, combine all dressing ingredients. Shake well. Pour over salad and toss well. Cover and chill for 24 hours, stirring occasionally. Makes 6 servings.

[Cont'd. from page 28]

minutes and stir. Add the chicken and cilantro and toss gently. Place in the serving dish, sprinkle with nuts and serve. Serves 4 to 6.

PINEAPPLE PECAN LOAF

¾ cup packed brown sugar
¼ cup kosher shortening
1 egg
2 cups flour
1 tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. salt
⅓ cup orange juice
1 can (8¼ oz.) crushed pineapple, undrained
½ cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350. Grease only the bottom of a loaf pan. Cream together the brown sugar and shortening until fluffy. Beat in egg. Stir in flour, baking soda, salt and orange juice. Stir in pineapple (with syrup) and pecans. Spread in pan. Bake approximately 55 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Cool slightly and remove from pan. Cool completely before slicing.

SQUASH AND APPLE SOUP
(Foodland Ontario)

Ontario Winter Squash provides the creamy consistency of this delicious golden-hued soup rather than high-calorie cream or flour. Serve it either hot or cold with a green salad.

1 squash, small butternut or acorn (about 1½ lb)
1 tbsp margarine
1 onion, chopped
1 tsp grated fresh ginger root
2 apples, peeled and chopped
2½ cups chicken stock
½ tsp dried thyme leaves
Salt and pepper
Chopped parsley

Peel squash, chop and measure 3 cups squash.

In large saucepan, melt margarine over medium heat. Add onion and ginger and cook until softened, about three to four minutes, stirring constantly. Add chopped squash, apples, chicken stock and thyme. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, cover and simmer until squash is tender, about 20 minutes.

Remove from heat and puree in batches in food processor or blender until smooth. Return to pot and heat gently until hot. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Garnish each serving with chopped parsley.

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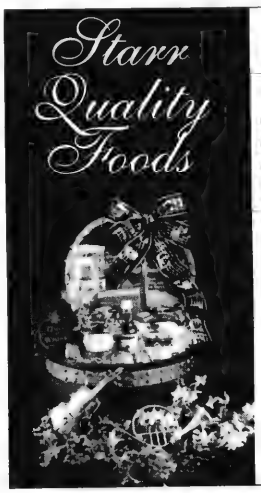

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CLOVER LEAF

Passover Foods

Matzah cookbook sure to surprise the best cooks

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Believed to be the only cookbook in the world dedicated solely to matzah with recipes for Passover as well as all year round, *Matza 101* is filled with recipes that are sure to surprise even the seasoned cook.

Beautiful illustrations, helpful hints, historical backgrounds and diagrams accompany the easy-to-follow instructions for hors d'oeuvre, entrees, side dishes — fish, kugels, casseroles, meat, poultry and numerous desserts for both novice and gourmet cooks.

Created by Jenny Kdoshim and Debbie Bevars, all the recipes in *Matza 101* contain unleavened bread — naturally fat-free, yeast-free products — with a smorgasbord of recipes including such favorites as baklava, blintzes, cannolis, knishes, lasagna, pizza pockets, Napoleons and cigars.

"This cookbook involves a process that allows matzah the freedom of manipulation, and then used in our sweet and savory recipes," says Kdoshim. She notes that the book has been very successful throughout the United States in gift shops and Judaica bookstores.

Kdoshim and Bevans also publish newsletters and they are currently in production of an instructional video tape.

Matza 101 is available at Jewish bookstores or write to Matza 101, 11785 Mt. Wilson Court, Alta Loma, California, 91737 or call 909-989-4244, fax 909-466-7628.

MATZAH BROCCOLI CHEESE CASSEROLE

For a light vegetable casserole, try this, especially with the broccoli. We had fun with this in that it was easy to put together and it came out delicious. You can use either fresh broccoli or frozen, but we preferred fresh. If you are going to use fresh, parboil broccoli for about five minutes and be sure not to overcook.

- 4½ cups broccoli flowerettes, parboiled
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup cottage cheese
- 1 cup hand cracked matzah
- ¼ cup margarine, melted
- 2 eggs
- 1 large tomato, thinly sliced
- ½ cup grated Passover Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven 350 degrees.

Lightly grease 9 x 4 x 2 baking dish. Spread broccoli flowerettes in dish. In medium size mixing bowl, beat sour cream, cottage cheese, margarine and eggs until well blended. Fold in cracked matzah and pour mixture over broccoli. Arrange tomato slices on top and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Bake in preheated oven for about 45 minutes.

Be sure to let casserole cool for about five minutes before serving. Yield: 8 servings.

MATZAH BEEF 'N' POTATO TURNOVERS

- 12 prepared matzahs (moistened)
- ½ stick margarine, softened
- 1 tbsp. oil
- 2 cups onion, chopped
- 2 cups canned mushrooms, drained
- 1 lb. lean ground beef
- 2 medium potatoes, mashed with one tbsp. margarine
- ½ tsp. garlic powder
- ½ tsp. onion powder

Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat oven 450 degrees.

Grease a large cookie sheet with margarine and set aside. In a large sized skillet, heat the oil and sauté the onions until limp. Add mushrooms, season with salt and pepper, and sauté for 10 minutes. Remove from skillet and set aside.

Now, place ground beef into skillet, season with salt and pepper and brown by thoroughly cooking the meat. Add the mushrooms to the browned meat and cook for about five minutes. Remove meat mixture from heat and add mashed potatoes and mix well. Season with garlic powder, onion powder, and if necessary, with salt and pepper to taste.

Cut prepared matzah into fourths. Place about one tablespoon of meat mixture in the centre of each quarter and fold cut side diagonally over to close and form a triangle. Place turnovers onto greased cookie sheet. Using a knife or pastry brush, lightly brush tops of turnovers with softened margarine.

Place turnovers into preheated oven and bake for approximately 30 minutes. Serve with olives and pickles. Yield: 4 dozen turnovers.

MATZAH FRUIT PANCAKES

- 2 cups matzah (full and compacted cups)
- 1 cup milk
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups fruit, diced (apples, pears, peaches)
- 2 tbsp. sugar
- ½ stick margarine
- 1½ cup sour cream
- ¼ cup Passover powdered sugar

In a large bowl, break matzah into pieces and combine with the milk until liquid has been absorbed. Add the eggs, fruit, sugar and mix well.

Over medium heat, place about two tablespoons of margarine in a medium sized non-stick skillet. It is real important that skillet is properly heated before starting to cook pancakes. Now, place about ⅓ cup of the fruit mixture in the hot skillet. Spread the mixture with the back of the spoon to somewhat flatten out to about three to four inches wide. This will allow room for about three pancakes in your skillet at a time. Cook for about three minutes on each side or until golden, then transfer onto a serving platter, garnish with sour cream and powdered sugar or regular sugar if Passover powdered sugar is not available. Yield: 12 to 15 pancakes.

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• NEW ITEMS •		Approx. serving size as Entrée
Kishka	$3.70/lb.	—
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• SOUPS •		
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Clear Chicken - *1 1/2 litre*	7.50	6
Chicken w/Egg Noodles	4.00	3
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• SALADS •		
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Creamy Coleslaw	2.75	4
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Apple Kugel - *Large*	6.50	8
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Carrot Kugel - *Large*	5.50	8
Potato Kugel - *Small*	2.95	4
Potato Kugel - *Medium*	3.95	6
Potato Kugel - *Large*	5.50	8
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Boiled Carp	4.59	2
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Red Horseradish - Large	4.00	—
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White Horseradish - Large	4.75	—
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COR holiday information

The Kosher Information Service of the Kashruth Council of Toronto, affiliated with the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and the Canadian Jewish Congress, publishes a COR holiday information and recipe pamphlet for each major holiday.

Esther Schwartz, the council's kosher food consultant, prepares and tests the recipes. The recipes for Passover 1996-5756 include: puree of celery soup, toasted farfel, glazed Cornish hens with fruit stuffing, stuffed pepper cups, orange-avocado salad, apple or pear crunch and matzah cracker treats.

If you wish to be placed on the COR mailing list, call the Kashruth Council 416-635-9550 or write to 4600 Bathurst St. Suite 240, North York, Ont. M2R 3V2.

Here is a sample from this year's Passover flyer.

GLAZED CORNISH HENS WITH FRUIT STUFFING

4 Cornish hens
Salt, pepper, ginger

Stuffing:

1 cup farfel
1 cup dried fruit
¼ cup finely chopped onion
¼ cup Pesach liqueur
1 tbsp oil (for brushing hens)

Glaze:

3 tbsp. apricot jam
2 tbsp. liqueur or honey
2 tbsp. lemon juice
Mixed together

Preheat oven to 375 F. Sprinkle inside and outside of hens with salt, pepper and ginger. Combine stuffing ingredients, mixing well. Stuff hens and truss securely. Place breast side up on rack in shallow roasting pan. Brush lightly with oil. Roast, loosely covered with foil for 30 minutes. Uncover, roast one hour longer basting with glaze every 15 minutes. Drumstick will twist easily in socket when hens are done. Place on serving platter and surround with stuffed pepper cups (see recipe).

Serves 4 if small hens, 8 if large hens cut in halves.

STUFFED PEPPER CUPS — Pareve

4 medium sized peppers (your choice of color)

Cut off tops and set aside; remove seeds and membranes. Parboil cups in boiling salted water for about five minutes. Drain. (For crisp peppers, omit parboiling).

Stuffing:

3 tomatoes, blanched, peeled and chopped
1 onion, finely chopped
1 garlic clove, crushed
¼ lb. mushrooms, finely chopped
½ cup celery, finely chopped
4 tbsp. matzah meal
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper

Simmer vegetables for about 10 minutes or until liquid is absorbed. Fold in matzah meal, salt and pepper.

Preheat oven to 350 F.

Place peppers in a casserole. Spoon stuffing into peppers. Replace tops. Bake 20 minutes.

Note: For dairy meal, uncover tops, sprinkle with mozzarella cheese. Return to oven for 10 minutes to melt cheese. Serves 4.

APPLE OR PEAR CRUNCH — Pareve

Good for snack or dessert.

6 apples or pears peeled, cored and sliced
1 tbsp. brown sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
Juice and rind of ½ lemon
½ cup matzah meal
½ cup toasted farfel (see below) or chopped nuts
¼ cup Passover brown sugar
½ cup hard margarine
Preheat oven to 425 F.

Lightly grease an 8 x 8 inch pan. Toss apples or pears with one tbsp. brown sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle with lemon juice and rind. Layer in bottom of pan. Mix together the matzah meal, toasted farfel or nuts and brown sugar. Cut in margarine until mixture is crumbly. Spread over fruit and bake for 30 minutes. Serve warm or chilled.

Serves 6 to 8.

TOASTED FARFEL— Pareve

Preheat oven to 350 F.
2 cups farfel
2 egg yolks, beaten
½ tsp. salt

Combine ingredients. Spread out on foil lined cookie sheet and bake until golden, about 20 to 25 minutes. Serve in your favorite soup salad or dessert. Yield: 2 cups.

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Passover Foods

Recipes, recipes and more recipes

By NAOMI ARBIT
JTA

TURKEY AND SWEET POTATO TZIMMES

2 lbs. boneless, skinless turkey breasts or thighs cut into 1-inch cubes
2 tbsp. vegetable oil
1 lb. baby carrots or 5 to 6 large carrots cut into 1-inch slices
2 cups water
2 large potatoes, peeled, cut into 1-inch chunks
2-3 large yams or sweet potatoes, peeled, cut into 1-inch chunks
⅓ cup honey
½ tsp. cinnamon
8 ozs. pitted prunes

In a heavy pot over medium heat, brown turkey in oil. Drain drippings. Add carrots and water and heat to a boil. Reduce heat to low. Cover and simmer for one hour. Add potatoes, honey and cinnamon and heat to a boil. Reduce heat to low.

Cover and simmer for 10 minutes. Add prunes. Simmer uncovered for 30 minutes more, until turkey is tender, stirring occasionally. Can be reheated in the oven before serving. Serves 8.

KISHKE

½ cup carrots, grated
½ cup finely chopped celery
1 onion, grated
3 cups matzah, finely crushed
¼ cup margarine, melted
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper
2 eggs, lightly beaten

Combine all ingredients in a bowl and mix well to blend. Shape mixture into 1/16-inch very compact roll and place on a non-stick sprayed cookie sheet. Bake in a 350 degree oven for one hour. Cut while hot into ½- to 1-inch slices.

CHOCOLATE TORTE

1 large baked sponge cake, sliced
1 lb. semisweet chocolate
6 tbsp. sugar
6 tbsp. water
8 eggs, separated
Whipped topping

Melt chocolate in a double boiler over simmering water. Add sugar and water. Remove from heat and stir until sugar is dissolved. In a separate bowl, beat egg yolks.

Stir into chocolate mixture and blend well. Cool. With a clean mixer and bowl, whip egg whites until stiff. Fold into chocolate mixture. Line sides and bottom of a 9- to 10-inch springform pan with slices of sponge cake. Pour half of chocolate mixture into pan. Add a layer of remaining sponge cake slices and top with remaining chocolate mixture. Refrigerate overnight. Remove sides of springform, and frost torte with whipped topping. Yield: 10 to 12 servings.

APRICOT SQUARES

½ lb. margarine or butter
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. lemon juice
2 egg yolks
2 cups matzah meal

Filling:

1 lb. jar apricot preserves
¼ cup lemon juice
½ cup chopped nuts

Cream margarine and sugar. Add lemon juice, two egg yolks and matzah meal. Mix into a ball. Take one-quarter of the dough, wrap in plastic and freeze. Pat remaining dough into a 9-inch x 13-inch baking pan and pat dough up the sides about one inch. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 20 minutes.

Mix filling ingredients and while crust is hot, spread filling over dough.

Thinly grate frozen dough over filling to cover completely, working quickly. Return to oven for another 30 minutes or until golden brown. Place on rack to cool. Cut into squares.

Chicken dish

Empire Poultry sends along this delectable (and easy) Passover chicken dish, that's good all year round.

ORANGE CHICKEN

4 chicken breast cutlets
1 cup orange juice
¼ cup brown sugar, or regular sugar, if Passover brown sugar is not available
grated orange rind
1 tablespoon potato starch

Cook all ingredients for the sauce over medium heat, stirring constantly until thick and glossy. Pour sauce over frozen chicken cutlets, bake uncovered approximately 30 minutes at 350 degrees. This sauce may also be used for microwaved cutlets. If using fresh chicken cutlets, adjust time accordingly. Serves 4.

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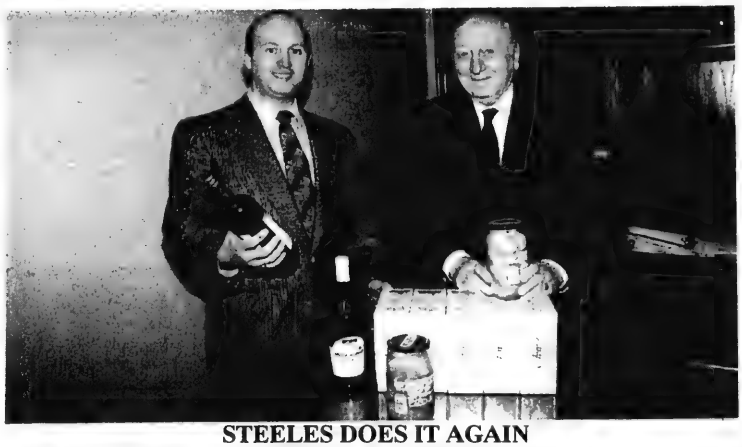

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Following a tradition of the past several years, Steeles Memorial Chapel is once again generously supplying kosher food for Passover to Extendicare Bayview Nursing Home and to needy Russian families. The 75 to 100 Jewish residents of Extendicare Bayview will enjoy Pesach with matzah, dietetic egg kichel and jam, applesauce, gefilte fish, cheese slices, cottage cheese and juices. Russian families in need will be able to celebrate a proper Pesach with matzah, candles, gefilte fish, wine and grape juice, cheese and chickens.

In the photograph, Mike Rogow [right], Steeles president, and executive director Ken Bodenstein, examine some of the Passover donations. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Keep salads on your menu

Salads seem to disappear during Pesach, along with the chometz. But they don't have to.

Here are some quick, delicious salads from a delightful pamphlet Beyond Milk & Honey, published by the Israel Embassy in Washington.

AVOCADO SALAD

1 medium avocado
1 minced onion
lemon juice to taste
2 hard boiled eggs
salt, pepper, paprika to taste

Cut avocado in half, scoop out fruit. Add chopped eggs, onion, seasonings and lemon juice. Serve on lettuce.

CARROT SALAD

4 carrots
1 handful raisins
¼ cup fresh orange juice
½ tsp. sugar

Peel and grate carrots. Mix in a bowl with raisins and orange juice. Add sugar to taste.

GREEN PEPPER SALAD

4 large green peppers
½ cup Passover oil
2 tbs. lemon juice
2 garlic cloves, minced
salt and pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 400°. Place whole peppers on a flat baking tray and roast, turning often, until skin is soft. Remove from oven and peel. Remove seeds and cut peppers into strips. In a non-metal dish, mix oil, lemon juice and garlic. Stir in pepper strips, season with salt and pepper, and chill.

Passover Foods

Quick holiday suggestions

It's six o'clock, everyone wants dinner, and you are still in the middle of Pesach cleaning.

Try these quick suggestions — or have the family pitch in!

ONION AND MUSHROOM OMELETTE
(Foodland Ontario)

2 eggs
1 tbsp water
Salt and pepper to taste
Pinch dried tarragon or chervil (optional)
1 tsp butter or vegetable oil
3 tbsp chopped onion
2 thinly sliced mushrooms

Lightly beat together eggs, water, salt, pepper and tarragon or chervil (if using) with a fork.

In 8-in. non-stick skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat. Stir in onion and mushrooms and cook until tender, about two mins. Spoon vegetables onto plate.

Add egg mixture to skillet; as mixture sets at edges, use spatula to gently push cooked portions to the centre, tilting and rotating pan to let uncooked egg flow underneath. Just before completely set, spread evenly in pan. Spoon filling over half the omelette; fold on filled side of omelette over filling; and lift onto serving plate. Serves 1.

BAKED POTATOES WITH MUSHROOM FILLING
(Foodland Ontario)

Make an easy meatless main dish with these cheesy stuffed potatoes. Once they're popped into the oven, toss a salad and set the table — dinner's ready!

4 large potatoes
¼ cup yogurt
1 tbsp melted butter
1 tbsp grated Parmesan cheese, kosher
1 tsp dried chervil
½ tsp salt
1/8 tsp pepper
1 tbsp butter
¾ cup sliced mushrooms
1 small onion, chopped

Wash and dry potatoes. Prick skin with a fork. For a soft skin, rub with butter. Bake at 425°F 45 to 50 mins. or 350°F 55 to 65 mins. Cut a slice from the top of each potato. Scoop out potato pulp and place in large bowl. Beat potato pulp with yogurt, butter, Parmesan cheese, chervil, salt and pepper, until smooth. In small skillet, saute mushrooms and onion in remaining butter for five mins. Gently stir into potato mixture. Spoon filling into potato shells. Return filled potatoes to oven and bake at 375°F 25 mins. Makes 4 servings.

Imaginative recipes

California Kosher, a collection of contemporary and traditional kosher recipes, offers many imaginative recipes for the Passover season.

Compiled and designed by 125 members of the Women's League of Adat Ari El, one of the largest conservative congregations in Southern California, *California Kosher* is a cookbook used by culinary artists from Los Angeles to New York, Seattle to Miami, Vancouver to Australia and even Israel.

FROZEN STRAWBERRY MERINGUE TORTE (pareve)

Crust:
5 oz. almond macaroons (1½ cups)
2 tsp. melted margarine
½ cup chopped pecans
Filling:
2 egg whites (room temperature)
1 cup sugar
2 cups sliced fresh strawberries
1 tbsp. lemon juice
Sauce:
1 10 oz. package frozen strawberries
3 tbsp. frozen undiluted orange juice concentrate
1 tbsp. currant jelly
1 cup sliced fresh strawberries

To make crust process macaroons, margarine and nuts until mixture holds together. Press into a 10-inch springform pan. Bake in a preheated 350 degree oven seven to 10 minutes. Let cool.

In a bowl, beat on low speed the egg whites, sugar, strawberries and lemon juice until blended. Increase speed to high and beat until stiff peaks from (10 to 15 minutes). Pour into cooled crust and freeze until firm (six hours). Remove from freezer. Serve directly from freezer.

Sauce ingredients should be pureed together. Pour over each slice.

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Passover Foods

Traditional Tunisian ingredients, many of which have been colored by spices and herbs such as saffron, tumeric and paprika.

Tunisia serves up some *hot* stuff

World Zionist Press Service

Tunisian cuisine is not as exotic as one might imagine, although it is very hot. In fact, Tunisian Jews probably have as many recipies for making hot sauce as Russian and Polish Jews have for borscht.

Hot sauces in themselves, however, do not create a national culinary style, and the Tunisian kitchen, although based on a country-style cuisine, is a rich one. Popular dishes include tagines, meat or poultry stews ofen cooked together with fruits; fish dishes that rely on subtle seasoning and vegetables; poultry or fish; merguez, a sausage; and marvellous sweet pastries and cream desserts.

The following recipes are designed to serve six to eight.

STUFFED FENNEL BULBS

6 fennel bulbs, well washed
1¼ lb. minced beef
3 tbsp. parsley, chopped fine
1½ tsp. tabil (recipe follows)
1 tsp. pepper
salt to taste
6 tbsp. olive oil
3 eggs, lightly beaten
2 tbsp. matzah meal
375 grams spicy tomato sauce

Tabil

Combine 2½ tsp. each finely chopped garlic, ground caraway seeds, crushed hot red pepper flakes and ground coriander seeds. The mixture may be as hot or mild as one likes by varying the amount of hot pepper flakes. Keeps almost indefinitely in a well sealed jar.

Cut off the hard bases of the fennel bulbs and cook in lightly salted water just until tender, about 15 min. Drain and cut in half lengthwise.

In a mixing bowl, combine meat, parsley, tabil, pepper and salt. Blend thoroughly. In a skillet heat the oil and fry the mixture until well browned. Let cool, and mix in the eggs and matzah meal.

Place 6 of the fennel halves cut side up on a greased baking dish and onto these, pile the filling. Top with the remaining fennel halves, spoon over the tomato sauce and bake in a hot oven for 20 min. Serve hot.

TAGINE WITH CHICKEN AND FRUITS

1 large or 2 small chickens, cut into serving pieces
2 onions, finely chopped
¼ cup parsley
2-3 tbsp. pareve margarine
¼ tsp. ground ginger
salt and pepper to taste
1 lb. pears, apples, prunes, or a mixture, cored, peeled and sliced

Place the chicken, onions and parsley in a large pot. Pour over the water to cover. Add the margarine and ginger and season with salt and pepper. Bring to the boil and then simmer gently, covered, until the chicken is very tender, about 1 hr. Add fruit and continue to simmer until they are just tender, taking care not to let the fruits disintegrate.

HONEY CREAM

6 oz. superfine sugar
1¼ cups kosher sweet white wine
5 tbsp. honey
1 tsp. grated lemon rind
pinch cinnamon
4 whole eggs
2 egg yolks

In a heavy skillet, slowly heat the sugar in 2 tsp. water, stirring regularly, until sugar has melted and turned into a caramel syrup. Immediately pour the syrup into a cake tin, tilting it so that the entire bottom of the tin is coated. Let cool.

In a saucepan, heat the wine and honey, stirring until the honey dissolves. Add cinnamon and lemon rind, stirring well. Remove from flame and let cool.

In a mixing bowl, beat together egg yolks and eggs. Add to the honey-wine mixture, beating until well blended, and pour into the cake tin. Place the tin in a large pot of water. Be sure the water is not higher than ½ in. from the lip of the tin. Bake in a medium oven until the mixture is set, about 45 min. Let cool for 15-20 min., and refrigerate.

Just before serving, run a thin knife blade around the edges to loosen the sides and invert onto a chilled serving dish.

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SIDE DISHES		❑ Iced Lemon Soufflé	3.50
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Passover Foods

Empire serves up some new lighter selections

Empire Kosher has developed a selection of new recipes just for Passover, to complement traditional, special dishes with a new, lighter twist and some exciting flavor combinations.

GRILLED CHICKEN WITH ROSEMARY AND TOMATO SAUCE
(Serves 6)

6 chicken breast cutlets, flattened to ¼ inch
4 cloves garlic, minced
2 tbsp. fresh rosemary leaves, chopped
3 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
½ cup orange juice
1 tbsp. oil
Freshly ground pepper
Pinch ginger
3 medium zucchini, cut in thirds lengthwise
2 fresh peppers, green, yellow or red, cut into 1 inch strips
24 medium sized mushrooms

Mix garlic, herbs and spices, juices and oil in a large bowl. Pour ⅔ of the marinade over the chicken, turn and coat well. Place cut vegetables on a foil lined pan. Brush with the remaining marinade. Marinate for about 2 hours in the refrigerator.

Preheat grill or broiler, broil chicken and vegetables about 2 to 4 minutes on each side, or until done. Serve with tomato sauce on the side:

Tomato Sauce

2 cups onions, chopped
2 tbsp. Passover olive oil
1 32-oz. can plum tomatoes, drained and finely chopped
¼ cup fresh parsley
Pinch of cinnamon, pinch of ginger

Saute onions in oil for about 10 minutes or until they begin to brown. Add tomatoes, parsley and spices, heat briefly and serve with cutlets.

CHICKEN VEGETABLE SOUP WITH EXOTIC MUSHROOMS
(Serves 4)

1 medium potato, diced
1 tbsp. margarine or oil
2 onions, thinly sliced
¼ lb. porcini or shiitake mushrooms, cut into strips
1 medium parsnip, diced
¼ lb. boneless, skinless chicken breast cutlet, cut into ¼ inch chunks
2 bay leaves
2 sprigs fresh thyme
Freshly ground black pepper
1 tbsp. grated lemon rind
4 cups chicken stock
½ cup fresh parsley, coarsely chopped
2 tbsp. fresh thyme, chopped
1 tsp. fresh lemon juice

Boil the potato in water until tender, about 10 minutes. Drain, set aside.

Chicken vegetable soup

Melt margarine or add oil to the bottom of a large soup pot. Add the vegetables, cover and cook over medium low heat about 7 minutes. Do not brown vegetables, just let them "sweat." Add chicken, bay leaves, thyme, pepper and lemon rind and cook for 2 minutes. Add the chicken stock, bring to a boil. As soon as the liquid comes to a boil, remove the chicken with a slotted spoon. Set chicken aside.

Lower the heat and gently simmer the stock for 15 minutes. Remove bay leaves and return chicken and potatoes to the pot. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Add parsley, thyme and lemon juice. Serve at once.

EMPIRE'S PASSOVER BURGERS
(Serves 4)

½ cup seltzer water
½ cup matzo meal
1 cup finely chopped celery
1 medium onion, finely chopped
1 tbsp. oil
1 lb. ground turkey or chicken
1 large egg white, beaten to a light froth
Freshly ground pepper

Soak the matzo meal in seltzer water for 20 minutes. Saute the celery and onion over medium heat in 1 tablespoon oil for about 5 minutes or until wilted. Remove and let cool. In a large bowl, mix all ingredients thoroughly. Form into patties and refrigerate for about 20 minutes. Saute the burgers over medium high heat, about 10 to 12 minutes or until no longer pink.

CHICKEN CASSEROLE WITH RED WINE SAUCE
(Serves 4)

Use your favorite cuts of chicken: A whole bird cut into 8 pieces, 4 breasts or 4 leg quarters. Remove skin and excess fat.

1 tbsp. Passover olive oil
2 shallots, chopped
5 leeks, washed well, cut into 1 inch pieces
2 small or 1 large carrot, peeled, sliced thinly
2 stalks celery, sliced
2 garlic cloves, chopped
½ lb. small white mushrooms, left whole
2 cups dry red wine, Kosher for Passover
1 cup chicken stock
2 bay leaves
Fresh thyme
1 tsp. potato starch

Heat the oil and brown the chicken, about 5 minutes per side. Remove with a slotted spoon and set aside. Add the vegetables to the pot and saute briefly, about 2 minutes. Add stock, wine and herbs and bring to a boil. Return chicken pieces to the pot, reduce heat and simmer uncovered about 20 to 30 minutes, or until chicken is tender. If the liquid seems thin at this point, mix the potato starch with a little cold water and whisk into the stock. Remove bay leaves, sprinkle with thyme and serve with small potatoes.

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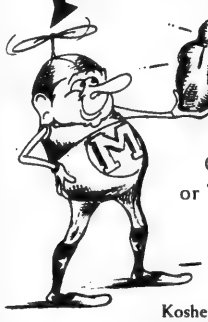

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Passover Foods

The new LCBO full-service store at 5995 Yonge St. offers, among many services, a kosher products section. LCBO product consultant Gizella Fekete (right) discusses kosher wines with another member of the staff. The store, which opened on Feb. 12, is one of 32 LCBO outlets in Ontario offering an extensive selection of kosher for Passover products this year.

LCBO offers over 25 special Pesach products

The Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) is offering more than 25 special products, in addition to its regularly available kosher listings, in time for Passover.

Included in the selection now available at selected LCBO stores are red, white and rose table wines from Israel, France, California and New York State. There are also liqueurs, grape brandy, and flavored and dessert wines. Prices for these products range from $5.95 to $20.95 for wines, and up to $22.50 for spirits.

"These special kosher for Passover purchases are part of a larger LCBO program designed to meet the preferences and interests of our customers in specific communities and ethnic groups," says Anne Hartley, director, Product Management. "To serve these special markets, and offer the public the widest possible product selection at competitive prices, the LCBO buys thousands of products from suppliers in more than 40 different countries."

Consumers can also order kosher products, based on availability, from any LCBO store across Ontario. LCBO unit sales for kosher products sold during Passover 1995 rose by 6.3 percent over the previous year.

Kosher for Passover products are now available in selected stores in Metropolitan Toronto, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener-Waterloo, London, Richmond Hill, Thornhill, Ottawa, Peterborough, St. Catherines and Windsor.

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9737 Yonge St., Richmond Centre Plaza
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Ottawa/Nepean
1980 Bank St., Ottawa
640 Bank St., Ottawa
1385 Carling Ave., Hampton Park Plaza, Ottawa
1379 Woodroffe Ave., Shoppers City Mall, Nepean
3777 Strandherd Rd., Barrhaven Town Centre, Nepean

For more information, call the toll-free LCBO infoline at 1-800-ONT-LCBO (668-5226); in Metro Toronto call 416- 365-5900.

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I'm proud to be a Carleton Jew

By MIRIAM VALE
Special to The CJN

OTTAWA — I'm the Carleton Jew.

One of my friends from Toronto gave me that nickname last year after he visited me in Ottawa. Of course, it's not entirely true, (there are a few others around at Carleton University), but you can be sure you won't confuse my alma mater with YorkWesternMcGill.

So when I was approached to write about my Jewish identity at university, I was slightly confused. I mean, was I to give the lowdown on the practically non-existent Jewish Students' Union (JSU) at Carleton or about the only course (a half credit) the school offers on Judaism. Or should I talk about me?

Summers at Canadian Young Judaea camps

Let me put this article into context: I went to Associated Hebrew Day Schools, I graduated from Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) and spent my summers at Canadian Young Judaea camps. My interactions with non-Jews was limited to infrequent swimming and driving lessons, sports teams and my father's annual office parties.

Yes, I was *sheltered*. But I didn't know any different and I don't think I wanted to know any different.

But I wanted to be a journalist and study away from home. Carleton was the only logical choice for me. Of course, I heard all about its esteemed journalism program and the plethora of successful Carleton journalism graduates who now are talking heads on the CBC, but all I could think about was that I wouldn't know anyone.

To make a long story extremely short, I went to Carleton, I'm having an amazing time. It's my second year in j-school. I'm flooded with school work and I live with four friends whom I adore.

So aren't you going to ask the question? (To be asked in a whisper in private:) Are *they* Jewish?

No. And I would be lying if I said it doesn't matter even one iota. I love them and they are great friends, but sometimes I wish my home in Ottawa was kosher like my home in Thornhill. Often, I wish there were Friday night dinners without Mr. Noodles or pork pot pie as entrees.

Living is the art of compromise and I can deal with putting a Jewish home on temporary hold for four years — six, if a Master's degree comes into the picture.

The social scene at Carleton is much the same.

Sometimes it's fun convincing yourself that the guy in your history class may be a platinum blond Jew or that the professor who has made numerous references to her favorite novel — *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* — is obviously Jewish. But you know the truth.

I enjoy listening to people from the Big Three (YorkWesternMcGill tell me about their plans to do a combined major in Jewish studies or about their jaunt to Hebrew U. for their third year abroad.

And I'm jealous. Not about third year abroad or weekly JSU dances where there are tons of eligible guys, but about where I'm going after my four years in Ottawa are finished.

Most of my friends' paths will lead them back to Toronto into our Jewish circle of friends. Few of them will ever find themselves in situations where Jews are in the minority. I'm envious because the direction of their lives is clear. I have lived in both worlds now and I'm torn between them.

I'll always be Jewish. But I wonder if ever again I will find myself in a situation with a surplus of Jews. And more importantly, do I want to see myself there again?

I don't know.

But my insecurity will never threaten my Jewish identity. Thanks to Carleton, I know where I came from and who I am. I am one of a few. People ask me about being Jewish and not having Christmas and I answer their questions. Before I left home, no one asked me these questions because we all were the answers.

I tell the curious ones I am a Jew. There isn't Christmas or Easter; there is no bread on Passover and there are candles on Friday night. I tell them I love Israel unconditionally and want peace there soon. I tell them I'm not an observant Jew, but I respect the Orthodox Jews who follow the laws of the Torah as well as those who don't.

It's true I knew and felt all of these things before I left home. But I never had the chance to explain my Jewish identity. And why would I? Two years ago, almost every nook and cranny of my life was Jewish. My friends from Toronto would never ask me these questions; they were the answers.

So change my background and drop me in Saskatchewan, Algeria or New Zealand, but I'll still be Jewish.

It may sound like an extended version of Dr. Seuss's *Green Eggs and Ham*, but it's all true.

Call me the Carleton Jew — I'll be sure to respond.

PLANTING THEIR FLAG NEAR MASSADA

Against the background of the ancient fortress at Massada is a group of students from Network Canada who were recently in Israel to attend a conference of the World Union of Jewish Students. Seen here are (front row, from left) Shai Spetgang, Avigail Bercovici, Asher Trattner; (middle row) Simon Rucker, Andrew Elbaz, Yonatan Block, Oren Weinberg, Tillie Shanes, Shannot Bratt, Maya Haasz; (back row) Bena Medjuck, Adam Aptowitzer, Rishona Slutchuk, Shayna Allen, Avi Koren, Daniel Lieb Hundert. [Shai Spetgang photo]

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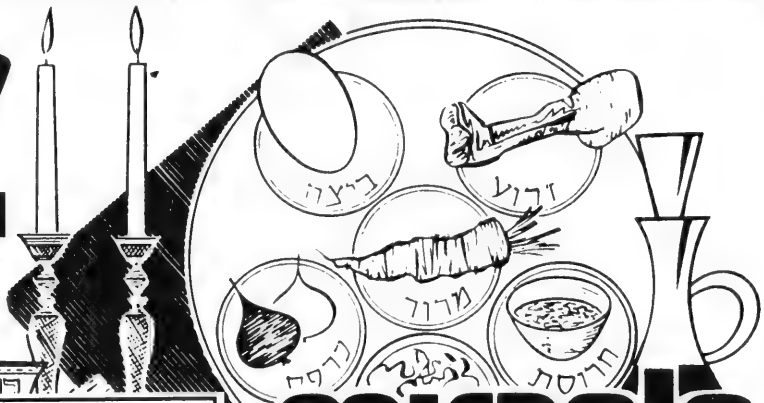

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פון רחל בוימוואָל

אַ עס קומען אין אַ גזעלשאפט אַנגעזעענע מענטשן, שטאָט-בא-לעבאָטן, וויכטיקע גזעזלשאַפטלעכע טעריס, באַאוסטע פערזענלעכקייטן, זאָגט מען: עס זיינען גאָר פיל קאַרפנקעפּ. אויסער דעם, וואָס אַ קאַרפּ האָט אַ גרויסן קאָפּ, אַסאַציאירט זיך דאָס מיטן ייִדישן מיתוס — אַז מען מאַכט געפילטע פיש, גיט מען דעם ראָש פון דער משפּחה דעם קאָפּ פּתּים קאַרפּ, ד"ה מען גיט אים אָפּ כבוד.

פּאַראַן אַ פאַרשפּרייטע מיינונג, אַ יידן וויסן וויצציק זיך, וועגן בעלי-חיים. סיזשעט זיך וועגן וועלכע. היימישע בעלי-חיים וויסן אַון „פּאַר-שטיין" יידן אויסגעצייכנט. נעמט, למשל, דעם אויסדרוק אַ הונט מיט אויערן. דאָס מיינט — אַ הונט שבהונט. זיין גאַנצער התּנהגות כאַראַקטער לינט אין די אויערן.

אַדער לאַמיר נעמען דעם אויסדרוק קעלבערנע התּפעלות. וויפל חוש-הראיה ליגט דערין! גלייך דערזעסטו פאַר זיך דאָס קעלבל פון „מאַטל פּיסט דעם חזיר ייגל", דאָרט האָט שלום-עליכם געזאָגט אויסגעמאַלט אונדזו קעלבערנע התּפעלות.

חזיר וויי סטרעפלעך זיינען די אויסדרוקן הינטשע שטיק, קפּצישער מחּ, ביבער-סטרעך, פּערדשער קאָפּ! אויף אַ נאַר זאָגט מען נאָך אַ פערד. פרעגט זיך, אַ פערד איז דאָך ניט קיין איידל, וואָס איז אַ סך שפּראַכן איז דער איידל אַ סימבאָל פון אַ נאַר.

אידיש גיט אויסדרוק אַ סדרה אויסדרוקן מיט וויי. אויב פּייגט האָבן יענעם, איז וויי אַ שפּיז. אויב ניט לייגן קיין אָכט, איז הערן וויי דעם גאָלן קאַסטן. (נעלער — צוליב קאַקרעטסקייט). אויב אייגער „דריי" איז די ריי, איז דריי־ער זיך וויי אַ שליימן.

די אויסדרוקן אַ מאַרנע חיה צי אַ וויילדע חיה קאָבן געזאָגט וועגן אויך וויך, מיט לידשאַפט צו אַן אייגענעם מענטשן. דעמאָלט קלינגט חיה וויי באַשעפענעס און גיט צו דעם אויסדרוק אינטימקייט.

אויסגעפרוצט — אין פּיקסן און אין האָזן. צוזאַמען איבער גוואַלד — צווייַ קעץ אין זייַן זאַק. אַ קאַסאַקער — קוקט אויף די קאַשע-קעס און מיינט די נעמרד. אַ שטילע נשמה — טשעפּעס ניט קיין פליג אויף דער וואַנט. דוודכן צוזעגן פון פּאַרטס דעם פּראַגאַס יענער, באַקומט אַ געווינלעך וואַרט אַ נעגאַטיוון אינהאַלט. למשל: ס'איז יענער העכט! אַדער יענץ פּייגעלע! אַדער יענער חברה-מאַן! וועלכער יענער, דאַרפט איר שוין אַליין זיך אַנשטויסן.

:: :: ::

אַ גוט-מאָרגן, אַ גוט-יאָר!

אין ייִדיש האָבן מיר אַ סך אידיאָמאַטישע אויסדרוקן מיטן וואָרט יאָר אַדער יאָרן. עס זעט אויס אַז וואָבן און חדשים איז בייַ ידן נישט קיין מאָס. אַ סבֿרה, אַז עס שטאָמט נאָך פון יענע צייטן וועז יוסף האָט פּותר-חלום געווען פּרעה'ן און פּאַראַזאָגט די זיבן שלעכטע יאָר, וואָס וועלן אויפפרעסן די זיבן גוטע. און אפשר שטאָמט עס דערפון, וואָס ייִדישע צרות מעסטן זיך נישט וויצקיקער וויי מיט יאָרן? נישט אומזיסט האָבן כּמעט אַלע עטלעכע און צוואַנציק אידיאָמאַטישע אויסדרוקן מיטן וואָרט יאָר אַ פּעסימיסטישן אינהאַלט, אַדער זיינען נאָר קללות (וויידער אַ סברה...):

„אַ פּיצטערער יאָר אויף דיר!" „גיי צו אַל די שוואַרצע יאָרן!" „אַזאַ יאָר אויף דיר!" (אַבער אַ מען שווערט זיך, זאָגט מען: „אַזאַ יאָר אויף מיר!"). אויב מען וואָרט שטאַרק אויף עפּעס, איז „אַ טאָג — אַ יאָר". עלטערע מענטשן זאָגן: „וואַו נעמט מען די יאָרן? . . ."

מען קאָן צוגיפּשטעלן אַ גאַנצן מאַנאַלאָג מיט יאָרן. למשל: „וואָס דערגיסטו מיר די יאָרן?! זע נאָר וויי ער האָט זיך עס אַנגעזעצט אויף מיינע יאָרן! זאָג, וואָס האָסטו צו מיינע יאָרן?! האַלסטו מיר אין איין פּאַרוויינען די יאָרן! דו פּאַרקירצסט מיר מיינע יאָרן! אַ קוצעער יאָר אויף דיר! אַז אַך און וויי צו מיינע יאָרן, אַז איך דאַרף האָבן צו טאָן מיט אַזאַ שוואַרץ-יאָר! וואָס פאַרשלעפּסטו מיר די יאָרן?! לאָ מיך דאָיק אויסלעבן מיינע יאָרן!"

מען זאָגט נאָך: „אַ מויד אין די יאָרן".

„נו יאָ, שיינע יאָרן!" זאָגט מען אירוֹנישׁ, וואָס דאַרף הייסן, אַז מען האָט דערלעבט צו עפּעס אַן אומרעכט און דעמאָלט איז עס אַ סימבאָם צו דעם אויסדרוק „אַז אַך און וויי צו די יאָרן". פונקט וויי „דער גוטער יאָר וויסט אים" — צי „דער שוואַרצער יאָר וויסט אים".

אגב, פאַראַן אַ ייִדיש ווערטל: „אַז אַך און וויי צו די יאָרן, אַז מיקיטע איז אַ סטאַראַסטע געוואָרן. . ." אין וסלאַבּד, אין ניקיטא כרושטשאָוו'ס

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Hamas' victims mourned

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — About 500 members of Winnipeg's Jewish community gathered recently at the Rosh Pina Synagogue to remember those who were killed by Hamas suicide bombers over the previous two weeks.

The first speaker, educator Maxine Zimmerman, had just returned from her first visit to Israel. She told of a young Ethiopian woman, a regular rider on the ill-fated Bus 18, who missed the bus on the first Sunday. She was on television constantly throughout the week proclaiming the miracle that saved her life. The next Sunday, she caught her bus and was among the dead.

Zimmerman also spoke of friends in Israel whose son's best friend was among the victims. The friend had been visiting just moments before boarding the bus.

"Our friends were angry that we didn't phone right after the bombing," Zimmerman recalled. "They said they needed our strength."

Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate student Sarah Mintz recalled her first visit to Israel two years ago when she went on the March of the Living. She described her week in Israel as the best week of her life.

"Israel is a second home to us," she said. "We can't let terrorists keep us away or let the victims of these horrible bombings be forgotten.

Yael Meyerowitz, the 12-year-old daughter of Rabbi Allan Meyerowitz of the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, read a poem dedicated to the memory of her teacher at a camp in New York last summer. He was among the victims.

The most powerful speech was given by Rosh Pina's Rabbi Akiba Lubow, who spoke movingly of many of the dead on an individual basis. He told the story of two 18-year-olds in Tel Aviv, one just a week away from his bar mitzvah, who were killed on their way to a Purim party. He spoke of the six Russian *olim* who died, the yeshivah students from the United States, young women engaged to be married and the 8-year-old who lost both his parents.

"We must mourn victims of senseless terrorist attacks and express solidarity with the people of Israel," Rabbi Lubow said. "We must do everything in our power to make sure no Israeli child must fear getting on a bus."

The final speaker of the afternoon was Chaim Waxman, consul general of Israel, who was in Winnipeg to speak at a different time and location, but spoke instead at the memorial service. He spoke briefly of the need for the Palestinian Authority to do more to root out terrorism in order for the peace process to continue.

CLARIFICATION

An item run recently in *The CJN* about the Jewish National Fund (JNF) participation in building a park and amphitheatre in Jerusalem as a gift for Jerusalem 3000 may have given the impression that Naomi Frankenburg of Vancouver was chair of the campaign to raise all the necessary funds for the international project. Actually, Frankenberg is the JNF national chair for the Canadian campaign.

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UN to coordinate Palestinian emergency fund

By DAVID MAKOVSKY and BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM - The UN plans to coordinate an emergency three-month $100 million (US) public works fund for Palestinians living in the territories, due to Israeli signals that the territories' closure will continue until after the May 29 elections, officials indicated last Sunday.

Furthermore, Israel's planned pull-back from Hebron on March 28 will be delayed indefinitely until the Palestinian Authority (PA) catches top Hamas fugitives, including Mohammed Dief, Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres told the cabinet.

Apart from continuing the closure, Peres also said that he favors deporting Palestinians linked to suicide bombers and will continue blowing up the houses of families of suicide bombers.

Terje Larsen, UN special coordinator for the territories, confirmed that the Palestinians and Israelis have approved putting together an emergency fund of $100 million for public works inside the territories.

"We need to put together an emergency fund of donors now because the situation is at best fragile, and if left unchecked, it will become unpredictably dangerous and unstable in the next few weeks," he declared.

Larsen said that $40 million of the funds would go to Gaza and $60 million to the West Bank. He estimated that 20,000 workers from Gaza depend upon Israel for their livelihood, and each worker feeds about 10 people. He also estimated that 50,000 Palestinian workers from the West Bank also depend upon work in Israel.

He said that the $100 million will include an injection of fresh money as well as the rechanneling of existing funds, fueling speculation that this will include earmarked project assistance.

Meetings were to be held on the issue this week, including a key session in Gaza bringing together Palestinians and representatives of the World Bank and key donor countries the United States, European Union, Japan, Norway and Israel.

Peres informed the cabinet of the fund's formation at last Sunday's cabinet meeting. He said Israel will contribute to the fund, but did not specify how much.

Regarding the ban on Palestinian employment inside Israel until after the elections, it should be noted that top Labor officials fear that more suicide bombings before the balloting could cause them to slide in the polls, as they did in the wake of four suicide attacks in recent weeks.

Regarding a delay in the pull-back from Hebron, Peres declared, "So long as an ill wind emanates from Gaza, and Mohammed Dief plans attacks which could come from Hebron as well, we have a problem. Until Dief and his friends are caught, we will not leave Hebron."

Israel gave the PA a list of 13 wanted Hamas fugitives, but only some have been caught.

Peres insisted that the PA could have apprehended Dief recently in Gaza but did not do so. The *New York Times* reported that during the recent wave of suicide bombings, Dief was seen sipping coffee with Col. Mohammed Dahlan, head of the PA Preventive Security apparatus in Gaza and in charge of the crackdown there on Hamas. This could not be confirmed.

Peres' remark about Hebron was the second condition he imposed for the IDF to pull back from there. He said that a Hebron pull-back was contingent upon the PNC amending its 1964 charter, which calls for Israel's destruction. Palestinian officials said that the charter would be amended before the end of next month.

Moreover, despite objections by Meretz ministers and Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair, Peres went on record Sunday as saying that he favored deportations for Palestinians tied to suicide bombers.

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Islamic terrorist arrested

By BILL HUTMAN and JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM - The Palestinian Police has arrested an Islamic Jihad terrorist who planned a suicide bomb attack last week at the Tel Aviv central bus station. The police said he was caught with 12 kilos of explosives.

The arrest and the identification of the Dizengoff Centre bomber as a known Islamic Jihad activist have prompted police to concentrate on arresting other Islamic Jihad activists over the past few days.

Gaza police chief Ghazi Jabali reissued orders last Sunday that Palestinian residents must report any information they may have on the whereabouts of illegal arms and wanted men, or face prosecution.

Meanwhile, according to a senior Israeli security source, the threat of a Hamas terror attack remains serious, despite the crackdown by security forces on the group since the Dizengoff suicide bombing.

"Hamas still has the capability and the will to carry out another suicide attack," the source said.

The source said there was concern within the security establishment over how long the high alert now in effect can be kept up. For instance, police officers in Jerusalem and other parts of the country are working 12-hour shifts daily and their vacations have been canceled.

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Weak anti-terror bill passes

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON – The counter-terrorism legislation long hoped for by many Jewish groups has all but died in Congress.

The House of Representatives last Thursday passed a weak bill with none of the elements touted as effective to combat terrorists and their support networks on American soil.

Jewish organizations, which had made the measure a centerpiece of their legislative agenda during the past year, were reeling from the passage of a bill they widely described as "eviscerated."

Jewish officials here lambasted Congress for "abdicating" their responsibility as elected officials.

"You don't even have the illusion of effective anti-terrorism legislation," said Jess Hordes, director of the Anti-Defamation League's Washington office.

Lawmakers and their supporters in the Jewish community once hailed the measure as a means to stop Hamas and other terrorist groups from fundraising in the United States. The bill was also supposed to allow for expedited deportations of aliens suspected of terrorism.

Instead, the House passed a measure with few anti-terrorism provisions. Even the name of the bill was changed to reflect the priorities of the lawmakers. It was changed from the Omnibus Counterterrorism Act to the Effective Death Penalty and Personal Security Act.

Attention has now shifted to House and Senate negotiators who will seek to hammer out differences in each chamber's version.

But with a gutted House bill and a Senate bill widely described as "ineffective," activists hold little hope of winning approval for a law that would designate groups as terrorists and ban material support, including funds, to them.

In a statement issued from Jerusalem, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations said, "It is a terrible irony that while the president convened 30 heads of state to secure their commitment to fight terrorism on a global scale, the Congress of the United States has failed to provide U.S. law enforcement agencies with the necessary mandate and means to prosecute the battle in our own country."

U. S. joins fight against terrorism

[Cont'd. from page 1]

CIA director John Deutch was still working on the final details of a counterterrorism accord, which could result in increased cooperation between U.S. and Israeli intelligence operations in pursuing terrorists, officials said privately.

The administration is also working with Israel on a defence agreement, which would provide for closer military ties between the nations. The United States hopes to conclude the pact before Peres comes to Washington in April.

At the news conference, Clinton said he doubted that the anti-terrorism summit would reach the hearts of those who "strap explosives to their bodies and blow themselves up, killing themselves and innocent victims;" nor would it persuade them to do otherwise.

But he said the participants at the summit could work together to minimize the risk of terror by preventing money and materials from reaching the terrorists.

Both Clinton and Peres said they were disappointed by Syria's refusal to attend the summit, but said it should not undermine the peace talks.

Peres said that even though Syria must be pressed upon to not to support or shelter terror or terrorists, "we don't want to close all doors."

The president also met with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and Likud opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu.

After his meeting with Netanyahu, Clinton made an unscheduled stop at Beit Hinuch high school, which lost four former students in the two Jerusalem suicide bombings.

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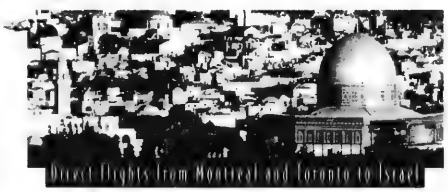

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Work on Auschwitz mall on track despite objections

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Construction of a huge shopping mall across the street from Auschwitz is going ahead, despite a plea from the president of Poland that it be stopped.

A Polish journalist just back from the scene told *The CJN* that the new building, to house a supermarket, home and garden centre, and fast food restaurants, is already five feet above ground and the opening date has been advanced to May 30.

Ewa Grochowska also said the construction superintendent told her the Polish and German developers are ready to invest $15 million (US) in the plaza, and if there is a judicial order to stop, they will ask for punitive damages.

Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski, through his press aide, said Auschwitz was an inappropriate place for the shopping plaza.

A six-person commission appointed by Culture Minister Zdzislaw Podkanski arrived at the site March 14 empowered to report back on legal and environmental aspects within a week.

Meanwhile, charges are swirling around the project that the Polish developer, Janus Marszalek, is the co-owner of the former Carmelite convent at Auschwitz, which now houses the Society of the Victims of War, of which he is the leader.

Questions are being raised about why Auschwitz Museum director Jerzy Wroblewski agreed to the mall, and why the culture minister took no action even though he was informed two years ago.

"How can that desecrate the memory of this place?" Marszalek said in an interview with Polish news agencies. He said the 25,000-square-metre mall, 30 metres from the camp's visitors' centre, would create jobs in Oswiecim, the town of 45,000 where Auschwitz is located. The camp is where 1.6 million Jews died.

Wroblewski said the mall was "in no way harmful," and accused the media of misrepresenting it. He said the project would "bring order" to the zone around the former death camp.

"This is clearly a brazen attempt to commercialize and capitalize on the 500,000 persons who visit Auschwitz annually," said Sigmund Sobolewski of Calgary, a Polish Catholic Auschwitz survivor, one of the first to protest the mall after learning of it in Polish newspapers. He said protests would take place concurrently in front of Polish consulates in Vancouver, New York and Chicago.

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, sent an urgent protest to Polish Ambassador to Canada Tadeusz Diem.

Rabbi Avi Weiss, national president of the Coalition for Jewish Concerns-AMCHA, said he places blame on the Polish church and the Polish government, both of which, he said, have "no moral backbone."

Rabbi Weiss said he would go to great lengths to stop the construction of the mall, "even it if means sitting in front of the bulldozers.

"We view it as a positive first step that the Polish Minister of Culture, who supervises the Auschwitz Museum, has asked for a halt to construction of the shopping mall," he said.

AMCHA said two international agreements forbid any construction at Auschwitz. One is the 1972 UN Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and National Heritage. The other is a 1979 UNESCO agreement that declared Auschwitz a "historical site and a place of human testimony," creating a 500-metre buffer zone around the camp's grounds.

AMCHA claims in a press release that the current mayor of Oswiecim, who granted the building permit, is also a former official of the ultra-nationalistic Society of Victims of War. It was this society which took over the Carmelite convent when Pope John Paul II ordered the nuns to leave in 1993.

In a late development, AMCHA announced it has contacted the International Association of Jewish Lawyers in Washington to investigate whether the Polish government has broken its agreement with UNESCO.

NOTICE
Re:
1996 Annual Meeting

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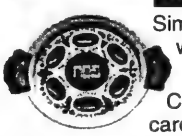

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RIGHT-WING TRIO

Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu (centre) joins in a three-way handshake with political rivals David Levy (left) of the Gesher Party and Rafael Eitan of the Tzomet Party as they form a new alliance for the upcoming election.

Immigrants party launched

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM - Yisrael b'Aliyah, the new immigrants party, last Sunday held its founding convention in Jerusalem, electing its president, central committee and party list for the Knesset.

Close to 2,000 members of the movement-turned-party crammed into the International Convention Centre after each one had received at least 10 recommendations from movement members to be a delegate.

Almost all of the delegates hold academic degrees.

"A strong aliyah and a strong society go side by side in building the Zionist enterprise. They should nurture and strengthen each other and for this we have created this party," party founder Natan Sharansky declared.

Sharansky leads the list, Yuli Edelshtein, an educator from Alon Shvut and former adviser to Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu, follows and Michael Nudelman, a lecturer in ecology at Tel Hai College and member of the Kiryat Shmona municipal council, is third.

There are 35,000 members of the movement. The polls predict that the party, which recently absorbed another Russian immigrant list, Aliyah, could receive at least four mandates.

"Israel is not good at absorbing immigrants properly and they have been forced to absorb them from the word go," Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres told the gathering. "I have not come to bring you honey and candies but to tell you the truth, to call on you to be full partners in building a state based on peace and security so that we can ensure our children's future."

Peres said he had a four-part plan: to bring more immigrants to Israel from all parts of the globe; to bring peace and security to the entire population; to establish peace with Israel's neighbors by the year 2000; and to build a country "where our values are as profound as our history and our economy as modern as the 21st century."

Earlier Netanyahu had thanked the *olim* for coming, saying he felt proud to be among "heroes and prophets such as many in this audience are."

A Likud-led government, he said, would not only make security the first requirement of peace. It would aim at bringing two million immigrants in the next decade, 200,000 per year. That is the only way to change from a country which has to beg for donations "to a flourishing economic power," he said. " It will create conditions for more aliyah."

Yisrael b'Aliyah activists insist that the party is not only for Russian speakers, although the convention was run in Russian.

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NRP chooses candidates

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Nearly all National Religious Party (NRP) central committee members voted for the party's list of candidates for the Knesset last weekend in Tel Aviv.

The final results were expected to be announced early last Monday. NRP leader Zevulun Hammer, elected in an earlier procedure, stressed that he was hoping for a balanced list to include both political moderates and right-of-centre, and to preserve the even mix between Ashkenazi and Sephardi. Two women are also on the list of potential candidates, Dina Hahn and Viva Sivan, were both convinced they could win realistic slots without the help of reserved spots for women.

Hamas is weakened by bombing campaign

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

The campaign of brutal terror launched by Hamas and Islamic Jihad against Israel in recent weeks, unprecedented in its ferocity, could be a turning point in the battle against Islamic fundamentalist terrorism.

The four suicide bombings, which snuffed out the lives of 58 people over a traumatic nine-day period, demoralized Israelis and shook the foundations of the Oslo peace process.

MIDEAST ANALYSIS

By the same token, the indiscriminate bombings have weakened and isolated Hamas and Islamic Jihad by virtue of having brought Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) closer together in a common strategic purpose to wipe out the terrorists' infrastructure.

Israel and the PA do not agree on each and every aspect of the war they have declared on these rejectionist groups. Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestinian self-rule areas, has voiced opposition to Israel's closure of the territories and its naval blockade of the Gaza Strip, measures Israel has taken before to contain terrorism.

Despite these sharp tactical disagreements, Israel and the PA have closed ranks in the interests of demolishing Hamas and Islamic Jihad, both of which oppose a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as Israel's very existence.

Prodded by Israel and the United States, the co-sponsor of last week's anti-terrorism conference in the Sinai Peninsula attended by 29 nations, the PA has moved resolutely.

The results have been fairly impressive so far. Hundreds of Hamas activists have been detained, while the deputy commander of Hamas' military wing, three of his cohorts and the recruiter of two of the suicide bombers have been arrested.

In addition, the PA has seized control of all mosques, hotbeds of anti-Israel rhetoric, and appointed more compliant clerics. Schools, clinics and charitable organizations linked with Hamas have been raided. Arafat has promised to ban all armed formations in Palestinian territories.

In light of Israel's recent warnings that the PA was not doing enough to eradicate terrorism, the Israeli government must be pleased with Arafat's new-found militancy.

As for the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, a clear majority support the clampdown, though not the blockade, realizing that terrorism has a direct bearing on their livelihood and reduces the chances of Palestinian self-determination.

By coming down so hard on Islamic radicals, the PA has tacitly acknowledged that its policy of co-opting Hamas in a fruitful political dialogue has failed.

Last year, Hamas agreed to cease hostilities in Palestinian self-rule areas, but the understanding broke down, particularly after the assassination of Yehiya (The Engineer) Ayyash by Israeli agents in early January. Furthermore, much to the PA's disappointment, Hamas boycotted the subsequent Palestinian elections, which, nevertheless, strengthened Arafat's overall position.

Although Hamas has threatened to continue its crusade of terror, and may yet succeed in carrying off more bombings in Israel, Hamas is a much-diminished and badly divided group following the latest crackdown.

Judging by the truces it has unilaterally offered and promptly violated since February, Hamas is evidently riven by serious splits between so-called moderates and radicals and between "insiders" in the territories and "outsiders" abroad.

Contrary to Hamas' calculations, the spate of bombings has neither destroyed the peace process, which is stronger than its detractors imagine, nor undermined the Labor party's prospects of defeating the Likud in the May 29 general election.

Israel's bilateral talks with the PA and with Syria, suspended by the bombings, are expected to resume. Israel's partial withdrawal from Hebron, scheduled to take place this month, has been put on hold pending the PLO's repeal of its noxious national covenant.

In the immediate wake of the bombings, Prime Minister Shimon Peres lost ground to Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu. But polls released last week showed that Peres has more or less bounced back, doubtless helped by the ongoing drive against Hamas, the offer by the United States to share intelligence data with Israel, and the Summit of the Peacemakers in Sharm El Sheikh, an exercise designed to shore up the peace process and express solidarity with Israel.

The bombings, however, have forced Peres to embrace a policy of "separation," something his late precedessor, Yitzhak Rabin, favored but he did not until the recent violence. Last week, Israel announced that 16,000 additional foreign workers will be allowed into the country, replacing Palestinians.

Only in this respect has Hamas had a real effect on Israel's agenda.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Media coverage of attacks must delight Hamas

By SHLOMO AVINERI
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM - Terrorists do not aim only to kill and maim. They also aim to terrorize. Their intended target is not only those they kill and wound, but also society's resilience. This puts the media in a democratic society in a bind.

Commentary

On the one hand, they have to report accurately, openly, immediately and reliably, without censorship. The enormity of the havoc caused by an attack should not be diminished, nor the suffering, pain, and anger denied.

But how can they describe the agony of the wounded and the anguish of family members without unwittingly becoming an accomplice of the terrorists?

It is a delicate line to tread and Israel's media, especially TV, have tripped up repeatedly over the past two horrible weeks. In their eagerness to cover it all in real time, they have played into the hands of the terrorists.

Examples abound. When a major newspaper leads its coverage with a blood-red banner headline proclaiming "A country in fear," it isn't informing, it is creating a mood. When it turns its entire news section over to gory pictures, most already seen on TV the previous day, it is not telling us anything we don't already know.

TV's dilemma is even more acute. Like radio, when terror strikes it automatically switches to live, virtually 24-hour coverage, turning a single act of horrendous terrorism into an ongoing drama.

TV is also unable to live up to its professional promise. The aftermath of an attack is like a battle situation. With reliable information in short supply, every bit of hearsay is broadcast as fact. As the news editor of TV's Channel 1 said on a talk show last Saturday: "What can we do? When you broadcast live, you lose control of what you're showing." Nothing could better encapsulate TV's dilemma.

One answer may be to abandon non-stop live coverage and revert to a more controlled mode, which would still give immediate news, but avoid spreading what amounts to panic and false information.

Hospital scenes do not convey hard news either, though stricken relatives make good "human" stories. And doctors, who should be operating or resting, are asked repeatedly for "real-time" reports on attack victims, when hourly bulletins would be more helpful.

By showing the anguished face of an injured person or a shocked relative again and again because there is no other footage to show, TV multiplies reality, which is already shocking enough.

How Hamas must delight in it.

Crowd response is equally distorting. The TV cameras will obviously pick up on any cursing or haranguing bystander. Cooler heads, who are the majority, will not be seen or heard. They lack the necessary "color."

Continuous radio and TV coverage also distorts the perception of government reaction. Reporting that "the cabinet is still in session" every five minutes isn't a news item; it only creates expectation. And when the meeting ends, only junior ministers have the time to answer questions and their answers will likely be irrelevant.

No responsible ministers would detail what the government has really decided. If they did, it would be treason.

As for the question of public morale, when TV interviewers ask people under the impact of an attack, "Will you ride a bus again?" it is clear what answer they are eliciting. This is precisely the question that shouldn't be asked.

The restraint and judgment required of the media should be even more of a guideline for public TV. TV news isn't entertainment or a vehicle for voyeurism. In a war situation, it is also a weapon.

When Winston Churchill was promising the British people "blood, sweat and tears," imagine the impact if TV (which didn't exist then) had gone around asking people, "How do you feel during night air-raids?" or "Do you fear a German invasion?" or "Do your children sleep at night?" Most assuredly it would not have been Britain's finest hour.

The media claim only to mirror reality. But while some mirrors reflect what is "out there," others patently distort. Still others magnify or multiply what they reflect. Our media should consider which kind of mirror they purport to be.

Shlomo Avineri is professor of political science at the Hebrew University and was director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

Amir verdict awaited

By RAINE MARCUS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Defence lawyers for confessed assassin Yigal Amir asked Tel Aviv District Court judges last Sunday to convict their client of "attempted manslaughter or manslaughter" instead of murder.

Although Amir stressed repeatedly during his testimony that he had planned the murder of Yitzhak Rabin and intended to kill him, defence lawyers Shmuel Fleishman and Gabi Shahar tried to prove in the trial's summation that their client did not willfully murder Rabin.

At one point in the defence summation, Shahar even said that it was possible that a second party was involved in the shooting of Rabin, and that Amir did not fire the shots that killed him.

Defence arguments followed District Attorney representative Penina Guy's summation that Amir had carefully planned Rabin's murder several times. Many of her arguments were based on material taped during the questioning of Amir, both by various police divisions and the GSS.

Guy also asked judges Edmond Levy, Oded Mudrich and Saviona Rotlevy to adopt the detailed evaluations given by the three psychiatrists who examined Amir in his prison cell and found him to be perfectly sane and aware of his actions.

Fleishman argued that Amir intended to paralyze Rabin and not kill him, "to put him and the peace process out of action," and therefore the court should convict him on manslaughter and not murder charges. Fleishman added that there was no criminal intent involved in Amir's deeds, and he is not guilty of premeditated murder.

Levy did not set a date for the verdict, but hinted that it would be before Pesach. He asked the defence to prepare any possible character witnesses to appear the same day, before sentencing.

Neo-Nazis jailed

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW – In an unprecedented action by a Russian court, members of a neo-Nazi organization have received long prison sentences.

Igor Pirozhok, 28, the leader of the neo-Nazi group known as the Werewolf Legion, was sentenced last week to five years in prison for hooliganism and inciting racial and ethnic hatred.

Pirozhok was sentenced by the court in Yaroslavl, a city 130 miles north of Moscow.

Another member of the organization, Victor Baranov, 23, received a nine-year prison term for homicide and hooliganism.

The group, which was formed in the spring of 1994 in Moscow, includes about a dozen youths allegedly bent on carrying out acts of terror.

The legion was reported to have set the "final solution of the Jewish question" as one of its major goals.

Shortly after it was organized, the Werewolf Legion allegedly attempted to set fire to the Olympic sports hall in Moscow, which was serving as the site of a messianic Jewish conference.

The group was also reported to have planned a series of arson attacks on movie theaters that were showing the acclaimed Holocaust film *Schindler's List*.

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The Week in Israel

March 11

• The media reported the death of Likud Knesset Member Ariel Weinstein. The Jerusalem-born Weinstein died of cardiac arrest. He was 64 years old. He had served in the Haganah and the IDF and had been a member of the Knesset since 1982.

March 12

• *Yediot Aharonot* reported that sources in the Foreign Ministry believe that six Persian Gulf Emirates and Saudi Arabia will soon announce the lifting of the Arab boycott. According to information received, the emirates have decided that a full cancellation of the boycott is necessary to fight terrorism and advance the peace process.

March 13

• Maj. Gen. Danny Yatom was widely reported in the media as the leading candidate to become the next head of the Mossad.

March 14

• Eight Israeli soldiers were wounded, two seriously, in a roadside explosion in the security zone in southern Lebanon. The militant Islamic fundamentalist group Hezbollah, claimed responsibility.

March 15

• The following were the results of the Friday Dahaf poll published in *Yediot Aharonot*: For prime minister: Peres 50 percent, Netanyahu 47 percent. *(Peres' popularity increased by four percent from the previous week, while Netanyahu's popularity decreased by two percent.)*

For the Knesset: Labor would win 42 seats; Likud-Tsomet-Gesher would win 42 seats; Meretz would win six seats; the National Religious Party would win five seats; Shas and Yehadut Hatorah four seats each; and Moledet would win three seats.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• Around 1,500 people were expected to attend three conferences in Jerusalem, including the eighth International Protea Conference, the 16th International Jerusalem Conference of Mayors and the Conference of the Association of Insurance Agents.

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Documentary examines Anne Frank, flaws and all

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A school friend tossed a parcel of food over a barbed wire fence in Bergen-Belsen to Anne Frank but it was caught by another woman who ran away with it.

That is one of the searing moments in the two-hour documentary *Anne Frank Remembered* at the Bloor Cinema in Toronto until March 28 and currently showing at the Cinema du Parc in Montreal.

Anne Frank missed her chance at life more than once. She, her sister and parents were on the last cattle car train that left Westerbrok camp in Holland for Auschwitz in 1944. At Auschwitz, other Jews from Amsterdam were sent to a work camp where many survived, but Anne had scabies and her mother and sister decided to stay behind with her.

Of course, the main blow fate dealt her was on that August day in 1944 when the Nazis arrested the family in their hiding place in a secret annex of the business Otto Frank ran in Amsterdam.

The documentary, written, directed and produced by Jon Blair, gives a more human look at Anne Frank than the stage play and movie based on her famous diary. It has the first filmed interviews with friends who knew her intimately and with Miep Gies, the Dutch woman employee who brought the family food.

No one has been able to prove whether the Franks were betrayed by former workers or neighbors or whether the carelessness of the annex's occupants was responsible for their discovery. This is one of the little known facts revealed. Another is that Anne had a running battle with her mother and at one time declared in her diary that she was "motherless." This changed during their incarceration at Auschwitz.

A school friend says Anne was a naughty girl who always wanted to be the centre of attention.

Her relations with a 54-year-old dentist, Fritz Pfeffer, who shared her room after being allowed to join the Franks, went sour. He would not give her enough privacy in the room to write her diary. She called him "Dr. Idiot."

Anne had a trick of wiggling her shoulder out of its socket and clicking it back in, one friend said.

The documentary gives passing reference to her attraction to Peter van Pels, the 17-year-old son of Otto Frank's business associate, who was also in hiding, along with his parents. Sections of the diary are quoted which show her curiosity about her own body changes, and about sex.

The film includes portions of letters, never before disclosed, written by Otto Frank to his mother in Switzerland from Auschwitz. He knew that his wife had died, but he thought his daughters had survived.

Among the most moving moments are interviews with a man, who while a fellow prisoner at Auschwitz, reveals that he and Otto Frank played games, recalling snatches of famous symphonies and memories of art exhibitions, to keep their sanity.

It reveals that Otto Frank, who died in 1980, married again after the war, and spent a lot of his time countering the efforts of neo-Nazis who claimed the diary was a hoax.

From *Anne Frank Remembered*, the 15-year-old girl emerges as a human, rather than a saint, who loved life, despite its horrors. "I didn't know my daughter until I read her diary," Otto Frank said in a 1979 interview.

Retrospective honors Israel's leading lady of the cinema

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —A five-day retrospective honoring Israel's leading lady of the cinema, Gila Almagor, will be launched on March 23.

The series is sponsored by Cinematheque Ontario in cooperation with the Toronto Jewish Film Society and Israel's consulate general.

Screenings will take place at Jackson Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario. Altogether, seven movies will be shown. Almagor will personally present the films.

Passover Fever (March 23 at 8:30 p.m. and March 27 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:45 p.m.) is a contemporary comedy about three generations of an extended family giving vent to merriment and sorrow at the Passover table. The ensemble cast is led by Almagor, who plays the matriarch of the clan.

Gila Almagor

The House on Chelouche Street (March 24 at 1 p.m.), set in the waning days of the British Mandate in Palestine, turns on the relationship between a widow (Almagor) and her 15-year-old son in chaotic times.

The Summer of Aviya (March 24, 4 p.m.), based on Almagor's best-selling novel, chronicles one summer in the life of a girl trying to come to terms with her mentally confused and institutionalized mother (Almagor).

Under the Domim Tree (March 24, 7:30 p.m.), the sequel to *The Summer of Aviya*, focuses on the interconnected lives of four teenagers on a kibbutz who've survived the Holocaust and their friendship with Aviya, a sabra. In a cameo role, Almagor portrays Aviya's mother.

Sh'chur (March 28, 6:30 p.m.) is a portrait of a Moroccan family caught between old values and superstitions and modern Israel. Almagor plays a mother who uses ritual magic to solve the problems swirling around her household.

Life According to Agfa (March 28, 8:45 p.m.) unfolds in a Tel Aviv pub whose clientele is a microcosm of Israeli society. Almagor is the world-weary co-owner of the all-night bar.

Siege (March 31, 7:30 p.m.), the oldest film in the series, was made in 1970, when the Six Day War was still fresh in the minds of Israelis. Almagor is a war widow attempting to break the shackles of the past and move forward.

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TAB news

Novice entrepreneurs create personalized gifts

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Sharyn Adler-Gitalis, 38, lost her job as marketing director of the Leah Posluns Theatre when it closed in 1994. But instead of pounding the pavement for another job, Adler-Gitalis became self-employed. She started her own business as a decorative painter.

She had a degree in fine arts and had been painting part time, she said. "When the theatre closed down, I felt this was really something I wanted to pursue full time."

She enrolled in the self-employment assistance program, a year-long federally-funded program run by the YMCA, and last January started her own business, Creative Painted Environment.

Learning to write a business plan helped her clarify her goals and "take them more seriously," she said. "It's challenging for me. I'm an artist, but I need to have the business skills."

Much of her business comes through word of mouth — she has many satisfied clients — she noted. "They call me up and they gush. I feel like I'm doing a real service."

Adler-Gitalis does specialty painted walls — like ragging, marbling, stencilling and murals, and she paints floor cloths and furniture. The furniture painting has led to an important business relationship: Adler-Gitalis paints furniture and fabric for Karen Goldstein, 32, another novice entrepreneur.

Goldstein recently started Karen's Kid's Boutique, which offers higher end speciality and personalized gifts — prices start at $25 — for babies and children.

The two women, who coincidentally live near each other, met at the self-employment assistance program and have become close friends. Since they're in compatible businesses, they attend trade shows together and meet regularly to give each other moral support.

Goldstein had been working in human resources as a recruiter, but said she "found the corporate world too stuffy."

She had a need to express her creative skills, she said. "I had strengths I hadn't thought of tapping into. One day, a friend of mine suggested the self-employment assistance program."

She decided to open a boutique offering higher-end specialized gifts, because she was always finding them and buying them for other people, she said. "So many people were asking me where I bought the gifts that I thought, instead of sending them to someone else, I'll do it myself."

Personalized gifts for children, such as embroidered terry cloth items, bibs and quilts, and painted wooden items like toy boxes, benches and picnic tables are a big trend in the United States, she said.

"I have an embroidery person, Sharyn does the painting and another Jewish woman makes mezuzah covers. With personalized gifts, the choices are endless."

Goldstein, who works out of her home, said most of her business comes through word of mouth, but she also tries to promote the boutique by telling as many people as possible about the products she carries. While the business is progressing steadily, she said she expects that it will take at least two more years to get firmly established.

The pay-off is worth the time and effort, she added. "I'm doing something I enjoy ... I'm following a vision. I equate myself to my grandparents coming to Canada and building everything from scratch."

Sharyn Adler-Gitalis (left) of Creative Painted Environment and Karen Goldstein of Karen's Kids Boutique.

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Firm applies business sense to help arts schools succeed

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

NORTH YORK — Arts Excelleration is geared to ensuring the financial success of independent schools of the arts, says president Gail Aiken.

Unlike other businesses, schools for dance, music, theatre and visual arts which operate for profit have traditionally lacked services to help them improve their administration and marketability, she notes.

Arts teachers love what they are doing, but "don't know what they don't know," Aiken says.

As a former student and teacher at the National Ballet School, who also had her own ballet academy in Whitby for 11 years, she has "been there."

Intensive accounting and business studies plus solid artistic experience earned her the position of administrator at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, where she served from 1992 until 1994.

Returning to hometown Toronto, she founded Arts Exceleration. "I have a clear understanding of both the arts and business," she says. "I can relate to my clients and help them in a practical way."

She will guide a client in establishing an arts school, but says that even for established schools, the major problem is financial.

"These people are not making the kind of living they should with their years of training and effort, dedication and expertise."

She focuses on improving enrolment, payment plans, budgeting, time management, marketing, customer service.

Positive and committed, Aiken also offers seminars. Her clients include Ryerson Theatre School dance department, the Cecchetti Society International Dance Association, The Royal Academy of Dancing and the York University Dance Department.

"To my knowledge, nobody is doing what I'm doing," she says. "I provide a unique service. My background is dance, but what I have to offer is for all the arts because marketing is marketing."

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Irving & Leonard, Up Close: David, son of Irving Layton, the Montreal poet, once told his father, "I've never read any of your poems," evidently hoping to shock him into coming down from some imagined throne on Mount Olympus. "My father ... performs nonstop. His role is the potent genius. He truly believes that he belongs in the pantheon with Socrates and Homer and Dante and Shakespeare, and he never ceases to live up to his status," writes the younger Layton in a highly revealing and personal essay about his father, himself and his godfather, the pop idol Leonard Cohen, in this month's issue of *Saturday Night* magazine.

Those familiar with the work of Layton or Cohen will find this rivetting reading, even if it deflates two large literary legends. Layton, Sr., the elder poet, comes across as gruff, pompous and misanthropic, while Cohen – the mystical troubador, the Byronic "golden boy" – comes across as gentle, elusive, and all too human. Intriguingly, David describes travels through Asia and the Aegean with his family as a child, as well as various visits to Cohen and his lady friends Suzanne and Marianne, for whom the renowned poet wrote the famous songs.

David's complaint is that his father got stuck in the dual role of poet and lover of women, allegedly to the detriment of his dual role as father and husband. David's literary salvo seems like just another of the psychic slings and arrows that sometimes fly between father and son. But it also casts an interesting light on Layton Sr.'s reported opinion that sons approach fathers with one of two objects in mind – either to bless them or to kill them.

This cover story is well written but begs the question: Did Layton Jr. pay too much for his 15 minutes in the literary limelight?

* * *

Klezmer Music Workshop: Learn the rudiments of klezmer from one of Canada's best known proponents of this potent style of music handed down from the Eastern Europe of long ago. David Buchbinder, leader of the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, is leading a six-week course on the joys of playing Yiddish traditional music.

According to Buchbinder, who is also artistic director of the Ashkenaz festival of Yiddish culture, classes will be held in an ensemble setting and will cover the basics of klezmer, including rhythm, melody and ornaments. The course is open to musicians (on any instruments) aged 14 and up, possessing a comfortable familiarity with their instruments. An ability to read music is helpful but not essential.

Two sessions, starting March 31, 4 to 5:30 p.m., or April 1, 7 to 8:30 p.m. At the Bloor Street JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. Fee: members $80, non-members $100. 416-924-6211.

* * *

The Israel Museum: Excavations at Ma'ale Modi'in have recently unearthed a vessel containing 143 Roman silver coins dating from Nero to Hadrian, and two gold denarii from the time of Vespasian and Trajan. One of the coins is a rare golden coin minted in the days of Vespasian in commemoration of the conquest of Jerusalem in 70 CE, commissioned for the victory celebrations in Rome.

The coins are displayed in the Coin Gallery at the Israel Museum, Jerusalem.

* * *

Historical Russian Concert: A historical recreation of a concert given in St. Petersburg in 1908 is bringing together Cantor Louis Danto, Senia Trubashnik, Natalya Tyomkina and Joseph Peleg at the Leah Posluns Theatre, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York.

Entitled *The Russian Connection: The Origins of Jewish Art Music,* the concert features art songs and instrumental works that reflect an early Yiddish renaissance that was tragically stifled. March 27, 8 p.m. Adults, $20. Joan Tooke, 416-636-2145.

Survivor's daughter tells her story

By JOSEPH SERGE
TAB news editor

TORONTO – "When asked if there was any story I wouldn't do [on my show], I replied, 'The only thing I wouldn't do is a comedy about the Holocaust,' " says Adrienne Clarkson in her introduction to *Punch Me In The Stomach*. "I've lived to eat my words."

Punch Me In The Stomach (CBC TV, March 27 at 8 p.m. EST) is not a rip-roaring comedy as much as it is a profile of what it's like to grow up as a survivor's daughter.

Deb Filler, who wrote and stars in this TV adaptation of her one-character play (which played in Toronto three years ago), is the daughter of Saul Filler, a Polish born survivor of Auschwitz. Her parents (her mother's family left Nazi Germany in 1939) met and married in New Zealand, where Filler grew up. Filler plays all 36 characters – herself, family members and others – in a mixture of biographical stand-up and skit routines.

Punch Me In The Stomach was inspired after Filler visited Auschwitz and Theresienstadt with her father. Saul was somewhat of a celebrity in New Zealand as a survivor who gave speeches and appeared on television.

One poignant moment which summarizes the theme of the program comes when Filler plays her father giving a television interview about his Auschwitz reminiscences.

"You had to keep your sense of humor," he says. "We had to laugh – what else could you do? We laughed the whole first night in Auschwitz."

In another skit, she dramatizes an argument her dad had with a tour guide when they visited Theresienstadt. The tour guide is explaining emotionlessly how the Nazis kept meticulous records.

"That's impossible," Filler says, acting as her dad. "We came here on a long march from Auschwitz at the end of the war. Ninety-thousand of us left and 200 arrived. They died on the road ... the soldiers themselves were starving. Nobody was writing numbers. They put us here in this cell for three days. It was full of dead bodies. Nobody was counting them. Listen, if I was to have died here, nobody would have known."

She relates that as her dad bought postcards from a kiosk outside the camp, she had to use the washroom. It was a filthy washroom and as she went to pull the flushing chain, it broke in her hands. She stood on the bowl trying in vain to reattach it and her foot slipped into the bowl.

"I started to laugh. I stopped myself. I can't laugh here, I'm in a concentration camp. I walked out of the bathroom into the sunlight... I was still holding the chain in my hand when my dad looked at me and started to laugh. We were laughing so hard, we couldn't stop."

Although there are humorous moments in this show – particularly her reminiscences of growing up in New Zealand – *Punch Me In The Stomach* – is more *about* humor than it is funny, and it shows how laughter can be, in fact, the best medicine.

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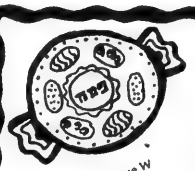
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Disabled children have 'elevated souls,' rabbi says

By LESLIE KATZ
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

BURLINGAME – Shortly after his son Shlomo was born, Rabbi Baruch Rabinowitz phoned Jerusalem to tell his own rebbe and mentor that he had a new baby boy.

"Mazel tov," the rebbe responded enthusiastically.

After a short pause, Rabinowitz revealed that his fourth child had been born with Down's syndrome. Without a moment's hesitation, the rebbe responded: "It comes for you a double mazel tov," he said. "Mazel tov, mazel tov."

Rabbi Rabinowitz – who spoke at the International Conference on Jewish Medical Ethics in Burlingame last month – couldn't believe his ears. Did his rebbe hear him right? How could the birth of this disabled child, whose diagnosis had caused the rabbi and his wife such pain and grief, warrant a double dose of congratulations?

The rebbe proceeded to explain. The child had not been sent as punishment to his parents, he stressed, but as a *tafkid*, or mission, for them.

"He told me this child has been designated specifically for this family," recalled Rabbi Rabinowitz, "and that the child would actualize potential in us and in those around us beyond our expectations."

Judaism teaches that some children are sent by God, the rebbe said, to teach the world compassion, appreciation of individuality and gratitude for the simple things in life. For that reason, he said, Shlomo and other developmentally disabled children are gifted with "elevated souls."

The rebbe "promised me that not only will I love [Shlomo]. I'll be happy with him," Rabbi Rabinowitz said. The rebbe also promised that Shlomo "will be a source of *naches*" (joy).

At the time, Rabbi Rabinowitz was still reeling from the news of his son's retardation, and those were hard words for him to comprehend.

More than five years later, the Brooklyn-based Orthodox rabbi can't seem to tell enough stories about the happiness his spunky, loving son brings to those around him.

Every Shabbat, while Shlomo's siblings discuss the week's Torah portion, the youngster acts it out. On Sukkot, he can't get the lulav fast enough. And when Rabbi Rabinowitz takes Shlomo to synagogue, the child gleefully shouts out "amen."

On Simchat Torah, Shlomo dances with such joyful fervor that when Rabbi Rabinowitz doesn't bring him to services, congregants ask, "Where's Shlomo? He's so much fun."

"He remains developmentally behind," Rabbi Rabinowitz said, "but he's funny, he's vibrant, he's happy, he's special. Oh is he special."

In the years since Shlomo's birth – years when the child endured open-heart surgery and a number of serious illnesses – Rabbi Rabinowitz and his wife Miriam have travelled a path paved with emotions ranging from terror to elation.

The rabbi shared their remarkable journey with an audience of several hundred in a talk titled, The Jewish Child with Developmental Disabilities: The Impact, the Challenge, the Response.

The lecture followed a related talk by Dr. N. Paul Rosman, a Boston pediatric neurologist who spoke of the pre- and post-natal challenges facing families of children with abnormal brains.

For both the families and the disabled children themselves, Rosman said, coming to terms with the reality of neurological malfunction is a lengthy, taxing but sometimes extremely gratifying process.

Rabbi Rabinowitz spoke eloquently about that process. When Shlomo was first born, Rabbi Rabinowitz found himself assaulted by an array of feelings. He asked, "Why me?" He denied the reality of what had happened. He felt grief, self-pity, fear and at times, despair.

His wife was equally pained and confused. "She said the words 'mazel tov' were like daggers in her heart," the rabbi recalled.

But everything began to change, following Rabbi Rabinowitz' conversation with his rebbe. As time passed and the Rabinowitzes learned more about their child and his disability, they found that they no longer wished he had been born without Down's syndrome. They simply loved him for who he was.

"What began as a tragedy has been transformed into a fuller appreciation of all aspects of human life," Rabbi Rabinowitz said.

Eventually, the couple became activists, forming Torah Alliance of Families of Kids with Disabilities (TAFKID), a support network through which they often speak publicly about their experiences.

Part of their crusade involves raising awareness of the issue within the Jewish community, which Rabbi Rabinowitz says is "still asleep" when it comes to fully including developmentally disabled children and adults.

But ultimately Rabbi Rabinowitz believes that Shlomo's story and others like it are relevant to anyone facing a challenge of faith.

"We do not pick and choose in God's world," he said. "We believe that all that God does is for good, for our benefit, our growth."

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Hadassah educates students to detect breast cancer

By DEBORAH SHAPIRO
Baltimore Jewish Times

BALTIMORE — Filing into the dance studio of their all-girls school and receiving plastic Check It Out information bags from Hadassah volunteers, the 140 members of Bryn Mawr's junior and senior classes quickly realized that this was not going to be a typical school assembly.

Bryn Mawr is one of nine local private schools that Hadassah's Baltimore chapter is visiting this year, as part of the organization's national Check It Out program.

Through the program, high school girls learn about breast cancer from a panel of speakers, including a health care provider and a breast cancer survivor.

Bryn Mawr senior, Kierston Woods, who spoke at the assembly, said, "It's important for students to hear about breast cancer. We haven't had much information about it."

Marsha Oakly, a 10-year breast cancer survivor who volunteers for the Arm-in-Arm breast cancer support group, spoke about being diagnosed with cancer at age 38, when her three sons were under the age of 11.

Oakly said she had no family history of breast cancer and "was active and ate the right things."

Paula Pearl, a nurse practitioner at the University of MarylandCancer Centre, told students that "it makes a difference when cancer is picked up early."

Using a small model of a breast, she showed the audience members how to perform monthly self-examinations.

"I don't expect you to start doing this now, but if you practise every two or three months, you can get used to it for when you need it," Pearl said.

She told students that one out of eight women will get breast cancer, with the greatest risk among women over 50.

The Check It Out program began four years ago in Corpus Christi, Texas. Baltimore became the third Hadassah chapter in the United States to take part in the program.

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Big goal gives Israel its first-ever hockey medal

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There was high drama in Sofia as a goal in overtime gave Israel its first-ever medal in an international hockey event.

Only two years after entering junior competition, the boys in blue won a bronze medal as they edged the host Bulgarians 4-3 in the International Ice Hockey Federation's (IIHF) European Junior Championships, Pool D.

The goal came about two-and-a-half minutes into the extra period as Jonathan Goldberg's long wrist shot from just inside the blueline eluded the Bulgarian puck-stopper.

"As you can imagine, it was pretty incredible for the boys," said Oded Orgil, co-head coach of the team. "There were gloves in the air, sticks on the ice and they tackled each other."

"I can't explain [the feeling]," said Goldberg, a student at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. "It's everybody's dream to score like that to win the big game. Everyone came and jumped on me."

Adding icing to Israel's cake was the announcement that Sergei Ostrovski, 16, was the tournament's top netminder. In addition, Israel won the Fair Play Cup for the lowest penalty minutes.

As if that wasn't enough, Israel's hockey program got another shot in the arm when it learned that the senior Greek team was stripped of its victories at an IIHF qualifying tournament in Metulla held earlier this year.

That means the second place team — Israel — will take Greece's place at an IIHF Pool C tournament in Lithuania later this month and will also play Yugoslavia in an Olympic-qualifying match.

Orgil said Greece was declared ineligible for the tournament in Lithuania and for the Olympic Games in Japan because it used ineligible players at Metulla. It's believed two players who bolstered the Greek team, a University of Toronto goaltender and a Provincial Junior A player from Ontario, had not obtained transfer cards entitling them to play, Orgil said.

Meanwhile, two players who spearheaded the Israeli juniors, Alon Eizenman, 17, and Yaron Orgil, 17, Oded's brother, have been asked to join the senior squad in Lithuania. Oded will participate (as a player) in the tournament and two Israeli skaters playing in Canada, Eugene (Yvgeny) Feldman and Sergei Gudzik, have also been asked to bolster the Israeli squad.

Nine youngsters from the Toronto area were key members of the 18-man junior squad, Orgil said. They all were either born in Israel or had a parent born in the Jewish state, making them eligible to play.

Back with bronze medals from the European junior championships in Sofia are Israeli skaters (top row, from left): Ron Berman, Bryant Friedberg, Yonni Motskin, Ron Soreanu, Yaron Orgil, Brad Block, co-head coach Oded Orgil and athletic therapist Barry Goldberg. Bottom row: Simon Levine, Jonathan Goldberg and Alon Eizenman.

Goaltending, which Orgil had feared would be a weak spot, was solid thanks to Ostrovski and backup Yossi Asraf, 15. Ostrovski is originally from the former Soviet Union while Asraf is a sabra who plays in Metulla.

The two shared a shutout in Israel's first game as they beat Greece 5-0. The Israelis started slowly and played tentatively but improved as the game wore on, Orgil said.

In Game 2 against Yugoslavia, Israel dropped its high-pressure, 2-1-2 forechecking system for a more defensive 1-2-2 alignment. Israel played well early on and earned a 2-1 second period lead.

Israel missed a glorious opportunity to pad its lead when Eizenman, later named Israel's top player in the tournament, was stopped on a penalty shot.

He got a second chance at a goal when the referee ruled the goalie had left the crease prior to the whistle. But again Eizenman went for the deke instead of the shot and the netminder stoned him.

Yugoslavia's tying goal in the third period seemed to deflate the Israelis who went on to lose, 6-2.

With a 1-1 record, Israel entered the medal round (no, that's not a misprint) against Bulgaria. (The Netherlands beat Yugoslavia for the gold.) The Israelis were sluggish at the start and fell behind 2-0 on two fairly weak shots, Orgil said.

Nevertheless Orgil and co-head coach Sergei Martin remained confident because the team had generated several good scoring chances. Israel shortened its bench to give Eizenman and Orgil more ice time and the Israelis' speed and ability to break past the Bulgarians' 1-2-2 alignment gave them plenty of chances, Orgil said.

Israel's puckhandling and composure paid off as they tallied three times in a little over six minutes in the middle frame to go ahead 3-2.

The team played well in the third period but then, with only 3½ minutes to go, one of Israel's defencemen was caught pinching at the blueline and Bulgaria broke out on a three-on-one. Goal.

Israel's coaches called a time-out to settle down the team and regulation time ended in a draw.

Facing a 10-minute sudden death overtime followed by a shootout, when Goldberg, who plays left wing for the Thornhill Rebels, took a pass from Eizenman and shot for the far corner. The goalie got his stick on it but it deflected into the top corner.

GOAAAAAALLLLL!!!!!!!!

Eizenman's assist on the winning goal gave him six points for the three-game tournament (3 G, 3 A), tops on the team. Orgil tallied two goals and two assists for second in team scoring.

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Tennis	Mon. March 25, 7-8:30 p.m.
Track	Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Swimming	Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Golf	Sun. March 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Boys' Baseball	Sun. March 31, 12-1:30 p.m.
Girls' Softball	Sun. March 31, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Since the maximum Toronto contingent is 90 athletes, it is possible that some of the above sports or gender/age groups may not be represented at the Games. Notwithstanding a fair tryout format, the final decision for inclusion on the team is at the discretion of the coaches and committee.

All tryouts: Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St.
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Soccer partnership reached

TORONTO — The Toronto Shooting Stars indoor soccer club have a new logo and a new broadcast partner.

Club president and CEO Francois Glasman announced last week that The Fan 590 radio station will broadcast Shooting Stars home games in their inaugural season beginning in October.

In addition, the all-sports radio station will air promotional announcements, interviews and a weekly show on the soccer club.

"This is thrilling to have The Fan 590 with us at Maple Leaf Gardens to help bring the newest, hottest game to our city," Glasman said. "We look forward to developing a long and mutually beneficial partnership."

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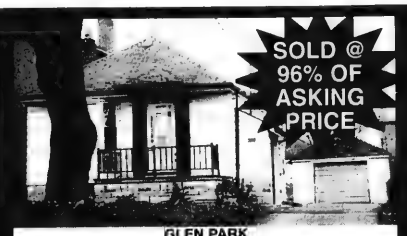

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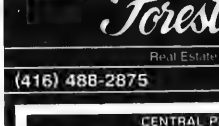

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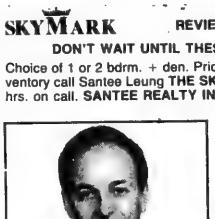

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285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLESHER-COLE. Cynthia and Stanley Flesher of Guelph, Ontario, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Roberta,** to **Seth,** son of Bruce and the late Sharon Cole. Proud grandparents are Rose Grader, Frances Rubin and Rose Flesher.

GOFMAN/SEGAL - Dr. F. and E. Gofman are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Tina,** to **Brian** son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Segal.

GOLDSTEIN/KRUPSKI - Ray and Ernest Goldstein of Ottawa are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Elissa Jennifer** to **Jeffrey,** son of Edith and Joe Krupski of Toronto. Proud grandmothers are Katie Halpern and Gert Goldstein of Ottawa.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ZELIKOVITZ/LEVITAN - Zelda and Leon Zelikovitz of Halifax are thrilled to announce the engagement of their son, **Evan** to **Leonora Levitan,** daughter of Polly Moran and Richard Levitan of Ottawa. An October wedding is planned.

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Clara Rosenberg on February 28, 1996, late of 1 Canyon Ave. #803
Bella Sherman on February 29, 1996, late of 451 Whitmore Ave.
Edna Itkoff on February 29, 1996 late of 355 St. Clair Ave. W. #404
Martha Wagner on February 29, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

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Ross, Adele on March 8, 1996
Berenstein, Ovseia on March 8, 1996
Fichman, Nusia on March 9, 1996, late of 7460 Bathurst St. #814
Ginsberg, Anita on March 7, 1996
Sabo, Adela on March 9, 1996, late of 168 Alexis Rd.
Zimmerman, Rose on March 10, 1996, late of 23 Wigan Cres.

Robinson, Anna on March 4, 1996
Trest, Rita on March 5, 1996
Greene, Susan on March 6, 1996, late of 213 Connaught Ave.
Kroupnikova, Khaya on March 7, 1996, late of 6250 Bathurst St. #1222
Mendelson, Leon on March 6, 1996, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
Ostfeld, Fanny on March 6, 1996
Eckler, Matthew on March 6, 1996

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

Hoffman, David - President of Radiator Specialty Co. of Canada for the past 25 years, with association to the parent company in Charlotte, North Carolina since 1948, passed away at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, November 19, 1995. David, beloved husband of Sonia, dear father of Rosalind Hoffman & Deborah N. Hoffman. Pre-deceased by grandson Oren Weissman.
Unveiling of memorial stone will be held on Sunday March 24, 1996 at 2 p.m. at the Pardes Shalom Cemetery, section CT #16 (Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie).

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

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for information on rates

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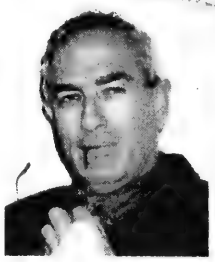
Holocaust museum designed for kids

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter



Simcha Stein

TORONTO — Holocaust education can be overwhelming for adults, let alone children. A children's Holocaust museum which opened last year on a Western Galilee kibbutz addresses that problem with a gentle approach to the subject.

"Our museum is full of colors," said Simcha Stein, referring to Yad Layeled's stained glass windows depicting butterflies and flowers drawn by children in Theresienstadt. "Kids need a starting point."

Stein, executive director of the museums at Lohamei Haghetaot and Yad Layeled, was in Toronto recently to meet with supporters (Canadian Friends of Yad Layeled) and students at Bialik Hebrew Day School, the only Canadian school thus far among a far-flung international group to forge links with the museum.

Yad Layeled was built alongside the Ghetto Fighters' House, the main museum located at Kibbutz Lohamei Haghetaot, a kibbutz founded by Holocaust survivors, many of whom had been in the Jewish resistance movement.

The Ghetto Fighters' House, established on a modest scale in 1949, now has a vast archival collection, an educational unit with training programs for teachers, students and soldiers, and 16 permanent exhibitions spread over four floors. Bialik's involvement includes the exchange of educational materials.

Stein calls Yad Layeled, built as a living memorial to the 1.5 million Jewish children who perished in the Holocaust, "the pearl in the crown" of the museum complex.

Adult-oriented Holocaust museums will frighten small children, he feels. Even Yad Layeled is geared only to those age 10 and up, although slightly younger children might be brought in at the parents' discretion, Stein said in an interview.

"We emphasize not just the Holocaust, but the Jewish struggle for survival," he said.

The museum has a strong educational component and most of its visitors have been school groups. The majority of its funding comes from Israel's Ministry of Education.

In addition to exhibits, there are nine learning stations and young visitors can participate in workshops at the end of their visit, expressing their feelings about what they have seen, through play, poetry, art or other media.

In an effort to make the information more accessible, museum organizers have focused on personalizing the experience and emphasizing aspects of life that today's children can identify with, such as games and birthday celebrations. Visitors learn about individual children and families, and have the opportunity to write to a Holocaust survivor who will answer their letter.

"Jewish children have to understand the Holocaust at the level of their own experience," said Lynne Mitchell of the Canadian Friends of Yad Layeled.

"We cannot talk about Jewish heritage without understanding what happened in the Holocaust," said Stein.

Yad Layeled

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Dear Susan,

I would like to send my 4-year-old to camp. How do I know if he is ready?

Dear Reader,

It is important for a child's first camp experience to be a good one. The decision whether he should be sent should be based principally on whether he is ready, emotionally and developmentally, to take the step. However, it must also be based on his desire to go, and you must be sure that the final decision reflects his actual wishes and not just yours.

You can begin by engaging him in general conversation about what he thinks camp is all about. Having him tell you what he thinks it is will reveal much about how he feels about it. You can then go on to ask him if he would be interested in checking out camps with you. If he is hesitant, explore the reasons why – is his reluctance based on a lack of knowledge, or does it stem from more basic reservations about leaving home. If it is the latter, it is unlikely that he is ready.

You can help your child make the transition into readiness by giving him practice leaving home. Encourage him to play at friends' houses for extended periods of time. At the same time, make sure to attend to his emotional needs when saying hello and goodbye. Explore his feelings about being away from home, and have him articulate his biggest concerns. By offering support and understanding for his feelings, while encouraging him to confront and articulate those feelings, you can ensure that he does not experience any shame about his fears while at the same time helping him to transcend them.

Four and five year olds typically have one foot in the door and one foot out. They want to be independent, yet find that dependence is still very much an emotional and practical reality. By recognizing that both realities exist and helping your child work through them, you will help ensure a smooth transition through this significant developmental stage.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN SELLS SUB-ZERO FOR LESS

1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

BAKED BREAST OF CHICKEN

4 whole chicken breasts, boned & halved
1 cup soup nut crumbs
1 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp garlic powder
1/2 tsp salt
1/4 tsp white pepper
2 eggs, well beaten
1 cup apricot preserves
1/2 cup white wine
2 tblsp pareve margarine

Preheat oven to 350°F. Rinse chicken breasts with cold water and dry well with paper towels. Combine soup nut crumbs, ginger, garlic powder, salt, and pepper in a shallow dish. Dip each chicken part in beaten egg, then in crumb mixture. Arrange in a single layer in baking pan. Combine preserves, wine, and margarine. Microwave on high setting for 5 min. or bring to a boil in small saucepan. Pour over the chicken breasts and bake for 1 hr. Serves 6. *This may be made a day ahead and reheated.*

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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The Last Word

"TWO IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS"

In a recent decision, the Supreme Court of Canada has upheld the Creditor Proof Status of Life Insurance Company RRSP'S and RRIF'S.

The recent Federal Budget has changed the RRSP and RIF rules. How will this affect you?

For Further information and planning strategies call 416 - 787-4517.

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ROASTING CHICKENS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A
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4.39 kg
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KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
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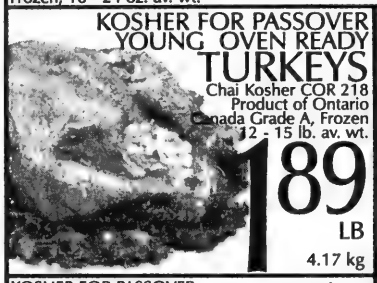
PASSOVER MATZOS
5 x 1lb Pkgs
11.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
CORNISH HENS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A
Frozen, 16 - 24 oz. av. wt.
3.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
CROYDEN HOUSE
CHICKEN SOUP MIX
Instant 141 g Jar
1.69 EA



KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
YOUNG OVEN READY
TURKEYS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A, Frozen
12 - 15 lb. av. wt.
1.89 LB
4.17 kg

BROCCOLI
Product of USA
California
Fresh
Large Bunch
.99 EA

EGGPLANT
Product of Mexico
Fresh
2.18 kg
.99 LB

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
STREIT'S
POTATO CHIPS
Assorted Varieties
1.49 EA
198 g Bag

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
BONELESS CROSS RIB
SHOULDER STEAK
Lazar Yitzchok COR 369
Glatt Kosher, Sealed Tray
Packed Meats, Fresh
13.60 kg
6.17 LB

SEEDLESS, ENGLISH
CUCUMBERS
From Ontario
Greenhouses
Fresh
Medium Size
.99 EA

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FEATURE
HERRING
•Thick Cut
•Wine Flavour
620 g Jar
4.99 EA

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AARON'S BEST
GLATT KOSHER
BEEF SALAMI
454 g Chub
3.99 EA

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GREAT CANADIAN
CHEDDAR CHEESE
Assorted Varieties
227 g Pkg
2.99 EA

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STRUB'S
DILL PICKLES
Regular or New
1.5 L Jar
3.99 EA

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Product of Ontario
Direct from Highland
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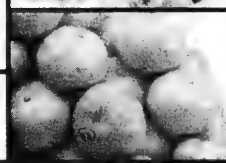
MACAROONS
Assorted Varieties
284 g Tin
3.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
STRUB'S
YOM TOV
BEET HORSERADISH
375 ml Jar
1.69 EA



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TANGERINES
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STREIT'S
MATZO MEAL
907 g Box
6.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
AVIVA
SUNFLOWER SEED OIL
1 L Bottle
2.29 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
HADDAR
APPLE JUICE
1.89 L Bottle
2.99 EA

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER
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GRAPE JUICE
Assorted Varieties
650 ml Bottle
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BANANAS
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Fresh
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HONEYDEW
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CANDLES
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MANISCHEWITZ
or STREITS
5 x 1 lb. pkgs.

12.95

We will not be knowingly undersold on this item.

single unit price 2.59

THIS WEEK

We carry a full range of kosher-for-Passover products. Look for this specially identified section on grocery shelves.

ENJOY A HAPPY PASSOVER!

WHOLE CHICKEN
or TURKEY
Chai Kosher Poultry
frozen grade A

1.79
3.95 / kg lb.

778 JAM
assorted varieties
250 mL jar

1.97

GRAPE JUICE
KEDEM
concord, muscat
or white
1.5 L btl.

3.99

GEFILTE FISH
ROKEACH GOLD LABEL
Old Vienna
28 oz. tin
8 pieces

3.99

COKE CLASSIC
PASSOVER
or diet 2 L btl.

1.49

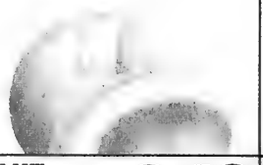
MACAROONS
MANISCHEWITZ
or STREITS
assorted varieties
10 oz. tin

3.99

EGG MATZOS
MANISCHEWITZ
or STREITS
12 oz. pkg.

3.69

HONEYDEW
MELONS
fresh product
of Mexico



2.99 each

CERES
FRUIT JUICES
1 L ctn.
3 x 200 mL box **1.69**

1.89

BORSCHT
MANISCHEWITZ
946 mL btl.

1.59

foodfacts

HONEYDEW

The only thing better than the subtle taste of a honeydew melon is its flair for complementing other foods. The perfect honeydew is ivory white or greenish turning creamy white with pale streaks and a waxy feel to the surface. But it isn't usually ready to eat when you buy it. Let your honeydew stand at room temperature until there's a lovely fragrance and the skin is creamy white. To serve, cut in half, scoop out the stringy centre and seeds and cut in wedges.

FRUIT SLICES
Elite, Camel or Boston
8 oz. pkg.

2.49

PASSOVER
Look for a wide selection of kosher-for-Passover items available in a specially-identified section on grocery shelves. More and more people are purchasing kosher products, perhaps because manufacturers are making kosher-for-Passover foods easier to prepare and more appealing. You'll find a wide variety of confectionery items like soft drinks and chips, packaged cake and bagel mixes, soups-in-a-cup and even pizza mixes. Of course, we're offering great value on staples like Manischewitz Matzos too.

MATZO FARFEL
or MATZO MEAL
Manischewitz or Streits
1 lb. pkg.

3.49

CHICKEN SOUP
CARMEL
instant
5 oz. jar

1.39

FLAKE BARS
ELITE or LIEBER
21 g pkg.
CASE OF 24 **8.88**

2/.99

the Trend REPORT

HAVE A HAPPY PASSOVER

ALL FOODS IN THIS FLYER ARE STRICTLY KOSHER FOR PASSOVER

TOR 1

WIDE SELECTION OF FINE PASSOVER PRODUCTS

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SPARKLING JUICE KEDEM or TAMPREE concord or calawaba 750 mL btl. **2.99**

BAG & BAKE COATING MIX Streits 2.75 oz. box **1.89**

MATZO BALLS or MATZO BALL SOUP MIX Manischewitz or Streits 4.5/5 oz. pkg. **1.79**

GEFILTE FISH STRUB'S 24 oz. jar **5.99**

MATZOS AVIV or HOLYLAND 5 x 1 lb. pkgs. **9.95**
single unit price 1.99

APPLE JUICE SABRA 64 oz. btl. **2.39**

CAKE MIX MANISCHEWITZ or STREITS assorted varieties 12 oz. pkg. **4.99**

MARSHMALLOWS EMES or SWEET SHOPPE white regular or mini 10 oz. pkg. **1.49**

TOMATO KETCHUP STREITS 14 oz. btl. **1.69**

MANISCHEWITZ BAKIT coating mix 3 oz. pkg. **1.69**

MARGARINE MIGDEL edible oil product 1 lb. pkg. **1.79**

CHEESE BLOCKS GALILEE 227 g pkg. **2.59**

CHOCOLATE BAR ELITE 85 g pkg. **1.39**

EGG NOODLES MANISCHEWITZ 12 oz. pkg. **2.59**

DETERGENT GALILEE liquid for dishes 1 L btl. **.99**

POTATO CHIPS GARDEN PATCH KETTLE or ZAPPS 170 g bag **1.39**

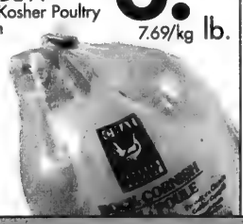
SAUCE TOMATO MUSHROOM Manischewitz or Streits 10 oz. tin **1.69**

SUNFLOWER OIL AVIVA or GALILEE 1 L btl. **2.19**

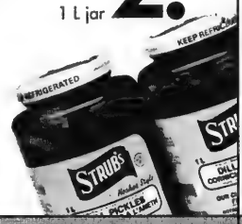
SABBATH CANDLES MENORA, NER ZION or HECHAL box of 72 **3.29**

MAYONNAISE HADDER 32 oz. jar **3.39**

CORNISH HENS GRADE A Chai Kosher Poultry frozen 7.69/kg lb. **3.49**



DILL PICKLES STRUB'S KOSHER original 1 L jar **2.49**



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Insider's Report

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HORSERADISH STRUB'S pure kosher regular or beet 250 mL jar **1.99**

LUNCH CUT HERRING FEATURE 320 g jar **2.49**

Price Report THIS WEEK

RECIPE FILE

GREAT RECIPES. GREAT VALUE!

PASSOVER APPLE PUDDING

- 3 matzos, broken into pieces
- 2 apples, peeled & sliced
- ¾ cup (175 mL) raisins
- ½ cup (125 mL) sugar
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) oil or chicken fat
- 3 eggs, well beaten
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) grated lemon rind
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) cinnamon

♦ In a bowl, soak matzo pieces in water until soft. Drain.
♦ Combine matzos with apples, raisins, sugar, oil, eggs, lemon rind and cinnamon.
♦ Place in a greased casserole and bake at 350° F (180° C) for 45 minutes, or until light brown.

Serves 4.

APPLES McINTOSH or EMPIRE product of Canada Canada fancy .79 1.74/kg lb.

MATZOS MANISCHEWITZ or STREITS 5 x 1 lb. pkgs. **12.95**
single unit price 2.59

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10909 Yonge St., Richmond Hill
8601 Warden Ave., Markham
2670 Erin Centre Blvd., Mississauga
2150 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Mississauga
250 Lakeshore Rd. W., Port Credit
245 Dixon Rd., Rexdale

the SUPERcentre
700 Lawrence Ave. W., Toronto
6220 Yonge St., North York
9235 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill
1880 Eglinton Ave. E., Scarborough
1792 Liverpool Rd., Pickering
2025 Guelph Line, Burlington

valu-mart on bayview
3259 Bayview Ave., Willowdale

Supplement to the Canadian Jewish News.
NO RAINCHECKS ON INSIDER'S REPORT ITEMS.

Loblaws the SUPERcentre valu-mart on bayview

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This Week

Coast to Coast

Human Rights commission warns racial prejudice thriving in Canada. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Passover Food drive expects to deliver 2,000 boxes this year. *Page 5*

Canadian Friends of YESHA decries blanket statements supporting Oslo peace accords. *Page 6*

Israel, U.S.A. & The World

Last laugh: Iran doesn't take the anti-terrorism summit in Egypt seriously. *Analysis.* *Page 48*

Health news

"Chemical soup" may be thriving in your home. *Page 50*

TAB news

Jordanian, Tunisian representatives attend the recent IGTO meeting in Toronto and Montreal. *Page 51*

Travel Talk: Bartering is a way of life in this bustling city of Cairo. *Page 53*

Sports news

18-year-old Toronto gymnast, Justin Gerson, finishes first in national Elite competition. *Page 54*

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Shabbat Hagadol: Tzav
Candlelighting 6:23
Nisan 9, 5756
Havdalah: 7:28

Tension on Lebanon border

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah declared last week that attacks against the IDF and South Lebanese Army (SLA) would continue, despite Israel's threats to retaliate.

He also warned that Hezbollah would respond with Katyusha rockets on the Galilee if the IDF shelled villages north of the security zone and harmed residents.

"The only way for the enemy to avoid harm to its settlements is not to harm our civilians," said Nasrallah.

Interior Minister Ehud Barak, Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu, and OC Northern Command Amiram Levine were among the thousands to attend Capt. Salah Zeidan's funeral last week at the Beit Jann Military Cemetery. Zeidan was killed by a Hezbollah suicide bomber.

Col. K, who had been in the caravan's first jeep, eulogized Zeidan, saying, "He was constantly concerned that his soldiers received everything, newspapers, food. He would check the trucks

Continued on page 46

WITH NISAN HERE, CAN SPRING BE FAR BEHIND?
The first apple blossoms of the month of Nisan provide a springtime, pastoral framework for this man praying in the sunlight in Jerusalem. *[RNS photo]*

A policeman blocks entry to Jerusalem as Palestinians protest the continued closure of the West Bank and Gaza imposed after the wave of suicide bombings. *[RNS photo]*

Territories remain closed

Jewish Telegraphic Agency and Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Citing reports that Islamic militants were planning additional terror attacks against Israel, Prime Minister Shimon Peres said last Sunday the closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip would remain in place.

Peres also told the weekly cabinet meeting that soldiers at crossings between Israel and the territories had been instructed to check ambulances bringing Palestinians in need of medical treatment into Israel.

The directive was issued after explosives were reportedly discovered on a pregnant Palestinian woman who was being brought to an Israeli hospital.

Israel imposed the closure Feb. 25, after the first of four Hamas suicide bombings in nine days killed scores of Israelis.

In a related development, a spokesperson for Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat confirmed that Arafat remains committed to amending the Palestine National Council (PNC) Charter by May 7, despite the fact that he views the closure of the territories as a violation of Israel's commitment to the Palestinians.

Nabil Abourdenah said an adviser of Arafat's, Khaled Salam, was not speaking for the chairman

Continued on page 46

EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the upcoming Pesach holidays, advertising deadline for the April 12 issue is Tuesday April 2 at 10 a.m. For the April 18 issue, deadline is Tuesday April 9 at noon.

Passover Food: More sumptuous recipes inside

The News In Brief

CANADA

Concern Over Kalejs

MONTREAL – A delegation from Canadian Jewish Congress held its first meeting with Lucienne Robillard, federal minister of citizenship and immigration.

Among the topics dealt with was Congress' frustration over the way in which the case involving suspected Nazi war criminal Konrads Kalejs is being handled.

BGU Dean To Visit

TORONTO – Prof. Shraga Segal, dean of the faculty of health sciences at Ben-Gurion University, an expert in immunology, immunogenetics and tumor immunology, will be the guest of the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University April 15 to 24.

ISRAEL

Private Cars In Jordan

JERUSALEM – Israel and Jordan have agreed to allow private vehicles and buses to cross their border starting next month.

The agreement, which was reached this week by the Israeli-Jordanian Joint Transport Committee in Amman, is part of a broader pact that also covers trade issues.

Abraham Fund Grants

JERUSALEM – The Abraham Fund has presented $826,000 in grants to projects promoting Jewish-Arab coexistence in Israel.

The grants will help fund joint educational programs for Jewish and Arab teenagers, social programs in health and community development, and activities advancing equal opportunity for Arab citizens.

Hamas' Homes Destroyed

JERUSALEM – Hoping to deter more suicide bombings, Israel has resumed the demolition of Hamas terrorists' West Bank homes.

Three homes were destroyed after the High Court of Justice rejected seven appeals against the demolition policy.

Police also demolished the home of one of the most wanted Hamas members, Mohi Eddin Sharif, known as the successor of Yehiya "The Engineer," Ayyash, Hamas's former explosives expert killed in Gaza earlier this year.

Defence Pact 'Premature'

JERUSALEM – A defence treaty between Israel and the United States would be "premature" at this time, President Bill Clinton informed Prime Minister Shimon Peres last week, Israeli officials say.

The conversation between the two was held on Air Force One on the way back from the Sharm el-Sheikh anti-terrorism summit.

Israeli Youths Have AIDS

JERUSALEM — Some 70 youngsters are known to be "living with AIDS," in the country, the head of the Israel AIDS Task Force said last week, and the majority are able to stay in school.

Pilot Training Course

JERUSALEM – Ten female IDF soldiers will begin the air force's pilot training course shortly, Israel Radio reported.

The soldiers were accepted following a successful appeal to the High Court of Justice challenging the former Air Force practice of not considering female candidates.

WORLD

Anti-terrorism Aid

WASHINGTON – In the immediate aftermath of the fourth and deadliest terrorist attack in Israel earlier this month, President Bill Clinton sent the Jewish state the most sophisticated anti-terrorism tools in the American arsenal.

Israeli and American officials have crafted a $100 million counter-terrorism package that includes bomb detection equipment, the most advanced sensor machines – like the kind found in airports – border-detection devices and the training to use them.

Defamation Case Settled

SYDNEY, Australia – The U.S.-based Lyndon LaRouche group has agreed to settle a defamation case initiated by a prominent member of the Melbourne Jewish community.

As part of the settlement, the extremist organization will pay legal costs and publish an apology to Michael Danby.

Bombing Remembered

BUENOS AIRES – Argentine Jews, joined by Israeli and American representatives, marked the 20 months that have elapsed since the bombing of the Jewish headquarters here.

As more than 500 people gathered outside the Argentine Supreme Court to commemorate the July 18, 1994, bombing, Argentina joined with two neighboring countries to sign an agreement designed to crack down on terrorists operating in the region.

Extradition Sought

ROME – Italy will seek the extradition of a Palestinian convicted of the 1985 Achille Lauro hijacking who was recaptured in Spain.

The chief of the Italian police anti-terrorism division said the Italian Justice Ministry was preparing an extradition request for Youssef Magied al-Molqi, adding that the request could take up to 45 days to process.

Police were also investigating several people as accomplices in Molqi's escape.

Molqi, 33, fled a church-run shelter in Italy on Feb. 28 while on a 12-day good-conduct leave from prison, where he was serving a 30-year sentence. He was recaptured March 22 in a Spanish resort.

Forum Criticized

PARIS – Israel has complained to UNESCO about a symposium on Jerusalem held under its auspices that was organized by pro-Palestinian groups.

The conference was organized by the Forum for Citizens of the Mediterranean, a group backed by pro-Palestinian French groups.

In its final declaration issued this week, the conference claimed that Israel held too much sway over Jerusalem's fate.

Arafat Renames Palestinian Areas

JERUSALEM – Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has announced that areas under his control should from now on be referred to in official documents as "Palestine."

Arafat's office said this week in a statement that the West Bank would be called the Northern District and the Gaza Strip would be referred to as the Gaza District.

The terms "Gaza Strip" and "West Bank" are remnants from British control of the region, the statement said, adding that the new names would reflect the realities of Palestinian self-rule.

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Racial, ethnic prejudice thriving: report

By PAUL McKEAGUE
CJN Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Racial and ethnic prejudice are thriving in Canada and threaten to undermine the country's strong record of human rights, the Canadian Human Rights Commission warned.

As he released the commission's annual report for 1995, chief commissioner Max Yalden cited B'nai Brith Canada's recent audit, which said that reported incidents of anti-Semitic harrassment are on the rise.

"These are problems that we think are serious both in the short term and long term," Yalden told a press conference. "The major problem for us is that there are such incidents at all in a country like Canada which prides itself on its human rights record."

He noted that 1995 was the 50th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany, but it saw fresh evidence that "racism and xenophobia are constants of the human condition."

And instead of showing a firm commitment to fight such phenomena, Canada seemed "at odds with itself and short of sympathy for vulnerable minorities," the commission reported.

"There is a marked impression that the tide of positive change in human rights matters in Canada could be on the turn unless we are prepared to be more vigilant in their defence than we have been these past 12 months," the report said.

Its concerns were fuelled by signs of a backlash against immigrants in Toronto and Vancouver. The commission also said Canada is still failing to meet its moral obligation to natives.

With neither proper control over their own affairs nor equal access to the benefits of Canadian life, their situation is Canada's "most serious human rights problem," Yalden said.

The commission also expressed concerns about the spread of hate propaganda through the Internet that were similar to those voiced by B'nai Brith Canada.

The commission vowed to take action on well-founded complaints about hate messages emanating from Internet sites in Canada. But there's probably not much can be done about signals from abroad unless the Canadian government joins with other countries to tackle the issue, Yalden said.

The commission noted that "even in Canada, the somewhat chaotic condition of the Internet will not make hatemongering an easy target."

The commission has been successful in shutting down telephone hate lines of white supremacy groups, but "the underlying activity persists," it noted. "One suspects that telephonic hate messages are just the tip of the larger iceberg."

Noting that intolerance has been called "the growth industry of the 1990s," the commission said countries must fight it with every means available.

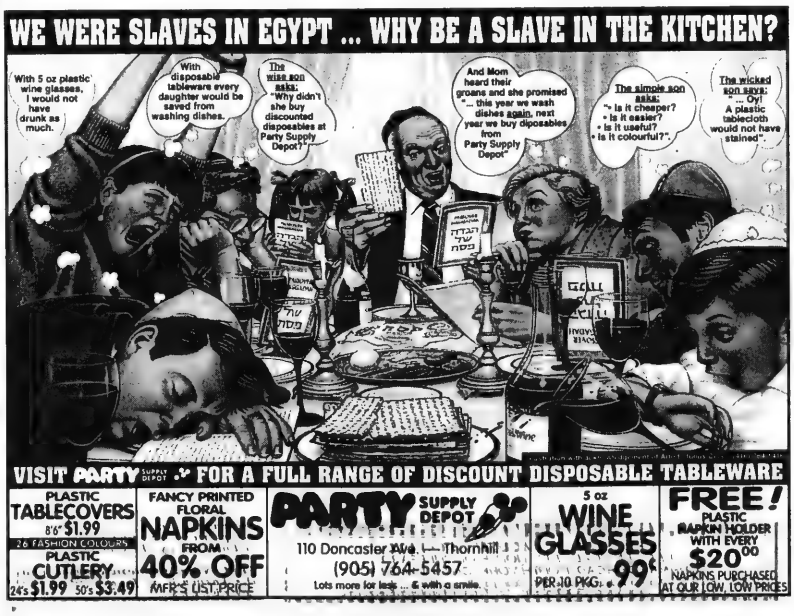
Yalden was troubled by the Chrétien government's indefinite postponement of its commitment to add sexual orientation to the Canadian Human Rights Act as a prohibited ground of discrimination.

In the last 10 years, seven justice ministers have vowed to deal with the matter and then failed to deliver, he said. The commission called the lack of protection for gays and lesbians "little better than acquiescence in intolerance."

At the same time, the Somalia inquiry has not only raised disturbing questions about discriminatory attitudes within the Canadian Armed Forces but also about the military's "readiness to correct them," the commission noted.

It cited concerns expressed by the Canadian Jewish Congress about the "broader implications of allowing known racists to serve in the Canadian forces."

PASS THE PEANUT BUTTER AND JAM
From left, York University students Sharona Perl, Brian Steingold, Carrie Wong and Batya Tobin make peanut butter and jam sandwiches at a Jewish Awareness Month event organized by York's Jewish Student Federation. Volunteers made 300 sandwiches that were delivered along with donations to Out of the Cold, a downtown program for homeless people.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Jerusalem's splendor

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Because people are virtually wired into the news on an hourly basis, their nerve endings jangle with the latest political developments in their local communities, in the Knesset, in Europe and in the United States. (Canada is generally included in the United States.) Everyone has an opinion. No one is shy about expressing it.

Thus, it was a refreshing change for our media group to spend the second of our two field trips visiting primarily "non-political" places. Strictly speaking, the term "non-political" is inaccurate because the places we visited were financial beneficiaries of The Jewish Agency for Israel. And as even the most naive of all neophytes undoubtedly knows, The Jewish Agency is and always has been the organizational manifestation of a very "political place."

Nevertheless, I use the term because we met with individuals who were themselves, at least in our encounters, decidedly non-political and who told us stories about non-political experiences.

We visited a place and a program called Elul. It is an acronym for the Hebrew phrase: *"Elu v'elu divrei Elokim chaim."* (These and these are the words of the living God.) Elul is a beit midrash for Israeli men and women from all religious and economic walks of life. Here, the secular meet the observant and together, they gather over the pages of classic Jewish text.

Elul is attempting to be a bridge and a sanctuary, a place of introduction and a place of familiarity. It holds a door open to the youth of Israel for whom Judaism is, ironically and sadly, unexplored territory. They are trying, by example, to reach younger generations of fellow Israelis.

On both field trips, Yoni Shapira, a many-generation Jerusalemite, was our guide. Like most Israeli male guides, it seems, he sported a thick bushy moustache, from underneath which he often flashed an engaging, wide, white-toothed smile. Due to various stints as a *shaliach* in Canada, Australia and the United States, his English was accented with a melange of different pronunciations. His sense of authority was reinforced by a calm, relaxed composure and a tall, confident posture. As we drove and walked to our various destinations, he always filled in the spaces of the familiar roads we travelled with interesting, not readily-known facts from off the beaten track.

Our last stop with him was on Mount Scopus. We went to the campus of Hebrew University, to an alcove hewn into the rock at a high point on the hill looking south and southwest onto the Old City of Jerusalem and beyond. It was late in the afternoon. The sun was already low in the western sky, partially hidden behind a horizontal drapery of orange and red clouds. Below us lay the valley beige and green, pale blue and gold. The Temple Mount sparkled. We sat on stone benches of concentric half circles. We were all tired.

Shapira told us of a man from the Carpathian mountains in Hungary, Avigdor Feuerstein, who had fought in World War I, survived its gruesome inhumanity and then decided to walk to Jerusalem. Like most biblical travellers to Jerusalem he approached the Holy City from the north, from Mount Scopus. As he descended the southern face of the mountain, the vista he beheld was the very sight which at that moment lay in all its pre-twilight splendor before us.

So moved was young Feuerstein by the ethereal beauty of what he saw, he penned a poem and called it, appropriately, *Yerushalayim*. It begins *"Me'al pisgat har hatsofim"* - from the high summit of Mount Scopus. It was eventually to become, until The Six Day War, the most famous song about Jerusalem. It remains still, one of the most beautiful songs about Jerusalem. Feuerstein soon changed his name to Hameiri. He became a journalist, poet, novelist, translator and eventually, winner of the Israel Prize.

His Jerusalem roots sentimentally exposed, Shapira told the story of Hameiri with exceptional tenderness, carefully adding many of the details of the soldier's journey from Europe and of the hardship of his new life in the nascent Jewish state. The last detail he filled in for us was that Hameiri was his grandfather.

Undoubtedly, it was due to the combination of the feelings of pleasant end-of-day fatigue, the dramatic ending of Shapira's story and the lovely, serene sunset settling upon Jerusalem before our eyes, that we all fell into a goose-bumpy silence. And then, as if in a Frank Capra film, one of the women sitting in the back row began to sing *"Me'al pisgat har hatsofim"*. Soon everyone was singing "From the high summit of Mount Scopus" from the high summit of Mount Scopus. It was a rare moment.

The notebook of my participation in Jerusalem in January 1996 in The Sixth International Conference of the Jewish Media is now closed.

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Zundel request denied

TORONTO — Ernst Zundel's bid for Canadian citizenship was dealt a blow last week when a Federal Court refused to review a finding by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) that he is a threat to Canada's security.

Instead, the court sent the matter back to the Security Intelligence Review Committee (SIRC), which heard Zundel's appeal from the CSIS decision on Monday.

Zundel has been convicted in his native Germany of publishing material denying the Holocaust. Jewish groups have repeatedly urged Ontario's attorney general to charge Zundel under the federal anti-hate law, but no charges have been forthcoming.

Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada applauded the CSIS finding on Zundel.

Greater Toronto Area

NCJW plans to deliver over 2,000 Passover boxes

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section (NCJW), launched its first ever Passover food drive in 1984 by delivering 300 boxes of Passover food.

This year, volunteers of the food drive, co-sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education, Jewish Family & Child Service, Jewish Immigrant Aid Services and NCJW expect to deliver more than 2,000 Passover boxes to people of all ages, all over Toronto.

At the recent launching of this year's drive, over 100 boxes were packed by volunteers, some as young as three or four years old, to be delivered by volunteer drivers on March 31. Boxes include such items as matzah, a Haggadah, matzah meal, matzahball soup or matzahball mix and chicken soup, potato pancakes or kugel, gefilte fish, tuna, coffee or tea, jello, cans or jars of soup, candles and cookies or chocolate.

"This is not a food drive," said Gita Arnold, chair of the NCJW, Toronto Section board. "There is not enough food to last the eight days of Passover, but what we do, is deliver enough food to enable every Jew to celebrate Passover with dignity."

The highlight of the official launch was the presentation of a $10,000 cheque from the Moess Chittin Fund of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, the same fund that collects money to send Passover food to Cuba.

"Part of the fund's money comes here and the rest goes towards sending food to Cuba, [that country's] only source of Passover food. The community response to our drive has always been excellent, but each year it becomes more difficult to ensure that enough boxes are sent out," said Arnold.

Rabbi Irwin Witty, executive director, Jewish Board of Education, said he was delighted with the joint effort that goes into the Passover drive.

"We are working together so that we can help those less fortunate than us. We like to believe that every Jew is comfortable, but the facts speak for themselves. The rabbis urge people to be among the givers — or the takers, if need be. Do not stand idle.

"Although Jews help out all year round, we have a special campaign before Passover, because on Passover there is a requirement that all Jews rejoice. When someone is celebrating but knows there is a Jew in need, the law says that he cannot be happy. There is a special obligation for us during Passover to help alleviate someone else's stress."

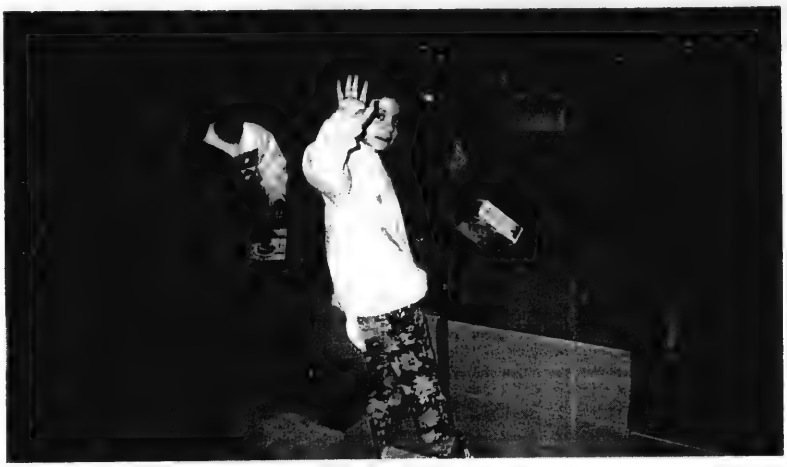
Source of pride

It is a special source of pride that students have gotten involved in the campaign, said Rabbi Witty. "School students are big partners in the drive. It is great that they are participating and can see for themselves where their mitzvah is going."

He praised NCJW, Toronto Section, without whom, he said, "none of this would be happening. It is amazing to see the concern lavished on this project. It is a marvelous reflection that we do live in a caring community."

Charlene Arjo, who co-chairs this year's campaign with Rebecca Ber and Bonnie Dale, said the campaign is important from a community standpoint because it involves everyone and teaches through action and participation, the importance of tzedakah.

Kosher for Passover food donations will be accepted at Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. until March 31. Volunteer drivers are needed to deliver boxes, and those who can help out are asked to arrive at Council House on March 31 at 9 a.m.



Packing boxes for NCJW's food drive.

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Greater Toronto Area

YESHA urges leadership to question Israel's policies

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — While the Canadian Friends of YESHA say they aren't specifically out to upset the Jewish establishment's apple cart, they are bent on asking hard questions, and prodding Canadian Jewry to do the same.

In short, says the organization that gives moral and financial support to the 152,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, it's time this country's Jewish leadership started openly questioning Israel's Labor government, and how it is pursuing peace.

The group, once considered an apologist for the most militant right-wing settlers but which now claims a growing membership, decries what it calls "blanket" statements from national Jewish organizations supporting the Olso peace accords, and argues it is unrealistic, especially after the recent spate of Hamas bomb attacks, to expect the entire community to fall into line behind Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"It can no longer be business as usual," states the Friends' co-chair, Laurence Zeifman. "How many more people [in Israel] have to die? At what point does the community say we have to address the issues?"

Zeifman concedes there is much "healthy" diversity in opinion among Canadian Jews when it comes to Israel and the peace process, and that the level of debate has been largely civil. It's Jewish officialdom he and his group have a problem with.

"There is a blatant position within the community leadership to support [Israel's] government. The uniformity is too much. At some point, that policy has to be questioned.

"Just as B'nai Brith can't be allowed to become the Likud party's headquarters in Canada, we can't allow Canadian Jewish Congress, the Jewish Federations or *The Canadian Jewish News* for that matter, to become Labor headquarters in Canada," Zeifman said.

Recently, the Friends came in for criticism for mailing letters to Jewish leaders and rabbis, suggesting support for the peace process be questioned in light of recent Hamas suicide bombings and statements by top Palestinian officials.

The letters were said to have angered many for their allusion to North American Jewry's silence during the Holocaust, implying the same kind of silence exists today when it comes to Israel's peace policies.

So offended was Moshe Ronen, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's Ontario region, that he asked the authors to withdraw the letter.

"It never should have been sent," Ronen told *The CJN*. "I assume it was sent in an isolated, momentary loss of thoughtfulness."

He said he was "extremely offended" at the way in which the Holocaust "was misused and abused" in the letter.

After he made his views known to the authors, the Friends sent out a clarification. "I wasn't entirely pleased with it but I have no desire to pursue the matter," Ronen said.

The Friends refused to provide *The CJN* with a copy of the letter and the clarification, saying they were "private correspondence."

But Zeifman does not apologize for the mailing's reference to the Holocaust, saying Jewish leadership's "silence" — then and now — is "extremely unfortunate.

"If Jewish leadership has not learned from the Holocaust, then the fear of invoking Holocaust imagery has reached a new level. We live in the shadow of the Holocaust, and we have an obligation to learn from it. Jewish leadership has to react accordingly."

Zeifman is an officer of Canadian Jewish Congress, whose apolitical mandate is to support the democratically elected government of Israel.

"I don't disagree with Congress' position," he explains. "But at the same time, we should not be pretending all is well."

He accused *The CJN* and the community leadership of ignoring a Jan. 10 speech in Stockholm by Yasser Arafat, in which the Palestinian president was alleged to have told Arab diplomats that the PLO plans to eliminate Israel and make life "unbearable" for Jews. Arafat was also reported to have said he has "no use for Jews."

Toronto's support for YESHA — a Hebrew acronym for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza — will be recognized at a gala dinner April 23 in New York, where this city's Jewish community will be paid tribute and local activist Sabina Citron will be a guest of honor.

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Importance of positive changes stressed

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The capacity to modify oneself is so pervasive and so much a part of the human spirit that the possibility to do so must be presented to everyone, irrespective of their condition, genetic makeup, age or severity of their disability.

The trick is to make sure that the modification is in a positive direction.

This is the assertion of noted educator and psychologist Dr. Reuven Feuerstein, whose theories and techniques of thinking and learning are respected not only in Israel, where he lives, but around the world.

Feuerstein is the founder and director of the International Centre for the Enhancement of Learning Potential and the Hadassah-WIZO-Canada Research Institute in Jerusalem.

He established the institute in 1965. "Hadassah-WIZO Canada continues until now to be one of our most pivotal sources of support," he told *The CJN* in a recent interview.

Sporting his trademark black beret, Feuerstein was preparing to meet an excited student body at Toronto's Dr. Abraham Shore Academy/She'arim Hebrew Day School, a school that uses his methods extensively. He was in the city as part of a North American tour.

In the evening, he spoke to a crowd of nearly 600 at the Beth Emeth-Bais Yehuda synagogue.

His belief in the potential of each human being has led him to work with, among others, people who have been considered by some to have little hope, such as those with Down's syndrome or fragile X (a chromosomal disorder which causes retardation).

And he has had some remarkable successes.

He has successfully trained a group of young adults with Down's syndrome and other genetic developmental disorders to become caregivers to the aged and handicapped, using a combination of his unique teaching methods and a residential program which enabled them to learn to socialize with people who were both unfamiliar and non-disabled.

Some of these students even went into the Israeli army as volunteers. "Two were named as best soldier of the year in their battalion," Feuerstein said proudly.

Dr. Reuven Feuerstein greets She'arim students [from left] Noam Wolff, Philip Abramson, Mordechai Soroka and Noah Tenenbaum.

The Romanian-born psychologist, who earned his PhD at the Sorbonne, explained that his institute has three major programs: assessment, instrumental enrichment and services.

IQ tests, he said, have no meaning, as "a low IQ, which deteriorates with age anyway, precludes intervention."

What you have to do, he says, is "to assess how modifiable [a person is], how to modify him or her, and how permanent the change will be."

He has developed the Learning Potential Assessment Device, an evaluation tool that is now used in many settings.

Instrumental enrichment is a series of carefully constructed exercises given by specially trained teachers. Each one is aimed at developing a specific cognitive skill, such as analytic perception, orientation in space and time, or classification.

The child is helped to "organize the world in situations that require a real effort to divide, classify, discriminate, abbreviate, generalize, and all other mental operations necessary to give new information."

Instrumental enrichment, he said, gives children lasting tools with which to deal with their environment.

It is essential, he went on, to create an environment in which the child not only has the opportunity to make changes in himself, but indeed must make those changes to reach his goals.

Many times, Feuerstein charged, those with disabilities are not challenged. They are put in situations "where everyone knows you, and doesn't ask you to do too much."

His methods are not used only with the learning disabled or developmentally delayed. They are also used, for instance, with what he called "gifted underachievers," such as the new Ethiopian immigrants to Israel, and even in hi-tech industries, with great success.

Jews have the obligation to continue the work of G-d in creation. And that, he mused, includes correcting what He has done.

At the Seder table-ask a fifth question...

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Hezbollah, too

Not to be outdone in the warfare of fanaticism waged by Hamas, their paradise-seeking soul mates, Hezbollah, are also resorting to suicide-murder in their religious war against Jews.

Even as 30 world leaders -- including Shimon Peres, Bill Clinton, Jean Chrétien, King Hussein and Yasser Arafat -- were meeting in Sharm El-Sheikh to discuss ways of eliminating terrorism, an IDF officer, Golani company commander Capt. Salah Zeidan, 23, from the Druze village of Beit Jann, was killed when a Hezbollah suicide bomber threw himself at the convoy that Zeidan was leading in southern Lebanon only two kilometres from Metulla. The bomber may have targeted the IDF commander of the district who was also in the jeep with Zeidan. But he emerged from the attack unhurt.

Later that same day, a member of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia was also killed by a Hezbollah-detonated bomb. This second bomb reportedly exploded only moments after OC Northern Command, Maj. Gen. Amiram Levine, had been in the area.

As reported in Israel's media, Hezbollah has carried out 111 attacks against the IDF and the SLA militia since January. In the past 15 months, it has launched more than 700 such attacks in which 64 IDF and SLA soldiers have been killed and more than 200 have been wounded.

In keeping with its long-standing policy of measured retaliation against the perpetrators of such acts, Israel cannot and will not allow Hezbollah to go unpunished.

Part of Israel's response however must take into account Syria's role in allowing Hezbollah to conduct the attacks. It was surely no coincidence that Zeidan was killed on the day of the Sharm El-Sheikh talks which Syrian President Hafez al-Assad chose not to attend. But Assad's manipulations and ploys are a fool's game. He merely invites more loss of life in the area and pushes further away the people whose trust he will need when he seeks, eventually, to find a partner in negotiating peace.

Government's void

On Nov. 1, 1988, Konrads Kalejs was deported by the United States to Australia. The American government decision "was based on Kalejs' service and activities as a senior officer in a Nazi execution squad which murdered unarmed civilians in Latvia during World War II, and his misrepresentation of that service and those activities when he entered the Unites States."

But Kalejs didn't make it to Australia. Instead, he now resides in a suburb of Toronto. He has been in Canada for more than two years, entering and leaving virtually at will. He is awaiting a deportation hearing which has been adjourned a number of times. His next court appearance is scheduled for May.

Apparently, the government is not offended that such a man has found a haven in Canada. Thankfully, however, many of the residents in the condominium where Kalejs lives are.

Stepping assertively into the void created by the federal government's inaction, about 55 people recently gathered, as reported in last week's issue of *The CJN*, "to express their revulsion at having Kalejs...living in their building...Their anger and frustration were palpable." We commend everyone who took part in the demonstration against Kalejs. But we wish to especially commend the initiative and the determination of its organizer Rhonda Pasternack. She decided to organize the meeting "to convey to public officials the displeasure and frustration of her fellow residents at having an accused war criminal in their midst."

Faced with such unacceptable behavior from Ottawa, we are heartened by the example of individual citizens acting within the law to send so forceful a message to both Kalejs and the government.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

Nothing is given more lavishly than advice.

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

March 28, 1945, erev Passover, Rabbi Samuel Cass conducted the first seder and service by a Jewish army chaplain on German soil, in a bombed gymnasium in Kleve. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

When will the attorney general act?

The decision on March 15 by the Ontario Attorney General's Office to drop charges filed on Nov. 8, 1995, against Nazi hate propagandist Ernst Zundel is not only misguided, but ill conceived. The claim by the Crown of "insufficient evidence" is outrageous.

Considering the position taken by the Progressive Conservative party during last year's election campaign and Charles Harnick's previous statement in the Ontario legislature, we fully intend to hold Harnick and the Ontario government to their words and their campaign platform.

Quoting some of Zundel's propaganda, Harnick urged the then attorney general Marion Boyd "to stop this man."

For example, Harnick referred to the following statements by Zundel: "One day, in the not too distant future, the tables might well be turned and the aroused gentile world will meet out Justice and Vengeance." And "Once cleansed from the stigma of having been tainted by 'Nazi-Holocaust' lies and propaganda, we can use the eminently successful policies of Hitler."

Harnick then asked the attorney general: "Minister, I am offended by those statements ... I am equally offended by your government's inaction. Do these statements not constitute that wilful promotion of hatred against an identifiable group as defined in the Criminal Code? ... Minister, you have it in your power to stop this man. When will you do it?"

Indeed, now that Harnick is the attorney general, the question still remains: It is in your power, Minister, to stop this man. When will you do it?

Sabrina Citron
Toronto, Ontario

Looking for "real common sense"

In Lorrie Goldstein's response ("In Defence of 'Common Sense,' " — *CJN*, March 7) to Rabbi Dow Marmur's earlier article, he fails to address three basic questions. First, why was the Harris government so eager, within weeks of taking office, to implement severe welfare cuts before any other measures were taken? Since welfare recipients were the ones selected to bear the brunt of the attack on the deficit, surely a much more humane approach could have been taken — phasing in the cuts or going after those who are defrauding the system.

Secondly, why is giving a tax break to taxpayers going to help the economy? Surely, money that goes to welfare recipients would do the same.

Finally, why is it acceptable for the government to borrow billions of dollars to shore up revenues when the tax breaks take effect, but it is not acceptable to borrow to help the poor?

Goldstein's arguments deliberately avoid some basic questions. If only "real common sense" prevailed, we wouldn't be living in such a polarized society.

Jack Orbaum
Thornhill, Ontario

Displeased with the CJC

The Canadian Jewish Congress' acceptance of Judge Bienvenue's lukewarm apology for his remarks about women and thoughtless words about Holocaust victims dying painlessly, infuriated me, a Holocaust survivor.

I strongly disagree with the Congress decision because it lacked the chastisement due the judge, who now faces judiciary proceedings by his peers.

It seems to me that Congress appeased the judge rather than voice its strong disapproval of his remarks and his behavior in court.

Simon Schweitzer
Montreal

Protests rabbi being barred from Israel

Naif Hawmatmah, the architect of the infamous Ma'alot massacre (where 22 innocent Jewish children were cold-bloodedly murdered), is being allowed back into Israel. At the same time, Shimon Peres' left-wing government prohibits a well-known rabbi in New York City from entering Israel because he made (foolishly) strong negative comments about Yitzhak Rabin and his Labor government. This rabbi and his congregation supported and aided the state of Israel for the past 50 years. He strongly criticized the Oslo agreement, but since he unwisely used the freedom of free speech, he is barred from entering the Jewish homeland.

Where are our great liberals?

Where are all the guardians of human rights?

Where are all those who want Israel to be a democratic country?

Why are they all so deafeningly silent?

Abraham Goldreich
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

The trial of the century - Nuremburg

By ISRAEL KOPYTO

In November 1945 — just five months after the total collapse of Hitler's Third Reich — one of the most famous trials in history began, when 21 of Nazi Germany's war criminals were indicted in Nuremberg before the International Military Tribunal of the victorious Allied Forces.

In the ancient city of Nuremberg, with its Palace of Justice in the centre of the town, thousands of people gathered from all parts of the world to witness the end of the 12-year-old Nazi regime in Germany.

We came from New Ulm, Bavaria, a delegation of five representing the displaced persons' camp inmates, having been provided with special entry passes by the Munich Central District of Jews in Germany.

Arriving at the main railway station of Nuremberg we could see thousands of people streaming towards the Furtstrasse, where the Hall of Justice was located.

The closer we came to the centre of the city, the more evident was the extent of the devastation wrought on this former stronghold, which was intended to be an eternal symbol of the 1,000-year Reich ushered in by Adolph Hitler.

We continued on our way, mingling with the huge throngs making their way down the thoroughfares cordoned off by American security and military police. Hundreds of newspaper reporters, movie photographers and television crews moved with the crowd.

After the formalities of having our papers checked at the entrance gate, we entered the awesome Hall of Justice.

The Nuremberg Trial was officially opened on Nov. 20, 1945, and continued until Aug. 31, 1946. The verdicts were handed down on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 — a reminder to all of the civilized world that the day of reckoning had arrived for the inhuman Nazis and the heinous crimes committed under their rule.

For the German people, the trials conducted by the International Tribunal were a warning that the nations who had suffered under the Nazi occupation were determined never again to allow such mass murder to occur at the hands of German militarism.

* * *

At the opening of the trial, the court room is crowded with thousands of spectators who have come from many different countries of the world, the majority from the former Nazi-occupied countries of Europe.

Precisely at 10 a.m. the proceedings begin. Presiding over the court is Lord Justice Lawrence of Great Britain. He pronounces the names of the Nazi organizations on trial, as well as the names of the defendants charged with crimes against humanity including Hermann Goering, Joachim von Ribbentrop, Julius Streicher and others.

An air of hushed suspense hangs over the court as the president announces the entry of the accused. Through a side door, the 21 *gauleiters* are led into the courtroom, heavily guarded by the American military police. Here they come, yesterday's "heroes" of the 1,000-year regime. One by one they take their seats on the prisoners' bench, their heads lowered, some with shaven heads and some in military uniforms stripped of their former medals and the iron crosses which only a few months earlier had marked them as leaders of the "master race."

Shamed and humiliated, they sit in front of the audience filling the vast hall; in front of some 300 newspaper reporters from all over the world; in front of the representatives of the international diplomatic corps and high-ranking military officers of the Allied countries; before the thousands who stand outside on the streets surrounding the courtroom and before the entire world and human history.

The defendants are shown in the dock while Jodl, standing, makes his final plea. The photo is from *Justice at Nuremburg*, Robert E. Conot, Harper & Row, 1983.

The president asks each one of the accused whether he pleads guilty to the crimes with which he is charged. The answer of each is "Not guilty."

The court adjourns for recess.

* * *

Every time a recess was announced, there was a mad rush from the courtroom to the press chamber, as correspondents were anxious to be first with their news dispatches to the world, to describe the macabre panorama unfolding in the Nuremberg Hall of Justice where the Great Crime of the German People against humanity was on trial.

For eight long months, the trials continued, the court sitting five days a week, hearing the testimony of hundreds of witnesses from all strata of the population of formerly occupied Europe.

Trucks arrived every day bringing packing cases filled with documents captured by the Allied armies from German military headquarters, from government buildings and thick-walled archive deposits, documents carefully collected and stored in anticipation of the final Nazi victory.

The format of the judicial proceedings was explained in a series of brochures distributed to the spectators in the courtroom. The first hearings would deal with the plan that systematically prepared Nazi Germany for aggressive war, beginning with the annexation of Sudentenland from Czechoslovakia, ending with the attack against Poland on Sept. 1, 1939.

Then further hearings would deal with the war crimes perpetrated by the Nazis in the countries of Europe under their subjugation.

All 21 defendants declared themselves not guilty of the charges against them. All of them claimed to have had no knowledge of what was going on in their ministry. They knew nothing of war crimes, of death camps, of the massacre of men, women and children or of millions of war prisoners.

Goering, for example, the founder of the Gestapo, had no knowledge of any program devised by the Nazis to annihilate all the Jews in the German-occupied countries. Hans Frank, the governor general of Poland, who had his headquarters in Krakow, who received direct orders from Berlin to liquidate the Jews of Poland, under whose command plans were made for the liquidation of Poles after the Judenrein operation was completed, who personally issued instructions for the prompt execution of orders — this same *gauleiter*, Hans Frank, declared before the tribunal that he had never heard of such "labor" camps as Auschwitz, Treblinka, Maidanek, Sobibor, Belzec or hundreds of other death camps.

One after the other — Streicher, Alfred Rosenberg, Ernst Kaltenbrunner and the rest of the procession of defendants — knew nothing and saw nothing and heard nothing of the crimes which poured forth from the testimony of hundreds of witnesses and wagon-loads of documents. They had never heard that of the 9½ million Jews in Europe barely 3½ million remained, saved through some miracle, uprooted, orphaned, bereft of wives, husbands and children — all a result of the well-planned German death machine.

They were ignorant of the fact that hardly a Jewish child remained in all of formerly-occupied Europe. They had not heard of a Janusz Korczak who, with more than 200 Jewish children whom he had taken under his care, was herded into the gas chambers of Treblinka. They knew nothing of the crimes committed in every country that fell under the bloody heel of the Nazis. They were innocent, untainted by the destruction of thousands of towns and villages and millions of human lives in all of the countries of Europe where the Nazi armies had set foot.

They found utterly unbelievable the testimony which revealed the staggering figure of nearly 35 million lives destroyed. All of this was something unknown to the accused.

In his opening speech, the chief prosecutor of the United States, Justice Robert H. Jackson, declared:

"These men know nothing of the evil prepetrated in the German-occupied regions. They [the defendants] who are responsible not only for the deaths of millions of innocent men, women and children, but also for the loss of countless future generations — they still speak with great admiration of Nazi Germany and Hitlerism. What a pity that besides the testimony already seen and heard here, there could not be present the millions of men, women and children who perished. If only they could have been brought to the witness stand, just think how many more 'wonders' could be told about the 12-year-old Nazi regime in Germany!

The verdict of the Nuremberg Tribunal was made public on Oct. 1, 1946. In accordance with international law, the Nuremberg Military Tribunal of the Allied countries pronounced the following sentences:

Sentenced to death by hanging: Hermann Wilhelm Goering, Joachim von Ribbentrop, Wilhelm Keitel, Ernst Kaltenbrunner, Alfred Rosenberg, Hans Frank, Wilhelm Frick, Julius Streicher, Fritz Sauckel, Arthur Seyss-Inquart, Alfred Jodl, Martin Bormann.

All sentences were carried out on Oct. 16 of the same year, with the exception of two. Goering had committed suicide a day before the executions and Bormann, who was sentenced in absentia, had been fortunate enough not to have received an "invitation" to "our gathering," as the president of the court remarked with irony.

Sentenced to lifelong imprisonment: Rudolph Hess, Walter Funk, Erich Raeder.

Balder von Shirach and Albert Speer received 20-year prison terms; Constatin von Neurath — 10 years in prison. Hjamlar Schacht, Frans von Papen and Hans Fritsche were freed (over strong protest from the Soviet prosecutor, Roman Rudenko).

The following Nazi organizations were found guilty simultaneously of crimes against humanity: The Leadership Corps of the Nazi Party, whose *gauleiters* participated directly in crimes against humanity, the Gestapo — Secret State Police; the SD — Security service; the SS — Elite corps; the SA — Storm troops; the High Command of the German armed forces.

Such was the inglorious end of the Third Reich as pronounced by the Nuremberg International Tribunal — the end of a regime that was to endure for a "glorious" millenium.

Israel Kopyto is a survivor living in Toronto.

Opinions

On politics and polls

By Shira Herzog

Two months before the election, much is unclear in Israel. To the extent that terrorist attacks harden the positions of undecided voters, the cynical observer may be right in saying that Hamas will determine the results of the election. But the reality is far more complex, especially since in this election, Israelis will exercise a choice they never had before.

On May 29, every Israeli voter will be asked to cast two ballots: one for a direct election for the position of prime minister, and the second for a party list for the Knesset. Because of this, the election campaign itself is different from any in the past. Each of the two candidates for the prime ministerial post, Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu, has his own campaign team and advisors, while his party is running a separate campaign. And each realizes that even if he wins the position, his party may not have a plurality of seats in the Knesset.

In the new system, the prime minister may be able to form a majority coalition even if his party comes in second, especially because of the decision likely to be made by two of the new parties running in this election.

It already seems that in the Knesset race, the right-wing bloc will gain a few more seats than the left-wing bloc. But two of the centrist parties running for the first time — Natan Sharansky's Russian party and Avigdor Kehalani's Third Way — are likely to back either winner in the prime ministerial vote for reasons of their own political survival. Because the spread between the two major blocs will probably be small, Kehalani and Sharansky's combined seven to nine seats could guarantee a coalition for either candidate. The winner is virtually guaranteed a majority (even if slim), because these two new centre parties will hold the balance of power. This also means that an American-style gridlock between the executive and legislative branches is improbable. Therefore, the important question is not whether Likud or Labor gains more seats with its traditional coalition partners, but rather who will win the prime ministerial race.

In that competition, recent events on the right have changed the configuration. Netanyahu was concerned about plans by Raphael Eitan and David Levy — the leaders of two small parties — to run in the prime ministerial election. This might have split the right-wing vote, thereby necessitating a run-off in a second round. Netanyahu wanted to prevent this, in case ultra-Orthodox voters on the right would abstain a second time, once their vote for their Knesset party had already been cast, thereby weakening his chances against Peres in the second round. This was one of the central motivations that led him to sign generous political deals with Eitan and Levy, merging their lists with Likud's, and guaranteeing them second and third place on the Likud list. While criticized by many in his own party for weakening their own positions on the list as a result of the merger, Netanyahu effectively ensured only one round in the competition wth Peres.

The race between Peres and Netanyahu, in turn, will be extremely close, and for Canadians, reminiscent of the recent Quebec referendum, the result will likely be 51 to 49 percent, or close to it. One hundred thousand to 120,000 voters will determine the winner — and these swing votes might even come from the committed ranks of Likud or Labor. Israeli voters will be able to split their vote for the first time. As a result, for example, voters who believe that Peres is the stronger candidate of the two, but who have reservations about his policies, may give Peres their prime ministerial vote, and Likud their Knesset vote.

The close nature of the race had led Peres and Netanyahu to aggressively woo the ultra-Orthodox bloc of 100,000 disciplined voters. A nod from this community's rabbinic leaders for a preferred candidate will bring out their followers in droves. Although questions have been raised about his commitment to religious values, Netanyahu hopes to gain their vote. Peres' strategy is different. Because of the bloc's historic enmity to the Labor party, he hopes to gain just enough support to result in an en masse abstention in the prime ministerial vote by the ultra-Orthodox voters.

And so the campaign continues, fuelled by an endless string of polls and punditry. Israelis are playing along with the polling game, as evidenced in the spreads of eight to nine percent in different pollsters' readings. In fact, when asked about their intentions, Israeli voters are more likely to express their present feelings about the incumbent or his opponent, rather than an accurate reflection of how they will vote on May 29. In a close race, pollsters beware ...

Hate material found on the Internet

By Morton Weinfeld

As Jews prepare to celebrate Passover, it is timely to ponder new forms of anti-Semitism facing North American Jews today. While these are not the worst of times, it is too early to shut down Jewish antennae.

Recent decisions by the Immigration and Refugee Board represent a more common and complex form of anti-Semitism — that which may be a product of government policy. One decision, confirmed by the courts, suggests that Jewish refugee claimants could be denied status in Canada because they always have a safe haven in Israel. Another series of decisions has led in recent years to granting of refugee status to many former Soviet "Jews" claiming religious persecution in Israel.

Both sets of decisions are abominable and cause harm to Jews and Jewish sensibilities. It is unlikely, and certainly hard to prove, that these decisions are motivated in all cases by anti-Semitism. But that is irrelevant. The outcomes of policies are ultimately more important than the motivations for them.

Perhaps the most worrisome development has been the explanation of anti-Semitism and hate on the Internet, or cyberhate. Jewish communal organizations have begun to sound the alarm. It is technologically difficult, if not impossible, to control the proliferation of web sites. And there is a reluctance in some quarters, such as among Internet enthusiasts and academics, to move to censorship as a solution.

McGill University's Hillel has set up an anti-racism web page site, which refutes the arguments of the hatemongers. Its organizer, David Abitbol, argues that the best way to combat Holocaust deniers and other Internet anti-Semitism and racism is to "let everybody's ideas sink or swim in the marketplace of ideas."

But there is a risk here. I am indebted to Reuben Brasloff for reminding me that in the Middle Ages, Jews engaged in public disputations with Christian theologians and often lost, as the deck was stacked against them. Today, the deck is more evenly stacked — Jews are no longer powerless supplicants — but the stakes are still high.

Libertarians believe that the best antidote to offensive speech is more speech. But there are no guarantees and no absolute rights. One of the major dangers is that impressionable teenagers will be exposed to hate, without similar exposure to counter-arguments. A teenager surfing the Net may summon up a neo-Nazi reference on the Holocaust without knowing its true source. But in libraries, books on creation science or para-psychology are not classified with the same call numbers as books on evolution or neuro-science.

I do not know if there is any scientific evidence about the numbers of young people who have been clearly swayed by Net hate to join racist groups or accept racist beliefs. But if it could be shown that such numbers are growing, I would support more aggressive regulation.

Like the disputations of earlier centuries against Church officials, it is the anti-Semites who by and large initiate the "debate" and define its terms. Jews adopt a reactive posture:

The Holocaust is a hoax.
No it is not.
Jews control banks and the media.
No they do not.

But our society forbids the sale of cigarettes and alcohol or rental of porn videos to minors. Porn magazines are placed high on magazine racks, for similar reasons. Television is about to enter the age of the v-chip, which is designed to give parents control over the violence to which their children will be exposed.

Some experts, including the Canadian Information Highway Advisory Council and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in the United States, reportedly favor a voluntary code of ethics for Internet providers. It is hoped that these providers would decline to carry hate messages after public complaints.

That may not be sufficient, if evidence demonstrates increasing recruitment to racist movements via the Net. Some way must be found to achieve a tighter degree of regulation, particularly regarding access by minors. Criminal prosecutions could be explored as well.

Whatever happened to Ethiopian Jews?

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Only 12 years ago, and then again in 1991, Ethiopian Jews were headline material. Daring rescue operations from Israel elicited the admiration of the whole world, and the support organizations urged even greater attention to their needs. They called our attention to the fact that there were thousands of the rescued brothers and sisters still waiting for liberty and security.

Thereafter we heard little about them — until two months ago, when the media erupted with pictures of 10,000 Ethiopian demonstrators in Israel. "Our blood is as good as anybody's!" was their battle cry. The demonstration showed how deep the humiliation of Ethiopian Jews had become, and the blood scandal was the last straw. Health authorities had routinely discarded donations from Ethiopians serving in the Israeli army, for it was believed that their blood represents a higher risk of AIDS infection.

Instead of individual examination of each donation, it was easier to stereotype one segment of the population and surreptitiously discard their blood, thereby making Ethiopian Jews unwittingly into an undesirable portion of the population.

Also, lately some young Ethiopian recruits in the army have committed suicide at a rate far greater than in any other group of the population.

The result of a recent investigation showed that the same problems which affect many blacks in North America have infiltrated Israeli society as well, Ethiopian children are (with some notable exceptions) in the least progressive and demanding schools; many of them are uprooted from their families and live in boarding schools; and their reading skills at the fifth grade level are far below the average of other children. Ethiopian children are often automatically channelled into non-academic streams, and an uncomfortably high percentage of them have become dropouts and have drifted into alcohol and drug abuse, have committed petty crimes and have joined violent gangs — though only a little while ago delinquency was totally unheard of amongst Ethiopian teenagers.

The public, when it is not occupied with terrorism and the peace process, has suddenly become aware of an urgent problem in its midst. Only seven percent of Ethiopian 12th graders receive a matriculation certificate, the lowest of any ethnic group in the country, while Israeli Arabs graduate 14 percent and Israeli Jews in general, 40 percent. The top matriculates come from the recent Soviet immigration and from the middle and upper middle classes in the country.

Israelis are known for their capacity to take action when action is needed. Their conscience has been aroused and there is every likelihood that the issue will at least be confronted.

Postscript: Last year I wrote about the project, Hebrew in one day — learn to read Hebrew in just eight hours. The program was an enormous countrywide success, and it is being repeated. For locations anywhere in the country, call 905-764-1-DAY, or Fax 905-709-1895.

The Kirshner File

Nazi-era films conveyed subliminal messages

By Sheldon Kirshner

Movies were an integral component of Nazi Germany's propaganda machinery. Together with newspapers, magazines and radio, film was a means by which to mobilize emotions and immobilize minds.

Josef Goebbels, the minister of propaganda, was fully aware of this. Accordingly, his ministry brought the Jewish-purged medium under its control, vetting movie scripts, monitoring productions and supervizing publicity.

Given the Nazis' priorities, the Third Reich was a golden era of filmmaking in Germany. More than 1,000 films were produced during that 12-year period. By comparison, the film scene in post-war Germany is positively insignificant.

It may be surprising, but the vast majority of German films from 1933 to 1945 were non-political and reflected little of everyday realities. Ranging from solemn dramas to frothy comedies, they were invariably bereft of pet Nazi themes. Some, however, were shot through with subliminal messages designed to shape public opinion.

There were, of course, films which deviated from the norm. Leni Riefenstahl's *Triumph of the Will*, a masterpiece of manipulation, celebrated the 1934 Nazi party congress in Nuremberg. Veit Harlan's *Jew Suss* and Fritz Hippler's *The Eternal Jew* were overtly anti-Semitic and pandered to base instincts.

These classics of anti-Jewish agitation were not on the program of *The Ministry of Illusion*, a recent series in Toronto showcasing mainstream films of the Nazi epoch. The event, curated by University of California scholar Eric Rentschler, was sponsored by Cinematheque Ontario and the Goethe Institute.

The films I saw, four in number, were *La Habanera* (1937), *The Broken Jug* (1937), *The Emperor of California* (1936) and *Great Freedom No. 7* (1944).

La Habanera, set in Puerto Rico, is directed by Detlef Sierck, who went on to fashion a career in Hollywood as Douglas Sirk. *La Habanera* portrays a Swedish woman's affair with, and disastrous marriage to, a Puerto Rican landowner.

Resounding to the rhythmic beat of Latin music and brimming with scenes of local color, *La Habanera* is first and foremost a melodramatic confection of love gone wrong, homesickness and corruption in high places. The film, shot in black and white, is condescending toward Caribbean Hispanic culture and dreamily positive about wintry Nordic landscapes. It conveys the homily that there is no place like home.

Zarah Leander, the highest paid actress of the day in Germany, plays Astree, the smitten maiden who falls into the clutches of Don Pedro de Avila (Ferdinand Marian), a shifty, swarthy Don Juan whose greed and treachery know no bounds.

Leander, a Swede who returned to Stockholm during World War II, imparts Aryan beauty, guilelessness and innocence. Astree's ethnocentric aunt (Julia Serda), her chaperon in Puerto Rico, is contemptuous of the brown-skinned natives. In this respect, she mirrors racist Nazi attitudes.

The Broken Jug, supposedly Adolf Hitler's favorite film, is based on a play by Heinrich von Kleist. The plot turns on a physically slack, mentally lazy judge (Emil Jannings) whose incompetence is finally exposed by an upright court inspector.

The film, which seems to be set in the 18th century, tries to show how the pursuit of private pleasures by a lax civil servant can undermine the integrity of a society.

A vehicle for Jannings, who left Hollywood with the advent of sound, *The Brown Jug* is didactic, occasionally shrill and none too pleasing from an esthetic point of view.

A Nazi Western? Look no further than *The Emperor of California*, which teems with English-speaking Indians and cowboys who express themselves in excellent German. Officially deemed as "politically and artistically ... worthwhile," it unfolds against the backdrop of scenic desert country and a thundering musical score.

Directed by and starring Luis Trenker, the film follows the fortunes of fur trader-cum-entrepreneur August Suter in mid-19th century California. Forced to leave his family in Germany, Suter befriends Indians and fights off rogues as he makes his way to the Pacific coast via inhospitable mountain ranges and searing deserts.

At last, after a death-defying experience in the sand dunes of Arizona, he reaches the promised land. He establishes a thriving and idyllic agrarian colony there. But to his despair, it is pushed to the brink of destruction by the avarice of gold rush miners.

Filled with raucous adventurers, and impregnated with a sense of manifest destiny, *The Emperor of California* is held together by a credible script, solid production values and passable performances. As entertainment, it handily fulfils its mandate.

***The Emperor of California*, a Nazi Western.**

But dig deeper and a motherlode of none-too-subtle messages pop up. The first and most important is that an individual can and should serve one's nation. The second, which is far more insidious, glorifies the Nazi idea of *lebensraum* (living space), which prompted Germany's 1941 invasion of the Soviet Union.

Great Freedom No. 7, starring the heartthrob of German film, Hans Albers, stands in sharp juxtaposition to *The Emperor of California*.

A highly conventional, contemporary romance filmed in color, it takes place in a seedy nightclub in St. Pauli, Hamburg's redlight district. The protagonists are Hannes (Albers), an aging sailor who moonlights as a crooner, and Gisela (Ilse Werner), a young damsel who comes under his soothing influence.

Containing not a shred of propagandistic material, *Great Freedom No. 7* is pure escapist fare, meant to divert attention away from the war, which was going badly for Germany in 1944.

Interestingly enough, Goebbels so disliked the film that he banned it. Apparently, he was dismayed that the male characters were faint-hearted rather than rugged specimens of German manhood.

In any case, *Great Freedom No. 7* is an eminently forgettable film. Not even Albers, the blond and blue-eyed stoic hero, can redeem it from the swamp of artistic mediocrity.

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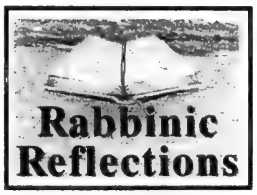


Helping the hungry

By RABBI BARUCH FRYDMAN-KOHL

The Torah portion Tzav deals with the details of the ancient sacrificial system. This year it coincides with Shabbat Hagadol, the great Sabbath prior to Passover, a pilgrimage festival when Jews came from throughout the land of Israel to bring offerings in the Temple in Jerusalem.

In the Torah reading, Aaron and his sons are instructed to maintain a perpetual fire on the altar. The flame had to burn continually, requiring frequent stoking and daily renewal. In apparent contrast, Pesach was a holy time with much special activity and excitement.

We are tempted to see two patterns in distinction to one another: the daily and the once-a-year, the regular and the spontaneous, the plain and the majestic. Yet the two are interdependent. The daily commitment needs the special moments to re-ignite the fire; the pyrotechnics of Passover need to be sustained or they will be forgotten.

Thus our ongoing effort to care for the hungry receives a boost at this time of year. During the seder we shall recite: "Let all who are hungry come to eat." Should that not be our daily commitment as well? Perhaps this Passover the words we recite will take on a new tone and inspire us to struggle against hunger throughout the year.

Locally, Jewish organizations have developed programs to alleviate hunger and break the cycle of poverty. They operate out of a prophetic mandate to care for the weak and oppressed. They arise from the prophetic criticism that sacrifice without ethics is barren and blasphemous.

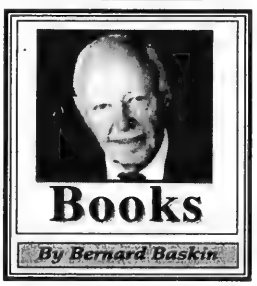
Local communities collect food and donations for *ma'ot chittin* (wheat money) to sustain those Jewish families for whom the financial burdens of providing kosher for Passover food is onerous.

Hunger is not only physical. There is a spiritual hunger which you can alleviate. Local communities arrange for volunteers to open their homes to new immigrants from the former Soviet Union for a Pesach seder. "Let my people know" has now replaced "Let my people go." We must educate those whose exodus to freedom depended on our efforts. Contact your synagogue or local federation offices.

Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger seeks to avert the tragedy of poverty by asking us to invite a hungry person to a seder with us. If that person is not physically present, we can simply donate the amount of money we would have spent on our home meal to Mazon. They will enable you to share your Passover meal with the poor. Send your contributions to Mazon Canada, 788 Marlee Ave., Suite 206, Toronto, Ont. M6B 3K1.

In all these cases, we must realize that our efforts will not, by themselves, solve the problem of hunger or lack of Jewish knowledge. But that should not block us from contributing something towards the struggle. Our Sages teach: "The work is not yours to complete, but you are not without obligation." As we read about sacrifices of old, let us consider making some today. This year some are enslaved. Next year may all of us be free.

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl is the senior rabbi at Beth Tzedec Congregation in Toronto.



All Rivers Run Into The Sea by Elie Weisel, Random House $36

Elie Weisel, a brand plucked from the fire, has interpreted his survival from Nazi horror as imposing upon him at least three obligations: first, to tell the brutal and harrowing story of the dead and to plead for a measure of understanding as to how they perished; second, to dissect and try to comprehend the human and divine madness behind the Holocaust; third, to warn a quickly forgetting humanity about the infectiousness of evil and to suggest that there is a direct line from the ovens of Auschwitz to the devastation of Hiroshima, to the blood-letting in Vietnam, to the ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia.

Although he has suggested that the proper response to the Holocaust is silence, Weisel has never lost faith in the power of the written word. In a recent interview he stated: "Jews have never believed in statues, we have never believed in buildings. The only way for us to communicate what happened in the past is through words, whether of past glory or of past disasters. Only words."

And intoxicated with words, he has written over 30 books and become an outspoken advocate for his people and the conscience of humankind. At 67, he is a world figure, recipient of the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize and a confidant of presidents and prime ministers. He has used his moral authority to publicize the plight of Soviet Jews, Cambodian refugees and African famine victims. It is no surprise that he was at President Bill Clinton's side when the decision was made to send U.S. troops to Bosnia.

He declares, "My priorities are Jewish priorities ... but they are not exclusive. Other people also suffer and we, as Jews, must do something for them as well."

All the Rivers Run into the Sea, is the first instalment of a two-part memoir that begins with the author's birth in 1929 in a *shtetl* on the border between Hungary and Romania, and concludes in the late 1960s with his marriage in New York.

The author's early history is well known from *Night*, the depiction of his harrowing experience as a teenager in Auschwitz and Buchenwald, and from his other books. He emerged from the Nazi cauldron of suffering a mute spirit, without a homeland and with the deaths of his parents and sister as a bitter legacy.

At the war's end, in a French orphanage, he faced a new language and culture. As a fledgling journalist he was buffeted by a welter of conflicting emotions; the need for love and affection, the quest for God, the meaning of Jewish identity, the reality of human depravity. There was a constant inward struggle between doubt and faith, despair and trust, forgetting and remembering.

In referring to this book, Weisel says, "I mean not to recount the story of my life, but my stories." And this volume is replete with vignettes, evaluations and anecdotes of extraordinary personalities: statesmen, writers, scholars and politicians. Prominent among them are Golda Meir, Gershom Scholem, I. B. Singer, Abraham J. Herschel and the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

The author tells this story: Martin Buber relates that he once addressed an audience of priests with these words, "What is the difference between Jews and Christians? We all await the Messiah. You believe he has already come and gone, while we do not. I therefore propose that we await him together. And when he appears we can ask him: 'Were you here before?' " Then he paused and added, "And I hope that at that moment, I will be close enough to whisper in his ear 'For the love of heaven, don't answer.' "

Singer, reveals the author, was extremely unpopular with his colleagues. They resented his bizarre subject matter and were jealous of his popularity. "His funeral was pathetic. There were few mourners. A rabbi delivered a eulogy in English with a phrase or two of Yiddish thrown in. Though I was not among his admirers, I felt sad. It should have been different."

Jewish Life

The Internet has given Passover an extra byte

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

How is this year's Passover different from all other Passovers?

Thanks to the amazing growth of information on the Internet, you can find commentaries on the Haggadah, look up a spicy new recipe or learn a new tune to impress them at the seder...all from a few strokes of your computer keyboard.

So if you can spare a moment from your shopping, cooking and cleaning, here are some Pesach sites on the Jewish Highway you might find of interest.

For a general overview of the history, preparation and the seder itself take a look at **[http://members.aol.com/jewfaq/holidaya.htm]**.

If you want more of an analysis, you can find one at **[http://www.jer1.co.il/orgs/ohr/special/pesach/pesax.htm]**. For a brief but colorful overview of the holiday, go to **[http://www.ort.org/ort/museum/passover.htm]** where the story of the holiday is told in brief using beautiful images from 15th and 16th century Haggadot.

Freedom is certainly the central theme of Passover. Rabbi Shmuel Boteach analyzes two aspects of that theme in "Freedom of Body and Mind." **[gopher://israel.nysernet.org:71/00/lists/oxford-judaism/freedom]**.

Chabad-Lubavitch provides a comprehensive look at all the rituals at **[gopher://gopher.chabad.org:70/11/texts/hagada.exp]** including a full English text of the Haggadah (according to Lubavitch custom).

I couldn't find any other Haggadot on the Internet but there certainly are people on-line willing to sell you some. Judaism.com carries a full line at **[http://www.nauticom.net/users/judaica/holiday/haggadah1.html]**.

There are certain features of the seder that can easily be taken for granted or written off as gimmicks included to keep kids awake.

Eliezer Segal takes a deeper historical look at some of these, including "The Invisible Guest," "That Remarkable Kid" at **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/Calendar_Index.html#Passover]**.

Then, to show us how there really is nothing new under the sun, Segal takes us back in time a few thousand years to ancient Egypt.

In a tongue-in-cheek letter-to-the-editor, Segal, or should I say "Ihknat-Ra XIII," voices his displeasure over media coverage of the escape of the Israelites from Egypt. **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/880429_Exodus_Satire.html]**

People searching for a non-traditional Passover may be interested in "The Seder of Rebirth" **[gopher://israel.nysernet.org:70/00/renewal/waskow/sedertik]**.

Phyllis Berman and Arthur Waskow have created a new seder that draws a parallel between the liberation and birth of a people in the Passover story and the contemporary liberation of women. If you are partial to the traditional Haggadah, this definitely will not be your cup of wine.

Speaking of which, all those people who still think kosher wine must mean a thick, syrupy drink should take a look at "Wines in Israel" **[http://www.agmonet.co.il/wines/menu.htm]**. You can browse through eight of Israel's wineries from giant Carmel Mizrachi (maker of the famous Kosher Sacramental) to the Margalit Winery whose Cabernet Sauvignon '91 is described as "a composed, refined wine, with excellent ageing potential and a pleasant, oaky, buttery bouquet."

Music, food and fun

Is it time to refresh the music around your seder table? If you're looking for Haggadah melodies, check out **[http://www.613.org/passover.html]** and listen to generous selections of the Haggadah on-line. The site uses the RealAudio technology **[http://www2.realaudio.com/release/download.html]** that we discussed in a previous column. You'll hear Cantor P. Rabinovicz sing all your favorites and some new versions too. The cantor uses the traditional Haggadah and sings in Hebrew only. (Sound quality will vary depending on the speed of your modem and computer.)

Kids will enjoy "Uncle Eli's Special-for-Kids Most Fun Ever Under-the-Table Passover Haggadah" **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Uncle_Eli/Eli.html]** by Calgary's Eliezer Segal. This Haggadah tells the story of the seder through a series of delightful poems. And it's all delivered on a fresh, crisp matzah background!

Dr. Nurit Reshef of Edmonton has designed another fine site for kids called "Pesach Fun" **[http://www.bus.ualberta.ca/~yreshef/pesach.htm]**. There, you'll find a holiday quiz, a Pesach story from Tunisia and a clickable seder plate which explains the reasons for its contents.

Both kids and adults will be fascinated by the way Ethiopian Jews celebrate Pesach. **[http://www.cais.com/nacoej/17.html]**. For example, "the ritual meal took place outdoors, by moonlight. The Jews sat on the ground, separated by age and gender. The sparse meal, of Ethiopian matzah and meat, was eaten rapidly, as if they were indeed fleeing from Egypt." In the accompanying photo, there is a shot of several member of the community sitting beside the 4,000 eggs for their seder in Addis Ababa.

The always entertaining folks at Virtual Jerusalem promise another delightful site for Passover **[http://www.jer1.co.il/holidays/pesach/]**. At this site, you can learn about Pesach and Haggadot from around the world, test your Pesach IQ and even search the site for the hidden Afikoman. (By the way, this page is decorated with the picture of a certain dough boy with a red slash through him surrounded by the phrase "Just Say No to Chometz.")

And speaking of food, Kosher Express, an on-line supplier of kosher for Passover food from Atlanta has compiled an impressive list of holiday recipes **[http://www.marketnet.com/mktnet/kosher/recipes.html]**. There, you can find recipes for such traditional fare as charoset (the walnut apple and wine mixture found on the seder plate) to the exotic Persian Fruit Salad, Mock Oatmeal Drop Cookies and Dairy Matzah Lasagna. (Don't miss the links to other Pesach recipe sites.)

If you're already fed up with the cooking and the cleaning and the shopping and want to make yourself feel even *worse*, then go to **[http://www.intournet.co.il/kesher/index.html]**. There you will find Kesher Tours and its "Pesach Plus" excursions to the Bahamas and Arizona where they promise to "tantalize your taste buds as you dine on three Glatt kosher meals prepared daily under the direction of our Master Chef."

All I can say to that is...

Dayenu!

[http://www.613.org/passover/hagada15.ram]

(And to hear Dayenu, don't forget you'll need RealAudio.)

[http://www2.realaudio.com/release/download.html]

Have a kosher and happy Pesach!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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Gary Auerbach demonstrates some of the style and artistry that makes him a world frisbee champion. [Paul Lungen photo]

Auerbach's back in spin as world frisbee champ

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Manipulating a frisbee must be something like riding a bike — it's something you never forget.

How else to explain that Gary Auerbach could give up freestyle frisbee throwing for 10 years, resume practising for two weeks and then go on to become one-half of the 1995 Freestyle Players Association (FPA) world pairs champions.

Auerbach, 29, achieved the milestone last summer at the FPA event in Jacksonville Beach, Fla. His last freestyle competition before that was in 1985, after which "I took my frisbee and hung it on the wall."

In the intervening decade Auerbach travelled the world, studied dance, performed in a national ballet company, taught English, took up story-telling and enjoyed "Ultimate Frisbee" before getting back to freestyle performance.

A modern-age Renaissance Man, Auerbach has decided to make freestyle frisbee his career. That includes participating in top-level tournaments, holding clinics to spread the gospel on frisbee skills and opening a store where frisbees and their accoutrements will be on sale.

Auerbach believes there's a market for such a shop, particularly in the Riverdale area where most of Toronto's top frisbee players reside. Playing with a frisbee and inventing games as you go allows the sport to cross generations and cultural lines, he says.

Freestyle frisbee — as opposed to just playing catch with it — involves using the spinning disc in a choreographed routine and manipulating it much like a rhythmic gymnast uses a ball.

Demonstrating the sport for *The CJN*, Auerbach spins it on his finger, tosses it in the air and catches it while contorted so his catching hand is under his leg. He can roll it across his chest, fling it in the air while doing a couple of spins below. He's not world champ for nothing.

Auerbach was introduced to frisbees while attending summer camp as a kid. The camp's athletic director happened to be a freestyle champion and he wowed the kids with tricks they'd never seen before.

Auerbach eventually learned the "flick" (a sidearm throw), the "overhand wrist flip," the (traditional) backhand throw and even the "overhead (hammer) throw."

Then one day, while attending a Nylons concert at Ontario Place, he was doing tricks on the grassy knoll, when another frisbee enthusiast invited him to "jam" with him and others. They were really adept and Auerbach was so impressed he spent the next few months with them in Kew Gardens in the Beaches learning new tricks and routines.

He was hooked. At his first competition in 1982 on Toronto Island, his team finished fourth.

His partner at the time encouraged him to get greater leg extension and point his feet during the routines; so to get better, Auerbach decided to sign up for martial arts training. When the course was cancelled he decided to enrol in a ballet class.

He also studied jazz and other genres and visualized incorporating dance routines in frisbee performances.

In 1984 he competed in the Mazda U.S. Open in La Mirada, Calif., and in 1985 he went to a competition in Paris. That summer he was part of a cross-Canada tour sponsored by Mac's Milk, in which a group performed in Ottawa on Canada Day and then visited five Western cities in five weeks.

Then, infected with the dancing bug, he decided to hang up his frisbee and devote himself to dance. He auditioned for the School of American Ballet and was accepted in 1986.

For five years, he danced with professional companies in Germany, Hartford and Venezuela and didn't touch a frisbee. In 1990, living in Caracas, where he danced with the National Ballet, he quit dance because "I wanted to be happy. I didn't see anybody who was. Too many people lived and died at the whim of a director."

He started teaching English and met people who played ultimate frisbee. That's a seven-on-seven game played on a football field in which the frisbee is advanced only by passes and one point is scored when the goal line is crossed.

In 1992, he returned to Toronto where he taught ESL students privately and worked in a sporting goods store.

Last summer, he again took up frisbee freestyle. Using his stage experience and dance movements, he choreographed the winning routine at the world championships. "The innovations blew away the competition," he said.

In October, he started his own business, the Spinning Bees Professional Frisbee Team, whose goal is to spread the message of enjoying life though frisbee games. Your imagination is your only limitation, he says.

Auerbach plans to compete in the next world championships in September and open his own store in the near future.

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Teen uses bar mitzvah money to help NIF promote peace

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A framed certificate on Jesse Kaplan's bedroom wall is testament to the 13-year-old's belief in promoting peace.

The certificate — which shares wall space with alternative music posters — is from Peace Child, a non-profit Israeli organization which uses theatre workshops as a tool to educate Jewish and Arab youngsters about pluralism, tolerance and the creation of dialogue.

Kaplan donated a substantial portion of his bar mitzvah gift money to Peace Child, a grantee of the New Israel Fund (NIF). He also donated money to NIF grantees South Wing to Zion, which helps Ethiopian *olim*, and the Israeli section of Defence for Children International, which is devoted to children's rights.

Jesse Kaplan holds a framed certificate from Peace Child — a personal thank you from the Arab and Jewish children who benefit from his donation. [Frances Kraft photo]

Kaplan wanted to use some of his money to help children, and Peace Child especially appealed to him because "it was between Arabs and Jews, to try to make them come together for peace," he said. The quiet-spoken teenager, a Grade 8 student at Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto, celebrated his bar mitzvah in September at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

"People don't think of Arabs and Jews together," he said, although he recalls seeing a film in school which depicted the friendship between a Jewish girl and an Arab girl in Israel.

After poring through information about New Israel Fund grantees, Kaplan decided to divide his donation three ways, with the largest chunk going to Peace Child.

The certificate from that organization reads in part, "With this contribution you help us develop dialogue between Arab and Jewish youngsters and promote democracy in Israel." The 18 children's signatures — names like Esther, Ahmad, Gada and Rasmia — are written in a variety of bright colors in Hebrew, English and Arabic.

The children were very moved "to know that another child in Canada cares this much," reports Marsha Slivka, director, New Israel Fund of Canada (NIFC), who visited Peace Child on a recent trip to Israel and brought back the certificate.

Kaplan became familiar with the fund through his mother, Rochelle Rubinstein Kaplan, who has served as art director of Sukkah-by-the-Water, a feminist Sukkot service run under the auspices of NIFC, for the past four years.

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Reena bash planned

TORONTO — The Reena Foundation's second annual Mardi Gras Ball on March 30 will offer a bit of southern charm to ward off our northern blahs.

This year's ball will take place at 8 p.m. at Toronto's Design Exchange (234 Bay St., in the Toronto-Dominion Centre).

Last year's party at the North York Performing Arts Centre drew some 400 people and raised over $30,000 toward construction of the Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre in Thornhill, Reena's planned drop-in and day-care facility for adults with developmental disabilities.

The goal of this year's bash is to raise $40,000 for the centre.

The ball promises a night of nonstop entertainment, music, dancing, Cajun food, a casino, silent auction and more. Local a capella band The Simpletones will be featured. The players from the hit theatre production *Forever Plaid* will deliver a medley of tunes from the show.

Revellers may expect flamboyant costumes, stilt-walkers, magicians, clowns and jugglers.

For ticket information, call Julea Gasner at 416-787-9554, ext. 3026.

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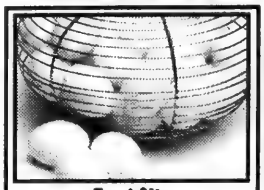

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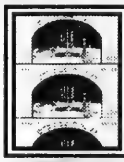

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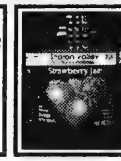

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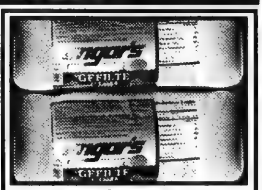

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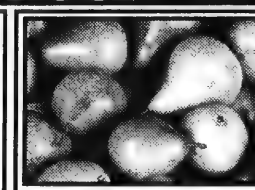

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USDS MURAL

Students at United Synagogue Day School – Bathurst campus created a mural on the campus gym wall as part of the grade 8 art program. The designs used were submitted by two students, Elise Rotsztain and Aliza Shupac. Seen here painting the mural are (from left) Stacey Greenberg, Rotsztain, Jody Naiberg and Caren Rasmarin.

London community faces financial difficulties

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

LONDON, Ont. — Like their counterparts elsewhere, the Jewish community's 3,000 members here are asking themselves some hard questions in the face of tight budgets and weakened fundraising.

"These are tough times and we have to prepare ourselves for a new reality," Ted Medzon, president of the London Jewish Federation, told *The CJN*.

A steering committee has been formed to look at ways to streamline, merge or possibly cut some services in light of a pending dollar crunch at the federation.

Among the possibilities, although remote, is closing the London Jewish Community Centre (JCC), Medzon said.

Recently, the community's quarterly newspaper, the federation-published *London Jewish Community News*, outlined 11 other possible candidates for cutbacks, including campus services, a babysitting and preschool service, ending the relationship with other federations and even ceasing publication of the newspaper itself.

"I wouldn't say we're in a financial crisis," Medzon said. "But nobody is arguing with the fact that we have to rethink the way we do things. Attitudes toward tzedakah have changed radically."

At a recent meeting of the federation's executive, Medzon reported that the local United Jewish Appeal campaign "has seriously eroded over the last several years."

Medzon said this year's campaign [illegible] over previous years.

The reason is reduced pledges, slow collections and the fact that there are at least 100 households in London which do not contribute to UJA at all, the *News* reported.

Several programs, services could be cut

London has five main facilities: the JCC, three synagogues and the London Community Hebrew Day School, which enrols 68 children from kindergarten through Grade 6.

But the Federation offers several services and programs which could face the knife, including those for seniors, youth, new immigrants and the sick. It also provides subsidies for children in the day school and for the local on-campus Chabad House.

The entire community is being polled for its input, Medzon said.

"It's being presented in a negative light, but the reaction has been very positive. It's definitely raised awareness."

Among the possibilities for cutbacks being presented to the community are the Israel portion of UJA dollars, the JCC, community programs, including an emergency loan fund, education subsidies, the summer camp and a senior's residence.

London says it is 10th overall among federated Canadian cities in its UJA campaign contributions per person, at $155. First is Montreal at $326 per person. Toronto is ranked sixth at $206 per person.

White supremacists lose forum when conference cancelled

VANCOUVER — A controversial conference to have been held on March 23 has been cancelled by the Surrey Inn, where the meeting had been booked.

The Canadian Free Speech Conference was to have featured speakers connected with the white supremacist Heritage Front, as well as by Jim Keegstra and Victoria lawyer Doug Christie.

"A lot of people were phoning in and complaining. It made it very uncomfortable for us," said a spokesperson for the hotel. "We decided it would be better to cancel it."

The hotel official said the staff did not know what the group stood for when it made the booking.

British Columbia's multiculturalism minister, Ujjal Dosanjh, said he was appalled that the conference had been organized, especially when it was to be held just two days after B.C.'s International Day for the Elimination of Racism on March 21.

Dosanjh said conferences of this type in the past have hidden behind the guise of free speech, while promoting racism.

Marilyn Berger, speaking for the Canadian Jewish Congress' Pacific region, said it was disconcerting to think that the Surrey Inn would have opened its doors to this type of conference.

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From coast to coast

BBYO auctions art to raise funds

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO) is planning to use the proceeds from a fine art auction to seed a new endowment fund which, it is hoped, will solve a funding problem BBYO has been dealing with here since B'nai Brith Canada cut off support about five years ago.

The auction organized by Park West Gallery of Southfield, Mich., was held recently in the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue's main auditorium and drew about 75 people.

Park West, reports auctioneer George Minarsky, who is based in Toronto, is North America's largest touring art and auction gallery. It holds 20 or more auctions a week throughout North America and comes to Winnipeg at least once a year to hold a public auction, more frequently if asked to do benefits.

BBYO director Marla Adelberg said the organization approoached Park West after a board member remembered seeing the company name on the back of a painting at an art auction house. After a background check, BBYO board members contacted the company.

"They are a great outfit to work with," said Adelberg about Park West. "They sent us the posters and all the invitations. All we had to do was mail them out."

For the fundraiser, Park West brought in 216 works of art, including 20th-century paintings, watercolors and signed graphics, as well as original 18th- and 19th-century graphics by artists such as Renoir, Rembrandt, Picasso, Dali, Miro and Chagall. Some current artists represented were Yaacov Agam, Harold Altman, Yuval Wolfson and Itzchak Tarkay.

Minarsky described Tarkay, a Holocaust survivor and graduate of the Bezalel Art Academy, as the world's most prominent and prolific artist over the past decade. A small work by Tarkay, the first piece to be auctioned, was purchased with a bid of $325.

In total, the auction raised $15,000 of which about 15 percent went to BBYO.

Teachers find unique way of teaching Holocaust

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — An unconventional method of teaching the Holocaust has earned a Hamilton-area teacher a place on the League for Human Rights' Holocaust to Hope Study Tour to Germany, Poland and Israel this summer.

Emilio Del Sordo has been teaching English and drama to grades 10, 11 and 12 students at Parkside High School in Dundas since last September.

Interested in the Holocaust since he studied history in university — his undergraduate thesis, he told *The CJN* in a recent interview, was on Canada's lack of involvement in the refugee crisis 1938 to 1945 — Del Sordo wants his students, not just to learn the historical facts of the Holocaust, but to understand emotionally how it affected young people like themselves and their families.

He said he wants them to experience the fear and "powerlessness" felt by people who were caught up in the Holocaust.

He does this through dramas he has written and games he devised. He works mostly in the dark, which heightens fear, and he constantly changes the rules.

In the dramas, for instance, "I strip them of their sense of sight and put them in 'family units.' They have to be careful and watch out for themselves and don't know who's going to survive and who won't."

When the kids complain — and he admits that they do get upset — he tells them: "Well, this is what happened."

But he makes sure the students understand it is a game, or roles they are playing in a drama. "I always provide a safety net," he emphasized.

"Kids come into this with all their contemporary notions of what they would have done under Holocaust conditions and what they would have done to survive."

But ultimately, he said, they realize that survival is based mostly on chance and on luck.

A "debriefing" and discussion follow, and then Del Sordo puts everything into historical context with videos, survivors' stories and other readings.

Del Sordo, 28, has been teaching his classes about the Holocaust for three years. He became concerned, he said, when he found that most students knew of the Holocaust only that "it had something to do with the war."

He felt he needed "to put the humanity back into this inhumane act," he explained. But he also, he stressed again, provides the historical context.

He encourages his students to write about and express their feelings and is gratified, he said, that his course "leads the kids to some real soul searching."

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ASAP
Social and Political

The following is a selection of articles from the current issue of ASAP, a newsletter of Jewish Women's Federation Social and Political Action Committee. For a complete copy, call JWF at (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

Do Government Cutbacks Affect Jewish Women?

By Jill Reitman

Whether we like to face it or not, poverty exists in the Jewish community, and by virtue of the fact that among the Jewish poor approximately 60% are women, recent government cutbacks impact most significantly on this segment of our community.

Statistics reveal that as of 1991, there were 21,455 Jews in Toronto living below or near the poverty line, and that 57.3% of them are women. Women, according to this same demographic report, account for two thirds of seniors who live in poverty and single parents, who are most often women, are twice to three times more likely to be poor than people living in two parent families. The unfortunate reality is, therefore, that government cuts to welfare and social services will have a disproportionate effect on an already vulnerable segment of our population.

Due to government cuts, service agencies in the Jewish community are facing reductions in funding which will impact directly on services for women. For example, almost $400,000 has been cut from the 1996 budget of Jewish Family and Child Service. JF&CS has reported that there will be a reduction in the child welfare budget, family violence services, and family support programs - all of which impact on women.

Furthermore, the 21.6% cut to welfare payments announced earlier this year has severely affected JF&CS clients who receive financial assistance from the Supplemental Assistance Program. These cuts will affect 2000 Jews throughout the city, and as reported, since almost 60% of the Jewish poor are women, the women in our community will be experiencing the greatest burden.

Aside from the effects of government cuts to our Jewish agencies, cuts instituted and/or proposed by the provincial government affecting women in the community at large are numerous and far-reaching, and no doubt impact on Jewish women. Some of these include:

- $2.6 million cut in counselling services to women trying to escape violent spouses.
- Cancellation of 385 non-profit housing projects, primarily affecting single mothers.
- $35 million cut to day care, including 8,650 subsidized spots in Toronto.
- Up to 60% reduction to Legal Aid, a service used primarily by women.
- Elimination of $5 million for second stage housing for battered women, and follow up counselling for women who have left shelters.

The Jewish Women's Federation recently held a seminar organized by Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth and Danita Dubinsky Aziza, entitled "Government Cutbacks: Women at Risk."

Committee co-chair Rosenbluth commented after the evening: "Budget cuts are a reality of the 1990's. As a result, services that are important to the well being of women and men in our community will be reduced or eliminated."

The program served as a successful beginning in the attempt to link our voluntary organizations and their members with our social agencies, so that we can work together to fill some of the growing gaps in vital programs and services."

Jewish women have always taken the initiative and led the way for all women in the face of social challenges. Now, more than ever, we have a responsibility to get involved, to learn the facts, and be creative in our thinking regarding how we as individuals, and as members of organizations, can begin to meet the needs created by the ever-increasing erosion of our social safety net.

If you belong to an organization that may not currently focus on social issues, consider modifying your own mission for a period of time in order to address cuts to social services.

NOT IN OUR BACKYARD

By Robbie Schwartz M.S.W., C.S.W., Dip. Ed.

One out of every 5-8 Canadian women will be battered at some time in her life. Jewish Family and Child Service indicates that it currently handles over 300 cases of women abuse. Victims come from all socio-economic strata and religious groups. Many of us are shocked by these staggering numbers, but domestic violence is a reality in our community.

The Jewish community should assume a position of ZERO TOLERANCE for Wife Assault.

Wife abuse is not a new phenomenon. The widely used term "Rule of Thumb" is derived from a 1767 English common law which permitted "husbands to enforce domestic discipline in their homes as long as they used a switch or stick no broader than the width of their thumb." In Canada it wasn't until 1968 that cruelty became grounds for divorce. Domestic violence can include only one episode with significant physical or emotional damage, but more frequently it involves repeated incidents that result in either physical injury or symptoms, or psychological damages that interfere with the woman's well-being or ability to function in the family.

The Jewish community is gradually becoming aware that many abused Jewish women have been unrecognized or under-serviced because many of us are victim to commonly held myths about wife assault.

Myth #1: Wife assault is domestic conflict that has run amok.
Myth #2: Men who assault their wives are mentally ill.
Myth #3: Alcohol causes men to beat their wives.
Myth #4: Only poor women get beaten.
Myth #5: Women provoke violence, therefore they deserve what they get.
Myth #6: Women enjoy abuse and find it stimulating.
Myth #7: If women were really bothered by the abuse they would speak up. A corollary to this myth is the belief that if a man feels terrible about the abuse, it will prevent future abuse.
Myth #8: Men who beat their wives are a danger in the community.
Myth #9: Assaulted women could leave their abusive partners if they wanted to.
Myth #10: Pregnant women are protected from attacks.
Myth #11: Jewish men and especially religious men don't abuse their wives.

If you suspect that you may be in an abusive relationship these are questions to think about:

1. Are you able to talk freely on the phone?
2. Do you feel safe?
3. Has your partner ever hurt you?
4. Does your spouse prevent you from choosing your friends and spending time with your family?
5. Are you able to share in financial decisions?
6. Does your spouse discourage you from leaving the house to attend classes or other activities outside the house?

Unfortunately, women in abusive relationships often blame themselves. Because of their perceived failures, they feel a shame so deep, they are often unable to talk about it, rendering them so helpless and afraid they may feel they have no choice but to accept the abuse. Assaulted women often feel isolated from friends and family: being particularly fearful of possible consequences to their children.

The most valuable intervention you can offer someone is to tell her that SHE DID NOTHING TO CAUSE the abuse. Point her in the direction of professional help and most importantly, help her and her children get to a temporary or permanent place of safety. The phone number of the Jewish Family & Child Service in Toronto is (416) 638-7800. Kosher meals will be arranged on request.

The Jewish Women's Federation has created a registry of experienced professionals who work with individuals and couples involved in abusive relationships. This registry will be distributed to rabbis, doctors and other professionals.

This spring, Na'amat Canada will be launching a new free legal advisory service for women. If you are a lawyer who is willing to donate time to this service, or if you are a woman in need of this service, please call Na'amat Canada at (416) 636-5425.

If you are interested in participating on a committee which deals with education and advocacy regarding domestic violence, please call JWF at (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

Wife Assault Prevention

It is estimated that one out of every ten women in Canada is a victim of wife assault. The Jewish community, like any other community, is not immune to this problem. "We believe that many Jewish women are unable to ask for help because of the stigma and because of the perception out there that this is not a problem in our community," says Teri Kay of Jewish Family and Child Service. "Today, because of the difficult times we live in and the uncertainty of the future, women are even more reluctant to seek help. We want women to know we are here, and we are listening."

For more information, please call:

- Jewish Family and Child Service - (416) 638-7800
- Jewish Women's Federation - (416) 635-2883 ext. 135
- Ontario Women's Directorate - (416) 314-0300
- Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs, Jeremy Adams, Assistant to D. Cunningham (MPP liaison, Policy for Women's Issues) - (416) 326-1600

For wife assault information posters, please call Jewish Women's Federation at (416) 635-2883, ext. 135.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday April 14, National Council of Jewish Women presents *"Taking Charge by Taking Care"* Hands on Women's Wellness Fair, Council House, 4700 Bathurst Street (416) 633-5100.

Wednesday, April 17, NCJW Presents *"Gender Based Pricing: Canadian Women's Survival Guide,"* 4700 Bathurst Street (416) 633-5100.

Tuesday, April 30, Jewish Women's Federation/ UIA Women's Campaign present *"In Search of Our Spiritual Growth: What's Changing for Jewish Women"*, featuring Dr. Rela Mintz Geffen, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street. For more information, call Julie Davis at (416) 631-5698.

May is Sexual Assault Prevention Month.

The Social and Political Action Newsletter of Jewish Women's Federation

Editors: Karen Green Bonny Wolfond

TOGETHER SPA'S

NEW HELP FOR AGUNOT

BY PEGGY BUCHAN

"No woman deserves to be held prisoner," asserted Joyce Eklove, of the Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get, during a telephone interview. Eklove has devoted considerable time and energy giving hope to women whose husbands have refused to give them a Jewish divorce. Such women are often called agunot, or "shackled women."

According to Jewish law, a valid divorce requires that the husband divorce his wife willingly. He must voluntarily give her a get, which is a written confirmation of his intent to divorce her. Without a valid get, a woman may not remarry. If she has children with a second husband, these children are mamzerim.

FEDERATION BYLAW ENACTED

The Women's Campaign and Jewish Women's Federation played a significant role in a recent decision made by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto to enact a bylaw prohibiting spouses who refuse to properly divorce their spouse, from holding positions on any Federation committee.

The Federation is the first major Jewish institution to take such measures in North America, and it is hoped that others will follow its lead.

NEW HELPLINE

The Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get recently installed a new Jewish Divorce Helpline. The primary purpose of the Helpline is to provide information and support to women whose husbands refuse to give them a get. Anyone interested may use the Helpline to obtain information from trained volunteers about the get process. All telephone conversations are confidential. Call (416) 782-7999.

Sometimes women simply do not know how a get is obtained, or their husbands are merely lazy, not immoral. Once they understand the process, the get can be quickly obtained, Eklove explained.

For women whose husbands are not so easily persuaded, provisions in the Federal Divorce Act and the Ontario Family Act may help in some cases. Information about these provisions at an early stage in the civil proceedings is vital, as many family lawyers are unfamiliar with the issues of Jewish divorce.

SYNAGOGUE PARTICIPATION URGED

In addition to the Helpline, the Coalition has sent letters to many congregational rabbis across the country, urging them to offer their support, and demonstrate that they take the agunot issue seriously. The rabbis were asked to speak about the anguish of agunot in their High Holiday sermons. They were also asked to implement rules similar to the Federation bylaw, denying synagogue membership to recalcitrant husbands. Eklove was pleased with the rabbis' response. From Orthodox to Reform, many wrote back and some even telephoned.

JEWISH WOMEN'S FEDERATION/ UJA WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN
present their annual
Social & Political Action Program

SPEAKER:
DR. RELA MINTZ GEFFEN
TOPIC:
In Search of Our Spiritual Growth:
What's Changing for Jewish Women

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1996
7:30 p.m - Lipa Green Building,
4600 Bathurst St.
http://www.feduja.org

To register, please call (416) 635-2883, ext. 135

CONFRONTING THE TRUTH
about Women and Substance Abuse

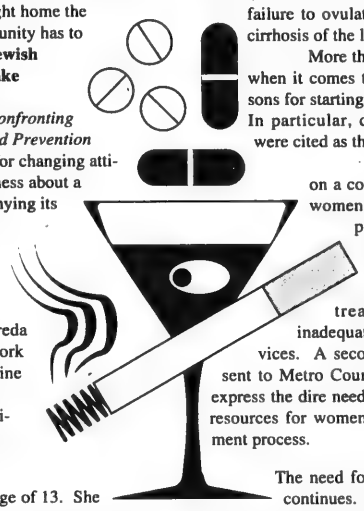
BY JUDI LEVITA

"It's time to wake up. I've lost four (Jewish) friends to overdoses and each of their deaths was attributed to other causes by their parents. The attitude in this community is absolutely pathetic. Open your eyes, because if it's not your child, it's someone else's."

Those were the words of Sarah (pseudonym), a 36 year old mother of two and former addict who related how she used cocaine and heroin for 17 years, abstaining only on Shabbat and during her two pregnancies.

Sarah courageously volunteered her story at an educational program presented by the Social and Political Action Committee of Jewish Women's Federation. Her personal battle with drug abuse brought home the message that Toronto's Jewish community has to face reality. **Substance abuse is a Jewish problem too, and women have to take responsibility for their own health.**

Women and Substance Abuse: Confronting the Truth, A Forum on Awareness and Prevention served as an excellent starting point for changing attitudes. It also helped generate awareness about a problem that hasn't gone away by denying its existence. The forum was moderated by Dr. Jill Goldberg Reitman, a Vice-President of the Jewish Women's Federation. The panel consisted of Dr. Bonnie Madonik, Director of the Donwood Institute, Freda Muscovitch, Drug and Alcohol Network Coordinator for the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto, and Rochelle Thompson, a therapist in private practice who has worked for the Jewish Family and Child Service.



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Sarah started using LSD at the age of 13. She attributes her addiction to feelings of isolation and falling in with the "wrong crowd" after being sexually abused by someone outside her home. She stopped using drugs in 1990. According to Sarah, programs in Toronto were either in church basements or hospitals. Having grown up in a typical secular Zionist home in North York, she was not comfortable in either situation. Sarah approached numerous rabbis for help after becoming religious. All but one told her that it couldn't really be true or that much of a problem. The rabbi who acknowledged the truth put her on a plane to Los Angeles and arranged for her to receive treatment at a Jewish drug facility. There was nothing comparable in Toronto.

Sarah has been "clean" for five years and is currently working on a proposal for a drug rehabilitation program that is geared to the Jewish community. However, she still maintains an addiction to cigarettes. And although less shameful and more socially acceptable than illicit drugs, the effects of tobacco on women and their unborn children are also devastating.

According to Dr. Madonik, tobacco kills three times more people than alcohol, AIDS, illicit drugs, automobile accidents, murder and suicide combined. More women are dying of lung cancer than breast cancer, and women who smoke have a 13 times greater risk of developing cancer of the cervix than those who don't. "It's never too late to quit because it is possible to reduce many of tobacco's harmful effects," Madonik implored the audience.

• • •

S&P is doing its part by advocating for improved labeling about the hazards of tobacco on cigarette packages. A petition was circulated during the program and forwarded to Ontario's Minister of Health.

The statistics presented about tobacco, alcohol, prescription drugs, and illegal drugs were startling. Women are twice as likely than men to use prescription narcotics, and the risks from alcohol abuse include failure to ovulate, fetal alcohol syndrome, and cirrhosis of the liver.

More than one panelist pointed out that when it comes to substance abuse and the reasons for starting, women are different than men. In particular, domestic and sexual violence were cited as the dominant catalysts.

In order to receive treatment on a continual basis, better daycare for women in drug and alcohol treatment programs must be made available. Attendees at the S&P forum learned that many women simply can't access treatment programs because of inadequate or nonexistent childcare services. A second petition was circulated and sent to Metro Council and the Premier's office to express the dire need for daycare services and better resources for women in various stages of the treatment process.

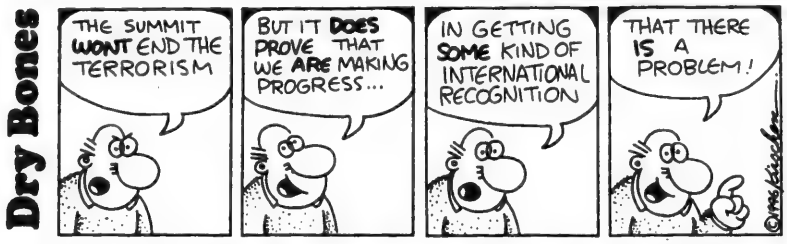
• • •

The need for advocacy of these issues still continues. The Supreme Court of Canada recently ruled that tobacco manufacturers can advertise their products in the marketplace once again, and Ontario's new provincial government under Premier Mike Harris has introduced sweeping cuts to social programs, including subsidized daycare.

Panelist Rochelle Thompson focused on four myths in the Jewish community and how they stand between women getting help. It's not true that "Jews don't drink," or "this is not a women's issue", or "if someone doesn't use drugs daily that it's not a problem", or "it's not a problem if no one says anything about it." Ironically, Sarah pointed out that if there had been more awareness and compassion in the community, she probably would have stopped a lot earlier. Instead, she used drugs for 17 years and her children were eight and nine years old before she stopped completely.

JWF continues to do its part to raise awareness and counter the denial that exists in the community. A resource booklet about substance abuse was produced by the S&P committee. For copies of the poster or to participate on a committee, please call JWF at (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

From coast to coast



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Available Seminar dates:

Sunday, April 14 .....9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8.....6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 9 .....9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

at
The Lipa Green Building
4th Floor Conference Centre, 4600 Bathurst Street

Limited seating

To reserve your spot now
call Sylvia Astrug at (416) 635-2883 ext 115

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן

בחזרה לעתיד:

אם אתם קוראים את עיתוני סוף השבוע הישראליים, קיבלתם בודאי עם העיתון את חוברת "הייטק בישראל", שהופקה בברכת משרד התעשיה והמסחר בירושלים. דורון לבנה, עורך החוברת פותח באומרו ש"מדינת ישראל רואה בישראלים החיים בחו"ל חלק בלתי נפרד מאזרחיה. היא מפעילה את כל משרדי הממשלה, הגופים והמוסדות הנוגעים בדבר, על מנת לעודד את שיבת הישראלים ארצה". בהחלט שינוי לעומת הימים שבהם נחשבו הישראלים החיים בחו"ל ל"נפולת של נמושות" על ידי המנהיג המנוח. אלא מה - השינוי אינו מבטא בהכרח לב ישראלי חם ואוהב, אלא, לדעתי, ראש פתוח יותר ומעשי. הישראלים הירשבים ברחבי העולם הם המאגר האנושי הקרוב ביותר לחוויה הישראלית והקבוצה שאכפת לה יותר מאחרות מה קורה בישראל. זוהי קהילה שנוסעת לבקר הורים ומשפחה, שמארחת בביתה ישראלים שבאים לביקור בצפון אמריקה, ושבעת ביקורה בארץ מוציאה מליוני דולארים על בילוי, מתנות, עזרה למשפחה ומה לא. מדובר כאן, לדעתי, בכלכלה של מאות מליוני דולארים שאנחנו משאירים בישראל, וכמה שיותר - הרי זה משובח. חוברת "הייטק בישראל" מבטאת בנייר כרומו מהודר את אחת המצוקות הגדולות ביותר של ישראל בשנת 1996: לנגד עינינו מִתְפַּתחת בארץ תעשיה עתירת ידע בקצב מדהים, אך משאבי האנוש בארץ אינם מספיקים! אז יופי - אפשר לקחת ערבים פלשתינאים או ויאטנאמים או רומנים לקטוף תפוזים או לבנות בתים, אבל מתכנתי מחשבים, אנשי אלקטרוניקה ודומיהם לא יבואו מעזה, ויאטנם או רומניה. וכך נוצר מצב מדהים: בעוד שכאן יש אבטלה עצומה, גם בתחום ההייטק, בישראל משוועים לאנשים שיוכלו להזיז את הפוטנציאל האדיר הזה! וכך אתם יכולים למצוא בחוברת מודעות פרסומת בסגנון: "באינטל יש לך מקום לביטוי עצמי", "טוורר -מוליכים אותך לעתיד","טלקום-מתקשרים לחברה טובה", "צורן -בואו לנצח את העתיד", "בשן-טכנולוגיה גבוהה עם אנשים,למען אנשים", "Elscint-The Intelligent Image". אני משוכנע שהפנייה הזו פוגעת בול במטרה: אין לי ספק שאלפי ישראלים העוסקים בהייטק יקחו את ההזמנה הזו ברצינות. זה הזמן לעשות חושבים רציני - האם השהות בצפון אמריקה היא כלכלית בעיקרה (ואז יתרונה של ישראל גדול מבעבר) או האם אדם נמצא פה מסיבות אחרות (ביטחון, "עד שהילדים יגמרו את הקולג'" ושאר סיבות). מעבר למבצע עצמו, יש משהו מאוד מיוחד שמקרין מן החוברת הזו: אנשי ההייטק הישראלי, הן בגלל הכשרתם ורמתם האישית, והן בגלל ששהו ארוכות בצפון אמריקה בגלל לימודים או עסקים - סיגלו תרבות צפון אמריקאנית של פניה לאיכות חיים, לתרבות. אפילו הפרסומת של "קופת חולים" בחוברת - כתובה בטוב טעם, ברמה שונה מהירחמיאליות שהיכרנו כל השנים. לא עוד מדברים אליך מלמעלה למטה. זוהי ישראל חדשה, שהרבה יותר דומה למה שאנחנו מכירים כאן בצפון אמריקה. - תחשבו על זה.

והזוכה המאושרת היא:.....

לפני חודש חָדַתי לכם חידה: מילה מכוערת, מעליבה, מנמיכה. קפֵד ראשה (ענו תוריד לה את ההתחלה) - ותקבל את ההיפך! מבין כל התשובות שקיבלנו בחרנו את זו של רינה מלניק: "**גועלית**" ו"**עלית**". ואני דווקא חשבתי על "**פסולת**" ו "**סולת**". - רינה זוכה בספר עברי. איחולים!

היום שבו ירו בראש הממשלה:

אפרופו ספר: לפני חמש שנים, בשנת 1991, הוציא בחור צעיר בשם עוזי וייל ספר סיפורי אהבה בהוצאת "עם עובד" שנושא את השם הנוראי "היום שבו ירו בראש הממשלה". והסיפור שנושא את שם הקובץ מתחיל כך: "ביום שבו ירו בראש הממשלה הלכתי לשכור דירה, ולא ידעתי מזה כלום. נודע לי אחרי שלושה ימים, וגם אז לא היה אכפת לי. ממילא כל מה שיודעים לעשות בארץ הזאת זה לירות ולדבר על פוליטיקה, ואני לא מוצא עניין באף אחד מהם". כנראה שעכשיו, אם יתראיין עוזי וייל, יהיו לו הרהורים שונים על צורת העמדת הדברים. לא נראה לי, למשל, שיתכן שמישהוא בישראל לא ידע שלושה ימים שירו בראש הממשלה. אפילו הוא חרש ואילם, יסביר לו את זה מישהוא בשפת הסימנים. מצמרר.

SHMOOZIN

"With Passover approaching, do you think we can teach Polly to want a piece of matzah?"

From coast to coast

Students plan book drive for African country

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Stacey Levinson and Melissa Leibl, Grade 9 students at Garden City Collegiate in north Winnipeg, are leading a campaign to collect used books and other school supplies to send to kids in Malawi, a small country in southern Africa.

The graduates of the Hebrew bilingual program at Centennial School were inspired by a speaker, Strini Reddy, executive director of the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents, who was originally from South Africa. Reddy came to their school in December and spoke about the extreme lack of school supplies for African students.

"They are short of books, desks, paper and pens," Levinson says. "There might be one pen per classroom."

With the help of three other girls — Sara Greenfield, Liz Kornaga and Lisa Fairweather — and Ashok Athavale, a school guidance counsellor, they began to try to alleviate the situation — at least in Malawi. They sent out one shipment before the Christmas holidays to an address Reddy gave them. In January, they sent faxes to all schools in the Seven Oaks School Division of Winnipeg.

"We welcome any kind of books, as long as they are in English," says Leibl.

Currently, they have about 700 books they have boxed during lunch hours. Reddy, they report, is negotiating with a church group to ship them out and Athavale is looking for funding to send the boxes to Malawi.

Leibl and Levinson say family and friends think what they are doing is a good idea and are encouraging them. They have also written pen pal letters to students in Malawi.

Melissa Leibl (left) and Tracey Levinson in front of boxes of books for Africa.

Refugee problem on agenda

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Canada, Israel and the New Middle East will be discussed at a one-day conference at Temple Anshe Sholom, 215 Cline Ave. N., April 28, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be Howard Adelman of the Centre for Refugee Studies at York University, who will give an overview of the Middle East refugee problem and an insider's view of Canada's role in the Multicultural Group on Refugees.

In other sessions, Lorraine Weinrib of the University of Toronto (U of T) will discuss the influence of Canada's Charter of Rights on the development of constitutional rights in Israel; Harold Troper of U of T and Yigal Donyets of the Joint Authority for Jewish Zionist Education in Jerusalem will present two perspectives on the relationship between Israel and Canadian Jewry; Rabbi Dow Marmur of Toronto's Holy Blossom Temple will discuss the relationship between Reform Judaism and Zionism; and Arye Rattner of Haifa University, currently visiting professor at York University, will explore the undercurrent in Israeli society in which organizations or individuals claim the right to take the law into their own hands.

The conference is sponsored by UJA/Jewish Federation, Temple Anshe Sholom and ARZA Canada.

Registration fee of $20.00 per person, including luncheon and keynote speaker, must be paid by April 21 at the temple office. Admission to all other sessions, in advance or at the door, is $5.00; free for students. For more information, call 905-528-0121.

Acharai '96 planned

MONTREAL — One hundred and fifty young adults from across Canada will travel to Kiev, Ukraine, and to Israel, as part of Acharai '96, Canada's National Young Leadership Mission.

Acharai '96 welcomes participants aged 25 to 40 from all regions of Canada. The mission is scheduled to run from July 22 to Aug. 1.

This mission is organized by Montreal's FEDERATION CJA Young Adult Division (YAD), Toronto United Jewish Appeal Young Leadership Cabinet and United Israel Appeal of Canada.

Information sessions for Acharai '96 take place on the evening of April 16 in Montreal and April 17 in Toronto. Contact Glenn J. Nashen, director of YAD in Montreal (514-345-2637), or Elliot Halperin, campaign associate in Toronto (416-631-5734), or 1-800-567-ISRAEL.

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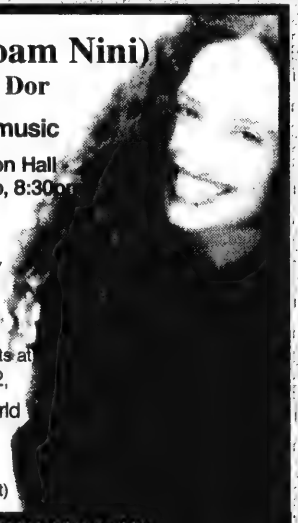

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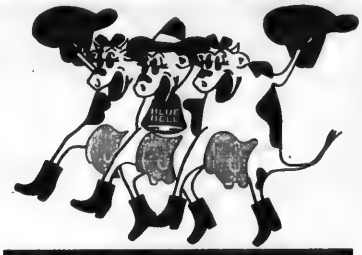

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadline changes due to Passover holidays — Thursday, March 28, is deadline for April 12 issue; Monday, April 1, is deadline for April 18 issue; Monday, April 8, is deadline for April 25 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Saturday, March 30

SHABBAT HAGADOL

Rabbi Moshe Stern will deliver the Shabbat Hagadol Drashah, 5 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

INTERCAMPUS-UJA DANCE

A student dance with prizes, auction, raffle, sponsored by Jewish Campus Services and UJA, 9 p.m., Concert Hall, Yonge and Davenport. All proceeds to benefit those injured in the recent terrorist attacks in Israel. Bring Passover item for food drive and receive $2 discount on admission. Jewish Student Federation, 736-5178.

THE ECONOMIC FUTURE

Kehillah Ahavat Chesed panel discussion on Ontario After the Cuts: Which Way Do We Go? with economist **Lloyd Atkinson**, community/union activist **Shalom Schachter**, and Jewish educator **Baruch Rand**, 1:15 p.m., 788 Marlee Ave., 3rd floor, following Shabbat services (10 a.m.) and lunch (noon). Panel discussion free, lunch $6 and must be reserved. **Baruch** 483-3566.

Sunday, March 31

JEWISH MUSIC

Holy Blossom Temple's Musical Heritage Series program of Jewish music with Toronto Children's Chorus conductor **Jean Ashworth Bartle**, joined by the temple's children's choir directed by **Debra Aronson-Shore**, 7:30 p.m. at the temple. $15 general, $10 seniors and students. Tickets at door or call 789-3291, ext. 503.

UCS OPEN HOUSE

United Congregational Schools of Greater Toronto open house and information session for parents of new and prospective students for the Thornhill and Downsview campuses, 10-11:30 a.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. **Gella Weiss**, UCS principal, 633-1338.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate branch, Royal Canadian Legion 256, general members meeting, 10:30 a.m.

FOOD ALLERGIES

At Temple Sinai adult education series, **Megan Boyes** discusses Food Allergies. Services 9:30 a.m., breakfast following, program at 10. $3.

THE ARAFAT TAPES

One Israel and Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association symposium. The Arafat Tapes: The Analysis of PLO Intentions, featuring **Frank Gaffney**, former acting assistant U.S. secretary of state, and **Rael Jean Isaac**, political author/journalist, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Monday, April 1

ABOUT CROHN'S & COLITIS

North York and Toronto chapters of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada education meeting, 8 p.m., North York Board of Education, 5050 Yonge St. Speaker **Dr. Robin McLeod** of Mount Sinai Hospital. 733-0266.

And What Else Is New...

THE KOFFLER GALLERY

The group exhibition, Wildlife, exploring modern art versus traditional wildlife art, is on view at the Koffler Gallery. The Loggia Gallery features the photography of **Maxe Fisher**. Both exhibits run through April 28.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel, Mississauga, happenings: Firstborn Minyan, Wednesday, April 3, 7 a.m.; Solel seder Thursday, April 4, 6 p.m.; brotherhood

[Cont'd. on page 27]

WHY IS THIS PASSOVER DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER PASSOVERS?

Passover marks the birth of the Jews as a people. And this year marks 3,000 years since King David dedicated Jerusalem as Israel's capital. This makes Passover 5756 a once-in-a-lifetime event.

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Vancouver: (604) 266-7210
Edmonton: (403) 491-0034

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 26]

breakfast Sunday, April 28, guest speaker **Dr. Steven Hirsch**. Family services Thursday, April 4 (Pesach service); Saturday, April 6; Tuesday, April 9 (Yizkor) at 10 a.m.; and Friday April 12 and 26, 7:30 p.m. Regular services Friday April 5, 19, 8:30 p.m., and Wednesday April 10 (Yizkor); Saturday April 13, 20 and 27, 10 a.m. Tuesday morning minyan with breakfast at 7 a.m. 905-820-5915.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., summer courses for adults, teenagers and pre-teens, in conversational Hebrew, all levels, Wednesday mornings, May 29-Aug. 28, and Thursday evenings, May 30-Aug. 29. Instructor for beginners **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

STUDENT ISRAELI TRIP

Montreal's Student Federation is organizing a three-week Mission to Israel, leaving June 4, to spend two weeks touring the Israeli countryside and one week in the Beersheva region. Open to all Canadians, ages 18-25, but space is limited. $2,500 Canadian. **Gail Grief**, 514-345-6407.

JERUSALEM 3000

Volunteers are needed for the Jerusalem 3000 Festival Sunday, May 26, at North York Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Ave. W. There'll be children's activities, stage presentations, vendors. **Jean Bernholtz** 787-9039 or Canadian Zionist Federation 633-3988.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Holy Blossom Temple sisterhood has duplicate bridge every Tuesday 7:45 p.m. at the temple. **Jean Sengaus** 781-9695.

HEBREW ACADEMY

Beth Israel Hebrew Academy offers a Sunday and/or two evening program in Thornhill and Richmond Hill. Curriculum includes Hebrew language, prayers, reading, writing, Jewish history, Bible, theatre, music, dance and poetry. Registration for 1996/97 season accepted now. **Lillian Benlolo** 905-770-1082.

JEWISH STUDIES

York University Atkinson College is offering three Jewish studies credit courses:

Jewish Women Writers, **Ruby Newman**, Mondays through Fridays, 1-4 p.m., May 1-June 7. Register now 736-5208.

The Holocaust: An Historical Interpretation, **Prof. Ronald Webster**, Wednesdays 6:30-9:30 p.m., starting Sept. 11, 736-5231.

Culture, Memory and Resistance: Responses to the Holocaust in Visual Art and Film, with professors **Shelley Hornstein** and **Florence Jacobowitz**, Mondays 7-10 p.m. beginning in September, 736-5227.

STUDY AT TEL AVIV U.

Tel Aviv University Overseas Student Program offers undergraduate and graduate course options for Canadian students to study in English at the university for the summer, semester or a year. All credits recognized by North American universities. 787-5692.

SINGLES BASEBALL

Free, co-ed baseball league for Jewish singles and single parents is being formed. **Marla Powers**, 784-4329.

YOUNG WIDOWED PARENTS

Young Jewish widowed parents interested in a support group for those coping with raising young through early adolescent age children, contact **Harriet Brav-Baum**, family life educator and member of Temple Kol Ami, 250-6103.

VISUAL ARTS

Koffler Centre of Visual Arts spring session offers eight- and 10-week classes for adults, from beginner to advanced, in ceramics, painting, drawing, stone sculpture, mixed media and art appreciation; and for children and teens in pottery, painting, drawing, mixed media. **Raylene**, 636-1880, ext. 269.

PASSOVER CANDY TREES

Jordana-Yamit chapter of Hadassah-WIZO is selling kosher for Passover candy trees. $12. Free delivery. **Carol** 499-9534 or **Margi** 905-731-4227.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Looking Ahead (divorced/separated), begins May 7; Parenting Teens, April 25; Parenting the Young Child, May 8. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext.215.

CIP SEDER PROJECT

Community Integration Program, a joint program of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and Bathurst Jewish Centre, needs Canadian families to host recently arrived families from the former Soviet Union for either the first or second seder, Wednesday, April 3 or Thursday, April 4. **Russ Glick** 636-1880, ext. 380.

For Seniors

A Time For Me — personal growth workshop for seniors over 55 begins after Passover, co-sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service, Senior Care, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, Baycrest Centre, with support from Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. **Ann Gleberzon** 638-7830, ext. 799.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday dances in clubhouse March 30, April 6 and 13; Sunday dances April 14 and 28; *A Little Night Music*, St. Lawrence Centre, April 17; Atlantic City and New York, April 22; Ottawa, June 18-20; Catskills Raleigh Hotel, July 22-28; day trips to Kitchener, Markham, Cullen Gardens, Niagara Falls. Membership open $12. 398-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). March 28 program is two short comedy movies. Next meeting is April 18. 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Homowack Hotel in the Catskills Aug. 4-11; ArtPark to see *A Chorus Line* Aug. 1; Stratford for *The Music Man* Sept. 24. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Lanido Hospital in Israel **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trip offers choice of two hotels, Raleigh (nine days) or Pines (10 days). **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Bernard Betel Centre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre joint trip to Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills Aug. 6-12, kosher meals, daytime activities, nightly entertainment, accommodation, twin occupancy $870 per person, single occupancy $1050, including taxes, gratuities, cancellation and medical insurance. **Barbara Zigler** 225-2112.

Movie *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, Sunday, March 31, 2:30 p.m.

at the JCC/BJC

Oneg Shabbat luncheon, entertainment by **Cantor Anna Trubashnik**, accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, Friday, April 19, noon, at BJC Senior Adult Services. Advance tickets a must. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Roller Hockey on Sundays at BJC for ages 10-14. **Grant** 636-1880, ext. 374.

Also, call Grant about joining the BJC Cycling Club.

BJC Centre Camp is accepting registration for 1996 season. Participate in daily instructional/recreational swim, dance, sports, music, arts, crafts, nature, Judaica. 636-1880, ext. 378.

About People

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Mark Sack, former director of Development at the Reena Foundation, has been appointed assistant director of Marketing and Development for the Arthritis Society of Ontario. In his three years at Reena, Sack provided stewardship for a $7.2-million capital campaign, new planned giving initiatives, as well as management of Reena's annual campaign activities.

Prior to his employment at Reena, Sack worked as director of Communications and director of Camping and Recreation at the Easter Seal Society of Ontario for six years. He begins his new role April 8.

FILM ON RACISM IN CANADA

Pictured at the recent showing of *Hearts of Hate*, a documentary about racist groups in Canada, are (front row, from left) Peter Raymont, film producer; Bernie Farber, national director of Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress; Elizabeth Moore, former Heritage Front member. (Back row) Marilyn Charney, Linda Goldman, Giselle Gaspar, Paula Shvili, co-chairs of the event; and Rosa Bergman.

WOMEN'S DIVISION FINANCIAL SEMINAR

At State of Israel Bonds Women's Division financial seminar are (from left) Anne MacLean, guest speaker; Jody Samuels Silver, event co-chair; Ruti Kinar, wife of consul general of Israel; Dodi Weill, Women's Division chair; Jordana Enig Stockhamer, event co-chair.

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Celebrating Camp Hatikvah's 40th Anniversary in Oyama, BC
Saturday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m.
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Come to a fun filled evening re-living camp memories and renewing friendships with your fellow campers and staff from over the past 40 years.
Dinner ... Entertainment ... Dancing
$36 per ticket ($18 for ages 18-22) - on sale until Apr. 17th.
No tickets available at the door.
Call camp office at (604) 263-1200 for more info. or if you have any memorabilia to display for the event.
Dress very casual ..... No best bar

If we forget our past, what will our future be?

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

Commentary

The screaming headline *Being Jewish* on the cover of *New York* magazine (Jan. 29) attracted me, as a journalist, to the 10,000-word article by another journalist, Philip Weiss. As reportage it's first rate, but I differ with his personal opinions that anti-Semitism is no longer a factor in our lives, and that Jews should free up the American dream by dropping the role of "outsiders" and "victims."

He writes: "As an American Jew, I have a largely unlimited social and professional scope: I'm free to do almost anything I want in this society, including 'marrying out.' "

As a man who did "marry out," Weiss doesn't hide his attraction to the WASP establishment, but neither does he hide his debt to and his affection for his Jewish inheritance.

Weiss writes about concern in the Jewish community about assimilation and of a survey showing that 52 percent of Jewish men are marrying non-Jews, but in the end he fobs off responsibility. He argues that if by the year 2076 there are at the most only one-sixth as many Jews left, all fundamentalists, well, that's a process we have to live with.

And yet, he wonders, as I do, even two generations from now, how the children who are one-half or one-quarter Jewish will fare in the face of an onslaught against Jews.

He writes: "As anti-Semitism fades and Jews assume ever-greater prominence throughout the establishment, it's time for Jewish Americans to let go of the idea that they are outsiders."

As a Canadian, I cannot agree that anti-Semitism is fading in this country. It may be that the "melting pot" experience in the United States has lessened anti-Semitism as Weiss perceives it. Though many Canadians have risen to the tops of their fields, whether in the professions or in business, I deem it foolhardy to suggest that we blind side anti-Semitism.

In all, Weiss makes a brilliant defence of his own privileges, without ignoring the historical reasons for the Holocaust and other Jewish tragedies.

He raises rightly, in my opinion, the issue of prejudice amongst Jews against other people, and quotes without comment his 70-year-old scientist father's remark: "We know the harm of anti-Semitism. What harm can there be in a minority's feelings against Christians?"

The author is at his best in describing the ambivalence of a Jew's feeling about doing well in a non-Jewish world, but I find repugnant his idea that in this hi-tech and information highway age, we should let assimilation run its course and take our chances. This notion flies in the face of those who believe in Jewish continuity.

In fact, there is something hollow at the centre of Weiss' position, that we can be thankful that our Jewish roots helped us make it, but now we can kiss those roots goodbye. I wonder what the *chalutzim* who helped build the modern state of Israel think of that argument.

There are many much more proficient than I am at refuting the implications of Weiss' article that as Jews we can somehow cut ourselves off from our past, treat Israel at arm's length and go for the brass ring.

As one born in Canada, who feels comfortable in Canada, and who achieved a certain success in my profession, despite many instances of anti-Semitism along the way, his arguments cry out against my Jewish soul. Yes, perhaps I am reacting emotionally, but to me it is another form of Jewish denial, and I want no part of it.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

*You asked for it... **"April Fool's House party"**. Sun. March 31st. at **Comedywood** (N.W. corner Bathurst & Steeles) 7:30p.m. $12 **Ruth Friedman** (905)731-5204.

2nd annual Mardi Gras Ball for the Reena Foundation will take place Sat., Mar. 30, 8 p.m. at the Design Exchange, 234 Bay St., TD Centre. Casino, silent auction, live entertainment, specialty food, door prize. $50 advance, $60 at the door. Call Reena Foundation 787-0131.

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Mark & Ari invite you to the Disco Inferno, Fri., Apr. 5, 1996, 9 p.m. at Samuel P. Tasker's, 2 Rosehill Ave. (S. of St. Clair, E. of Yonge). Disco music all night long! Door prizes. Tickets $12. Call TicketMaster for advance tickets. 416-870-8000. Advance ticket holders DO NOT WAIT IN LINE. (Age range 23-33) Ari Huber Mark Brodkin hotline 416-733-1419. Kosher for Passover wine will be served.

New Image 50+ Singles is having a dance on Sat., Mar. 30, at Earl Bales Community Centre. **DJ Phil Allenbick.** Refreshments, prizes. Members $5, non-members $7, Free dance lesson from 7:45 to 8:15 by Phil. **Trip to Granit, Sun. Aug. 4 to Mon. Aug. 12. Come & Enjoy!**

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CANCER RESEARCH FUNDRAISER
Rachel Blumenfeld, left, is seen at Comedywood with New York comedian Steven Scott at a recent fundraiser. Blumenfeld, of Israel Cancer Research Fund's Young Associates division, chaired the event, which raised $4,000 for cancer research.

From coast to coast

Auschwitz Museum director urged to resign over mall

CALGARY — The current director of the Auschwitz Museum should resign and make way for "a younger, English-speaking director who displays better understanding of Jewish sensitivities," said Sigmund Sobolewski, a Polish-Catholic survivor of the Nazi death camp.

Jerzy Wroblewski is taking a leading role in defending the construction of the controversial shopping mall across the street from Auschwitz, said Sobolewski, spokesperson for the Alberta-based Auschwitz Awareness Society. The mall has come under attack by numerous people, including Catholic Archbishop Jean-Marie Lustiger, who see it as an affront to those who died in the death camp.

Wroblewski has said recently he will close a recently renovated 100-seat restaurant, a book store and flower shop in Auschwitz so the mall will have a better chance of succeeding, Sobolewski claimed.

He also took Wroblewski to task for "holding back a memorial plaque from Canada for the Jewish heroes of the *sonderkommando* (men who worked in the gas chamber/crematoria area) revolt ... because this plaque is unilingual (English)."

While placement of that plaque had been refused since 1990, it took only six weeks in 1995 for Wroblewski to approve a unilingual plaque in Polish for the controversial A-K underground, some of whose units hunted and killed Jewish partisans, Sobolewski said.

Sobolewski also criticized Wroblewski for failing to inform foreign delegates of the International Auschwitz Council, of which he is a member, about the mall in four meetings held in 1994 and 1995.

SKI CHAMPS

For the first time in the school's history, the ski team from the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto qualified for the provincial championship of the Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association. CHAT's downhill ski team raced to victory at Mansfield ski slopes near Barrie. They competed against 16 schools in the recreational ski category and won by a mere two seconds. The team, seen here with their coach Ray Buchowski (left) consists of (from left) Jordan Glick, Brian Laski, Danny Holland, Harley Gold, Ari Rosenzwig, Shael Sacks, Nathan Perlus and David Harrel.

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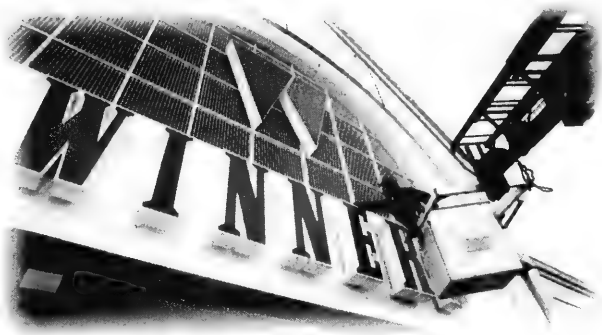

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Bombing's personal for one Montrealer

By JANICE ARNOLD
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — When Nancy Zangwill heard the news of two suicide bombings in Israel, she sadly was able to put a face to the death toll of 26.

One of the Jerusalem bus victims was Sarah Duker, who was Zangwill's roommate when they were students at the Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies in 1994.

Duker, a native of Teaneck, N.J., was the first person Zangwill met when she went to Israel and they soon became friends.

"I remember shopping and preparing for Shabbat with her. Welcoming friends to our home, worrying about each other coming home safely," Zangwill said, her voice breaking, at a memorial vigil on the steps of the McGill University Student Union Building the day after the tragedy.

Zangwill, who is editor of FEDERATION CJA's *In* magazine for young adults, recalled her friend as charming and soft-spoken, but nevertheless holding strong opinions and being totally dedicated to Jewish life. Only 20, she was in the institute's most advanced Torah class that year.

Duker, a Hebrew University student, died with her boyfriend.

About 120 students attended the noon-hour commemoration organized by the Jewish Student Coalition. They condemned and mourned the senselessness of the deaths.

Student Essie Vineberg said this terrorist attack was especially touching for her because so many of the victims were young people, either soldiers or university students, going about their daily routine. "But unlike our Israeli contemporaries, we do not have to constantly look over our shoulders."

Knowing the names and something about the lives of Jews who die in terrorist attacks is the "sacred obligation" of Jews everywhere, said Rabbi Reuben Poupko, holding up an Israeli newspaper with photos of the dead. "They died because of the hatred of Israel and of the Jewish people," he said.

He read out the name of each victim, many of them only in their teens or 20s.

Rabbi Poupko said Palestinian president Yasser Arafat shares much of the blame for their deaths because he praised Yehiya Ayyash, Hamas' top bombmaker, as a "great martyr" at his funeral.

"Violent speech leads to violent acts ... Those who praise murderers are guilty. Arafat is guilty," Rabbi Poupko said. He also called on Canada to sever relations with Iran, which he accused of aiding militant Islamic groups.

Hillel president Sarah Tatham said that Jews her age had believed they had entered a time of "reconciliation not bloodshed" and still hope that they will see an end to violence in Israel in their lifetime.

Canadian Institute for Jewish Research director Fred Krantz noted that over 160 Israelis have died since the signing of the peace treaty with the PLO in Washington in September 1993.

"We hope, but tragically the end is not yet in sight. We feel terrible frustration, righteous anger, that, paradoxically, [these deaths] are the bitter spawn of Israel's pursuit of peace."

He said Prime Minister Shimon Peres should suspend negotiations with Arafat until the PLO amends its covenant which calls for the destruction of Israel.

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JWI INSTALLATION

Jewish Women International of Toronto (formerly B'nai Brith Women of Toronto) recently held its 44th annual installation of officers, the first under its new name. Seen here are the 1996-97 executive (from left) Noreen Shelson, vice-president; Linda Mendelsohn, immediate past president; Barbara Swimmer, president; Fern Sussman, president-elect; Beverley Mandel, vice-president.

PASSOVER FOODS

Now you can have your cake and eat it too!

By MARCY GOLDMAN
Special to The CJN

You'll never believe this cake is pesachdig'' proclaims a Passover recipe headnote in a ladies auxiliary cookbook. This is a phrase and a sentiment one encounters all too frequently in Jewish cookbooks' Passover section.

Sure, the constraints are considerable: no wheat flour, no traditional leavening, no regular pure alcohol based vanilla and other extracts, and usually butter free (Passover desserts are usually made with no fat or oil in order to be served with meat based seder meals). Happily, lots has changed in the last few years and the availability and spectrum of Passover baking ingredients has grown extensively. You can now get kosher-for-Passover cocoa, brown sugar, vanilla powder, chocolate chips and sweet baking margarine.

Passover desserts do have a particular criterion that present an unusual challenge. The trick is to combine classic pastry techniques and imagination along with the Passover culinary credo. You'll be surprised at what you can do.

MOCK CHESTNUT TORTE

Torte

10 oz. good quality semi sweet chocolate, melted
1½ cups mashed sweet potatoes*
⅓ cup sugar
1 tbsp. Passover vanilla sugar
1 tsp. Passover rum extract, optional
4 oz. unsalted Passover margarine
6 large egg yolks
6 large egg whites
¼ tsp. salt
¼ cup sugar

Top Garnish

Sifted cocoa powder
Curls of Semi Sweet Chocolate and/or:

Chocolate Ganache Glaze

6 oz. semi-sweet chocolate, coarsely chopped
½ cup water

* These are best baked, rather than boiled as they will take in less water. However, if boiling (to save time) be sure to drain well, chill slightly, then mash potatoes before using.

Prepare sweet potatoes beforehand.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Line a nine inch springform pan with baking parchment. Melt chocolate over a double boiler and set aside to cool.

Cream the unsalted margarine or butter with the ⅓ cup sugar and vanilla sugar. Blend in the egg yolks, mashed sweet potatoes, rum extract and cooled chocolate.

In another clean bowl, whip the egg whites gently to allow them to get a bit foamy. Then add in the salt and whip on a higher speed, slowly dusting in the sugar to form stiff, glossy, but not dry, peaks. Fold one-third of egg whites into sweet potato/chocolate mixture and work in well to loosen. Then, gently fold in remaining two-thirds of egg whites, blending well but taking care not to deflate the mixture. Spoon into prepared pan and bake until done, about 40 minutes. Cake rises somewhat and looks dry, and slightly cracked on top when done.

[Cont'd. on page 35]

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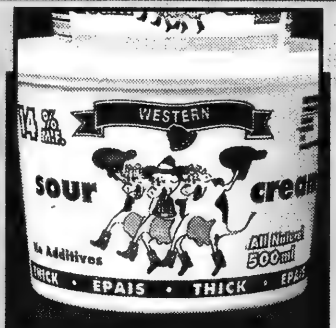

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ENJOY A HAPPY PASSOVER!

Passover Foods

New baking products make for a tasty Pesach

[Cont'd. from page 33]

Middle should be soft but firm. Cool in pan 20 minutes, then remove to a wire rack. At this point, cake can be frozen until needed. Even if serving same day, chill cake for an hour or two before finishing with ganache glaze.

Ganache Glaze

Bring the water to a gentle boil and add in the chopped chocolate all at once. Remove from heat and stir briskly, using a wire whisk, until all of the chocolate melts and you have a thick glaze or sauce-like topping. Refrigerate for an hour or so. (You can also make this ahead and refrigerate it up to a week or two. Simply warm it up to right temperature for glazing cake. Also cake can be frozen for a month).

Invert cake onto a cardboard circle or decorative cake plate (so that smooth, flat bottom faces up). Pour glaze over cake, using a metal spatula to even out glaze and spread along sides. Instead of glaze, you can also simply sift some cocoa over top of cake or curls of chocolate (using a vegetable peeler and a warmish chocolate bar). Cake can also be offered with a pureed raspberry sauce, garnished with chocolate shavings, or left as is, with a citrus leaf, sweetheart rose or couple of berries in the centre.

Serves 12 to 16.

FUDGE MACAROON BARS

- 6 oz. melted semi sweet chocolate
- 1 cup unsalted butter or unsalted Passover margarine
- 1½ cups Passover brown sugar
- 1 tbsp. Passover vanilla sugar
- 3 eggs
- ¾ cup matzah cake meal
- ¼ cup potato starch
- 1½ cups lightly packed quartered or coarsely chopped Passover macaroons (any brand or flavor)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Lightly grease 8 by 10 inch or 7 by 11 inch brownie pan or (in a pinch, a 9 by 9 inch baking pan will do).

Melt chocolate and margarine over low heat. Cool to room temperature. Stir in brown sugar, vanilla sugar, eggs, potato starch, and cake meal. Stir in macaroon pieces.

Spoon batter into prepared pan. Bake about 40 to 50 minutes, until top seems set and is beginning to take on a crackled appearance. Do not overbake. Brownies should be set and seem dry to touch — but there should not be a dry crust around sides.

30 squares approximately.

PESACH CRISP AND CHEWY CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

- 1¼ cups Passover brown sugar
- ½ cup white sugar
- 2 tbsp. Passover vanilla sugar
- 1 cup unsalted butter (or unsalted Passover margarine)
- 2 eggs
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ½ cup matzah meal
- ½ cup cake meal
- 1 cup potato starch
- 2 cups chocolate chips

Cream brown sugar, white sugar, vanilla sugar with butter. Blend in eggs. Stir in salt, matzah meal, cake meal, potato starch and chocolate. Chill dough for an hour or overnight. (Freezes well).

Preheat oven to 350 F. Line a couple of baking sheets with parchment paper.

Scoop large tablespoonfuls of dough onto sheet — leave room for spreading. For smaller cookies, use a generous teaspoonful of dough.

Bake until done, 14 to 16 minutes. Let sit on baking sheet to cool and set up. Use a metal spatula to remove. Chill cookies before packing/handling or serving.

4 to 5 dozen.

Variations:

Pecan Sandies: Omit chocolate chips and replace with chopped pecans. Use only brown sugar, no white sugar.

Passover Blondies: Lightly grease a 9 by 13 inch pan (for thin squares) or an 8 by 11 inch brownie pan (for thick and chewy squares). Press cookie batter into pan. Bake at 350 F for 25 to 35 minutes.

Marcy Goldman is a Montreal based food writer and professional baker. Currently, she is working on A Treasury of Jewish Baking, *to be published in 1997 by Doubleday, New York.*

Broiled veggies taste great

People with real dedication play golf in November and basketball in March and get their barbeques ready for Pesach. We admire them — and suggest these tips for great (and healthy) veggies.

You can use the same techniques on the broiler, by the way.

Eggplant: Slice lengthwise ¼ inch thick. Sprinkle with salt. Brush with olive oil. Grill covered 12 to 15 minutes, turn often. Baste with garlic or herbed oil. Grilled eggplant is delicious with chicken and lamb when chopped and combined with chopped tomatoes and basil.

Peppers: Slice sweet peppers in thirds, seed them, brush lightly with garlic-laced olive or other cooking oil (or leave unoiled and foil-wrap them). Grill 15 to 20 minutes over a low flame, turning frequently, or cook until the skins are charred, then peel them and serve. Lightly dressed with vinaigrette, grilled peppers are a terrific side dish with burgers or steak. Peeled and pureed, they make a tangy sauce for fish, beef, chicken and lamb.

Tomatoes: Halve ripe tomatoes, brush lightly with oil, then grill over moderate flame 5 to 6 minutes, turning several times to cook evenly. Ideal with burgers, kebabs and steak.

Zucchini: Slice lengthwise ½ inch thick. Brush with oil, then grill over moderate flame 4 to 6 minutes, turning often. Excellent when sprinkled with chopped basil, oregano or tarragon.

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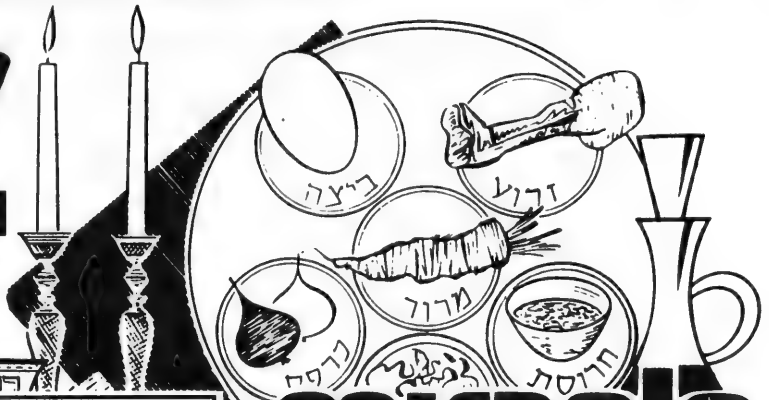

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1 litre pkg **1.87**

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1 litre btl **2.37**

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250 mL jar **.97**

Passover Foods

Passover cooking need not be fattening

The Intermountain Jewish News

DENVER, Colo. – In the early 1980s, when Americans started counting fat grams and watching cholesterol intake, Denverite Gail Ashkanazi-Hankin decided to continue that healthful vigil during Passover.

The result is *Passover Lite*, a cookbook just released by Pelican Publishing Co. Ashkanazi-Hankin spent a decade developing, collecting and adapting recipes that fulfill three categories of requirements:

* kosher for Passover;
* low in fat and cholesterol;
* tasty and attractive.

Passover Lite is a collection of nearly 200 tested recipes that include healthy versions of traditional Passover foods as well as contemporary, multi-ethnic foods that are also kosher for Passover and healthful. She draws from Mexican, Asian and North African cuisines to add variety to the book so the eight days of Passover are anything but boring when it comes to cooking and eating.

For the past 12 years, Ashkanazi-Hankin has been a teacher at Denver's Temple Sinai religious and preschools. She is also an artist and illustrated her cookbook with original line-art drawings throughout the text. She used watercolor and colored pencil to create the book jacket art.

The book includes cooking and time-saving tips, snack and lunch suggestions and sample menus for several kinds of seders: first and second night, Sephardi and vegetarian.

The author may be reached at 303-771-3559 or by E-mail, LHANKIN@AOL.COM.

The book may be ordered through Pelican Publishing Co., 800-843-1724. Following are sample breakfast, lunch and dinner recipes from *Passover Lite:*

Skillet Matzah Brei

Cooking spray
2 tsp. oil
4 matzahs
4 egg whites
1/2 tsp. onion powder, or to taste
1/4 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. black pepper

Coat a large non-stick skillet or griddle with cooking spray and add 1/2 tsp. of the oil. Heat the skillet over medium-high heat until very hot. Meanwhile, moisten the matzah with cold water and crumble into a bowl. Add the egg whites and seasonings. Spoon half the mixture into the hot skillet or griddle as one large pancake and brown.

With a wide spatula, lift the matzah and add another 1/2 tsp of oil.

Turn to brown the other side. Repeat with remaining mixture and oil.

Serves 4.

Tuna in a Green Pepper Boat

Dressing:
1/4 cup low-sodium tomato juice
2 tbsp. lemon juice
1/4 tsp. onion powder
1/4 tsp. paprika
Pinch black pepper, or to taste

In a small bowl, combine the dressing ingredients.

Tuna Salad:

1 6 1/2-oz. can water-packed tuna, drained
1 tbsp. green or red pepper, minced
1 small carrot, shredded
1 green pepper, halved lengthwise and seeded

In another bowl, combine the tuna, carrot and minced pepper.

Pour the dressing into the tuna salad and mix thoroughly. Fill the green pepper halves. Serves 1 to 2.

Chicken in Orange Sauce

6 4-oz. chicken breast halves, skinned
3 tbsp. orange juice concentrate, thawed
1 cup defatted chicken broth or water
3 whole cloves
1 3-inch cinnamon stick
1/8 tsp. black pepper
Pinch cayenne pepper to taste
1 1/2 tsp. potato starch
Orange slices for garnish
Parsley sprigs

In a non-stick skillet, over medium-high heat, brown the chicken breast on both sides in the orange juice concentrate and 1/2 cup of the broth for about 15 to 20 minutes.Add the cloves, cinnamon stick, pepper, cayenne, and 1/2 cup of the broth. Bring to a boil.

Reduce the heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer for 7 to 10 minutes or until the chicken is no longer pink inside. With the remaining 1/4 cup broth, blend in the potato starch until smooth. Add this mixture to the skillet and stir until the gravy thickens and begins to bubble.

Arrange the chicken on a platter and pour the sauce over all or pass the sauce around to individual plates.

Garnish with the orange slices and parsley. Serves 4 to 6.

Broccoli Knishes

1 cup mashed potatoes
1/3 cup matzah meal
2 tbsp. potato starch
1/2 small onion, finely chopped
2 egg whites or 1/4 cup Passover egg substitute
1/2 tsp. black pepper
1/4 tsp. salt
1 cup fresh or frozen broccoli, steamed and finely chopped
Cooking spray

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.

In a bowl combine the potatoes, matzah meal, potato starch, onion, egg whites, pepper and salt and knead together. Divide the dough into six balls and flatten each. Divide the broccoli evenly onto each circle, fold over, and press edges to seal. Generously coat a baking sheet with the cooking spray. Arrange the knishes in a single layer and place the baking sheet on the bottom rack of the oven. Bake for 15 minutes on each side. Serve hot. Serves 6.

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Jewish recipes from here and there outlined in a new cookbook

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

It's always fun to compare your (or your family's) food customs and likes and dislikes with other people's. It's especially fun to see other ethnic groups, when they all happen to be Jewish.

Malvina Liebman's *Jewish Cookery from Boston to Baghdad* (NightinGale Resources) is not a new book. However, when I came across it, I was enchanted.

The recipes, from such diverse locales as China, Barcelona, Holland, South Carolina, Bavaria, India and Greece, are interesting to make and eat. Tuna is made with prunes and apples, eggs and olives are added to a beef stew, veal is roasted with tehina.

What is most entertaining about this book is the extensive discussions of local customs and history. I didn't know that in Greece, *armico*, a chicken, tomato and wine sweet and sour stew, is the preferred erev Yom Kippur dish; that bay leaves come from the laurel tree or that *ghivetch*, a Romanian vegetable stew, is the same thing as the Turkish Turlu. And just as good.

The book can be found at some Jewish bookstores, or ordered from the publisher, NightinGale Resources, Box 322, Cold Spring, N.Y. 10506.

BAKED MARINATED BRISKET

(as Rashi would have eaten)

5 lb. brisket
8 potatoes, peeled and quartered
1½ carrots, in 1 in. pieces
3 tomatoes, peeled and chopped

Marinade

¼ cup Passover oil
2 onions, chopped
3 cloves garlic, chopped
1 bay leaf
2 tsp. dried thyme
2 tsp. dried marjoram
½ cup parsley, finely chopped
1 cup dry red Passover wine
10 peppercorns
2 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. lemon juice

Combine all the marinade ingredients in a saucepan and simmer for 25 minutes. Cool. Place meat in a pan just large enough to hold it and pour marinade over it. Pierce meat all over with a large tined fork and turn from time to time during a 24 hour period. It need not be refrigerated the whole time.

Place the meat in a casserole with the strained marinade. Arrange the potatoes and carrots around the meat. Cover and bake in a pre-heated oven for about two hours. Add the chopped tomatoes and continue baking uncovered for another hour or until very tender. Serves 10 to 12.

ROASTED ONIONS

A wall painting of ancient Egypt in the Oriental Division of the New York Public Library shows workers watering and weeding onion patches. The bulb was held in such high esteem that it was worshipped as a symbol of the gods.

4 large yellow onions, unpeeled
4 tbsp. butter or pareve Passover margarine
1 tsp. paprika

Trim, but do not peel, the onions. Cut a cross in the root end. Place onions in a lightly-greased baking pan. Roast in a preheated 400-degree oven for about 1½ hrs., or until cooked but not limp. Peel. Pour the melted butter or margarine over and sprinkle with paprika. Serves 4.

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Real estate broker serves up new dishes

Jan Kliaman is a real estate broker with a difference — she loves to cook and bake. Using her late mother's recipes as a springboard, she collects, tests and publishes recipes that are easy to make, delicious and heimish.

Her *My Mother's Cookbook* was published last year. She is now working on another book, with more family recipes and other favorite dishes.

Kliaman would welcome readers' family recipes to include in her new book. Call her at 416-398-7653.

PASSOVER — MERINGUE MACAROONS

2 egg whites (large size)
⅔ cup sugar
2 tsp. lemon juice
½ lemon rind — grated
1½ cups unsweetened coconut — finely grated

Preheat oven to 300 F. Line two cookie sheets with lightly greased foil.

Beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Gradually beat in sugar until very stiff. Fold in lemon juice, rind and 1 cup coconut. Gently fold in remaining coconut.

On prepared cookie sheets, use a spoon and form into mounds about 1½ inches in diameter. Bake for 17-19 minutes or until light beige. Turn oven off. Leave baking sheets in oven with door slightly ajar for 20 minutes. Remove cookie sheets from oven. Let stand 5 minutes. Remove cookies from foil and cool on cookie rack.

Variations:

(a) Combine ½ tsp. cinnamon with sugar and beat into egg whites.

(b) Substitute orange juice and rind for lemon juice and rind. Gently fold in ⅓ cup grated semi-sweet chocolate with coconut.

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PASSOVER SWEET KUGEL

3 potatoes, peeled and grated
6 carrots, peeled and grated
2 onions, finely chopped
⅓ cup pineapple — drained (crushed or chopped)
½ cup raisins
6 eggs
¼ cup oil
3 tbsp. sugar
⅔ cup matzah meal
Salt to taste
Pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 350 F. Lightly grease a 9 x 9 inch oven-proof glass baking pan.

In a mixing bowl, stir together potatoes and carrots. Add onions, pineapple and raisins. Mix in eggs and oil. Then add sugar, matzah meal, salt and pepper.

Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 1 hour. Serves 8.

And from *My Mother's Cookbook:*

BAKED GEFILTE FISH

2 carrots, peeled and grated
2 onions, chopped
1 tbsp. oil
3 eggs, beaten
2 lbs. fish — chopped
¾ cup cold water — add gradually
¼ cup sugar or 1 tsp. liquid artificial sweetener (or less — to taste
3 tbsp. matzah meal
1 tsp. salt
Pepper — to taste

Preheat oven to 350 F. Line a 4 x 11 inch pate terrine with lightly greased foil.

Saute carrots and onions in oil until onions are transparent.

In an electric mixer, blend eggs, fish, water, sugar, matzo meal, salt and pepper. Add carrots and onions and mix for a total of 4 minutes. Pour mixture into prepared terrine.

Bake uncovered for 70 minutes, using a cookie tray (with sides) underneath to protect oven.

When done, invert on a plate and remove foil. Cool and refrigerate.

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Passover Foods

Kashruth Council's products, services

The following products and services are under Passover supervision of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth of the Kashruth Council of Toronto when bearing a COR "kosher for Passover" label.

Baked goods

Carmel Bakery; Hermes Bakery; Sweet York Desserts.

Beverages

Coca-Cola Beverages Ltd.: Coca-Cola Classic, diet Coke; Pop Factory: cola, gingerale, orange, Reinhart seltzer, white cream soda.

Fruit salad and frozen ice desserts

Amber Foods Ltd.; C.A Fruit Products Ltd.; Dessertcraft Foods Products; Marcee's Sweets: fruit ices, ice cream; Metropolitan Ice Cream: fruit ices.

Honey and sugar

Billy Bee Honey Products Ltd.; Redpath sugars.

Salt

The Canadian Salt Company Ltd. (Windsor Salt); Sifto Canada Inc.

Margarine/oil products

Vegarine (pareve).

Pickled and marinated products

Feature Food Ltd.; Strub Brothers Ltd.

Dairy products

Astro Dairy Products Ltd.: cottage cheese, cream cheese spread, pressed cottage bakers cheese, pressed cottage cheese, sour cream, yogurt; Ault Foods Ltd.,; Lactantia pure filter milk, Sealtest milk; Beatrice Foods: milk; Cheese Lovers hard cheeses; Fieldfresh Farms Inc., milk; Great Canadian hard cheeses; Kofman-Barenholtz Foods: Galilee hard cheeses, Lana Brand: cottage cheese, sour cream, yogürt; Liberty: cottage cheese; Neilson Dairy: half and half cream, milk; Westhill Dairy Inc.: Birds Hill sour cream, Blue Bell cottage cheese, Mandels cream cheese, Old Country butter, Western Brand — Mashlanka buttermilk, cottage cheese, cream cheese, cream cheese with chives, sour cream, yoggi, yogurt.

Fish products

Central Smoked Fish Ltd.: chopped fish, smoked salmon; Feature Foods Ltd.; Smoked Fish Factory: smoked fish products, smoked lox; Strub Brothers Ltd.

Fish markets

Al Lazar Fish Market, 3774 Bathurst St.; Food City, 441 Clark Ave. West; Gershon's Fish Market, 3019 Bathurst St.; Hartman's Kosher Meats, 5974 Bathurst St.; Sunnybrook Foods Ltd., 241 Wilmington Ave.

Airline meals

All meals served on the airline during Pesach are specially sealed and stamped "COR Kosher L'Pesach." Peter Graben Caterers supplies Pssover foods to airlines. Kosher for Passover meals must be requested by your travel agent or airline in advance.

Caterers and take-out foods

Adath Israel — Adath Catering Co.; Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am — Miriam's Table; Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda — Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers; Beth Tzedec — Caterers York Ltd.; B'nai Torah — Tri Elm Catering, Shaar Shalom — Shaar Shalom Caterers; Shaarei Tefillah — Rose Lazar Catering Services; Ely's Fine Foods; Kosher Meats & Treats; L'Chaim Caterers; Perl's Meat Products Ltd.; Peter Graben Caterers; Rachel's Catering; Stroli's; Tastefully Yours/Malmar Catering.

Butcher shops — poultry and delicatessan products

Food City, Clark and Hilda; B. Goldstein Products, 308 Wilson Ave.; Hartman's Kosher Meats, 5974 Bathurst St.; Kosher Meats & Treats, 2825 Bathurst St.; Manor Kosher Meats, 622 Sheppard Ave.; Perl's Meat Products, 3015 Bathurst St., 7700 Bathurst St.; Prime Kosher Meats, 270 Wilson Ave., Stroli's Strictly Kosher Foods, 3459 Bathurst St.; Sunnybrook Foods Ltd., 241 Wilmington Ave.

Fresh and frozen packaged meat/poultry

(Check all packaged meats for the COR symbol).

Price Chopper, Bathurst and Steeles; Sunnybrook Foods Ltd., Finch and Bathurst.

Kosher food and novelty stores

Balloon Bash, 7077 Bathurst St.; Baskets 'n Stuf, 6237 Bathurst St.; Chocolate Charm, 3541 Bathurst St.; Happy Days Gift Baskets, 248 Steeles Ave.; Just in Cases, 3041 Bathurst St.; Kosher & Natural Foods, 3413 Bathurst St.; Kosher City, 3515 Bathurst St.; Kosher Food Warehouse, 75 Doncaster Ave.; Lieberman's Splendid Chocolates, 896 Eglinton Ave.

Wines

Wines, brandies, liqueurs and other such beverages certified by recognized rabbinical authorities are permissible. The label must indicate that the bottle has been prepared "Kosher L'Pesach."

Galilee Wine Company, 416-783-2516; Grafstein Wines Ltd., 416-256-0440; Mazel Wines, 416-631-8071.

Public institutions

Kitchens of the institutions listed below have been prepared for Pesach by *mashgichim* under the direction and instruction of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth in accordance with the requirements for Passover:

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care: Baycrest Hospital, Baycrest Terrace, Jewish Home for the Aged, Joseph E. and Minnie Wagman Centre; The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living: (Association of Jewish Seniors is providing a second seder on April 4); Lincoln Place; The Mount Sinai Hospital (Kosher L'Pesach Meals on request).

For additional information, call the Kashruth Council of Toronto, 416-635-9550.

CLARIFICATION

Some readers have expressed concern that the lead article in the March 21 Passover Food supplement contained recipes with chametz.

We wish to remind our readers that Eileen Goltz, a regular contributor to our food supplements, was writing about **using up** the last bits of pasta, flour and rice before Passover, rather than throwing them out. This was stated quite clearly in the body of the article.

Goltz and *The CJN* take great care to use only acceptable ingredients in our Passover recipes.

We regret the confusion.

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PRICES EFFECTIVE: MARCH 28 TO APRIL 4, 1996.

Passover Foods

Zareinu dollars give boost to local school

Leslie Schwartz (left) buys Zareinu dollars from volunteer Sarah Morel at the Spring Farm Food City. Morel spends two days a week there, urging shoppers to support the school. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sure, shopping for Pesach puts an incredible dent in anyone's budget. But it is less painful using Zareinu dollars.

Zareinu dollars have been around for several years and have proven popular with users, and a very real help to Zareinu, a school for the multiple handicapped.

Participants "buy" Zareinu dollars in denominations of $10, $20 or $50 and use them in regular shopping. Participating stores donate a percentage back to the school.

The results have so far been excellent, raising between $50,000 and $60,000 a year, according to Bubu Zlotnick, a spokesperson for the project.

He had special praise for the coordinators, who collect the money and arrange for it to be distributed. Many distributers deliver it directly to participants' houses for greater convenience. Some station themselves in major supermarkets.

The Zareinu dollars program has helped the school "offer new therapies and progressive communication techniques to our children, in the form of a Total Communication and Life Skills Program," explain Zareinu principals Carol Goldman and Marion Goldmintz.

Zareinu is also proud of its infant intervention program, which aims to give handicapped infants a head start in motor control.

The need for financial assistance for the school is great. The long waiting list is made up partly of families who have attempted unsuccessfully to integrate their special needs children into Hebrew day schools. In addition, many children return in the higher grades, either because Hebrew schools have turned them away or because public schools were not able to meet their cultural needs.

As well, government cutbacks have affected not only public school services, but support agencies which used to subsidize many families. Cutbacks to WheelTrans have created chaos and hardship in transporting the children.

"We really appreciate the women who handle the Zareinu dollars, the stores that participate and the public who help us," Zlotnick said.

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Kibbutzniks discover pre-cooked food trays

Jerusalem Dateline

Israeli kibbutzniks who have been eating off trays in communal dining halls over a lifetime — breakfast, lunch and dinner — have come up with pre-cooked food trays that not only preserve their contents for up to a year, but also help preserve the environment.

While biodegradable and recyclable plastics are popular, up until now, packaging for "shelf-stable" pre-cooked meals — with a shelf-life of up to one year — have ended up in the trash can rather than in recycling hoppers. The reason is that conventional plastic packaging trays designed for storage without refrigeration are made of several layers of plastic containing EVOH (alcohol), which endow the products with high-barrier qualities preventing contamination. But, while the additive makes the attractive plastic container air-tight, it also renders the trays non-recyclable.

Developed by MCP Performance Plastics at Kibbutz Hama'apil, the new trays — trademarked On-trays — are manufactured from a specially developed polyester that does not have to be laced with alcohol to remain air-tight, thus making the tray recyclable.

Passover Foods

How many ways can you prepare potatoes

If there's one thing we eat a lot of at Pesach, it's potatoes. Here are a few suggestions for making them with a gourmet touch.

HASH BROWN POTATO

4 medium boiled potatoes
2 tbsp. chopped onion
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper
¼ cup oil

Shred potatoes to equal 4 cups. Heat oil in pan. Toss potatoes, onions, salt and pepper. Pack mixture into skillet and cook over low heat until crust forms on bottom, about 10-15 minutes. Cut into fourths. Turn and brown on second side. Add more oil if necessary. Serves 5

GOLDEN POTATOES

3-4 lb. pared potatoes
⅔ cup oil
2 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper

Cut potatoes into ¼ inch slices. Pour oil into shallow baking pan. Dip potato slices in oil so that both sides are coated. Layer slices in baking pan. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake at 450 degrees for 30 minutes or until golden brown. Drain and serve. Serves 8

FLAVORFUL NEW POTATOES

Simmer 12 small, whole new potatoes until done, about 15-20 minutes. Drain and return to heat. Add butter and sprinkle with 1 tsp. basil leaves and ½ tsp. chives. Makes 2-3 servings.

HOT POTATO APPLE SALAD

(Adopted from Foodland Ontario).
4 medium potatoes, peeled
1 medium onion, halved and sliced
1 cup sliced mushrooms (about 10 medium)
1 tbsp. oil
2 apples, cored and diced
⅓ cup Passover vinegar
2 tbsp. water
1 tbsp. sugar
½ tsp. dried marjoram leaves
⅛ tsp. pepper

Cook potatoes covered in 1 inch of boiling water until tender. Drain. Slice and place in large bowl. Saute onion and mushrooms in oil until barely softened, 2 to 3 minutes. Add to potato slices. Add apples to potato slices. In saucepan, mix vinegar, water, sugar, marjoram and pepper. Simmer 5 minutes. Pour over potato mixture and toss to combine all ingredients. Serve immediately. Makes 4 servings.

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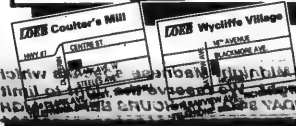

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The demise of a suicide bomber

Terrorist blew himself up prematurely

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Staff Sgt. Assi Danan described last week how he had confronted the suicide bomber who hurled himself at an IDF patrol inside the security zone, blowing himself up and killing Golani Brigade Capt. Salah Zeidan.

Danan was in the jeep with the driver and the commander of the region, when they saw a man standing by the road junction they were passing en route from Taibeh to the border crossing at Metulla.

"The man aroused our suspicion because he was walking so slowly. The driver received instructions from the brigade commander to stop the vehicle," said Danan.

"I looked out the rear window of the jeep and saw the man coming towards the jeep. I cocked my gun, on the orders of the commander in the jeep and he ordered the man to stop," said Danan.

"The man didn't respond to the call and made movements with his hands as if to say everything was okay. It seemed very suspicious to me and I got out of the vehicle and fired a shot in the air.

"When I shot, the terrorist blew himself up. There was a big mushroom of smoke and fire coming toward me and I jumped from the vehicle and took cover. For a while, we lost eye contact with the commander, but when the smoke cleared, we heard his voice and went toward him and then artillery fire was directed at us. The soldiers acted very well and took up positions and those who were supposed to, returned fire."

Danan said it appeared that the terrorist blew himself up prematurely as a result of the reaction of the soldiers, especially after the warning shot was fired. He noted that the suicide bomber was less than four metres from the jeep when he blew himself up.

Danan stressed that the troops had acted in accordance with regulations and had kept a safe distance. Asked if he thought he should have fired first and asked questions later, Danan said that in such a case, the terrorist might have hurled himself at the commander in an effort to kill them.

Maj.-Gen. Danny Yatom was publicly identified last week as the new head of the Mossad. [RNS photo]

IDF Chief of Staff links training deaths to lack of discipline

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Lack of discipline and aptitude is the main reason for training accidents in the IDF, Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak said last Sunday.

Speaking at the National Defence College, Shahak said the IDF had reduced the number of accidents in 1995, compared to the previous year.

According to IDF figures, last year there were 515 accidents in the IDF, resulting in the deaths of 20 soldiers; in 1994, there were 533, with 25 fatalities. Of last year's 159 training accidents, seven resulted in deaths, five in the air force and one each in the navy and ground forces.

"There is a great improvement," Shahak said. "I think that 1995 was one of the best years regarding the scope of accidents and their treatment. But as long as we have injuries, not enough is being done."

Shahak handed out awards for the safest units. First place among regular units went to the air force, followed by the engineers. The Gaza Division won first place among operational field units and the Armored Corps School was awarded top place among training units. Military Intelligence won first place among support units.

Second son killed serving in IDF

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Golani company commander Cpt. Salah Zeidan, 23, of Beit Jann, was his parents' second son to fall in the line of duty. His brother Fuad was killed by a stray bullet in Bethlehem in 1987.

Salah Zeidan, a graduate of the Rama High School, completed a year's preparatory study at the Technion before being drafted. His father, Kamel, a police officer, said last Wednesday he had intended to study medicine after the army.

"We had planned for him to finish his compulsory service and go on to study, but he liked being an officer and signed on for the regular army," said his father. "He had no fears about serving in southern Lebanon and would always tell us not to worry."

Zeidan is survived by his parents, two sisters, and a younger brother who is about to be called up for military service.

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The inaugural program of the *Jewish Magazine* a new national television series that features Jewish life and issues will be broadcast **Wednesday, March 27, 1996 at 9:30 p.m.** local time in Ontario, Quebec & British Columbia; 8:30 p.m. in Manitoba and Saskatchewan; 10:30 p.m. in Alberta & the Maritimes; and 11:00 p.m. in Newfoundland over Vision TV (basic cable service). In Toronto, Vision is broadcast on Rogers Cable 24.

Hosted by Ellie Tesher, Toronto Star Columnist and award winning author and humorist Morley Torgov, the show is produced by Howard Bernstein, Stephen Gardner and Janice Maser.

Israel Election notebook

David Levy Gets Second Spot

JERUSALEM – The heads of the Likud, Tsomet and Gesher parties have signed an agreement to form a joint list in the upcoming Knesset elections.

As a result of the agreement, Prime Minister Shimon Peres will face only one opponent in the race for the premiership in Israel's May 29 national elections: Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu.

The agreement came less than a month after Likud maverick David Levy announced that he was forming a new party, Gesher – Hebrew for "bridge" – and that he would run for prime minister as party head.

Seeking The Russian Immigrant Vote

JERUSALEM – The two top contenders for the Israeli premiership did their best last week to woo supporters of a fledgling political party made up mainly of Russian immigrants.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu, leader of the opposition Likud party, appeared before the founding convention of the Yisrael b'Aliyah party, which was meeting to elect its slate for the May 29 Knesset elections.

Yisrael b'Aliyah Elects Party List

JERUSALEM – Yisrael b'Aliyah, the new immigrants party, held its founding convention in Jerusalem, electing its president, central committee and party list for the Knesset.

Close to 2,000 members of the movement-turned-party crammed into the International Convention Centre after each one had received at least 10 recommendations from movement members to be a delegate.

Almost all of the delegates hold academic degrees.

Third Way Elects Candidates

JERUSALEM – The Third Way council's 250 members elected the party's list of Knesset candidates at Ramat Efal on March 20.

Tension prevailed over the council meeting, which was otherwise orderly and dignified, when it was learned that a committee appointed by the council had made a list of 16 recommended candidates.

The list was kept strictly secret until just before the vote, and was given to each council member only at the polling booths. It was estimated that the council members would vote according to the list, since they are not familiar with all of the candidates, many of whom are unknown.

Third Way leader Avigdor Kahalani

High tension on north border

[Cont'd. from page 1]

and after they left, he waited to see if everything was OK and the soldiers weren't missing anything."

In a press conference in Lebanon, Nasrallah revealed that the suicide bomber, Ali Mounis Ashmar, 20, came from Adeisseh village, near Taibeh, inside the security zone.

He said Ashmar had been recruited into the ranks of the suicide battalion some eight months ago.

Nasrallah said the suicide bomb attack proved the "many advances Hezbollah has made in monitoring the enemy's movements and collecting intelligence. Of course we are improving. Does [Prime Minister Shimon] Peres think we are primitives and Third World beings?" said Nasrallah.

He maintained that the lone suicide bomber attack was the first of its kind in the security zone. "This will force the Zionist enemy to adopt complicated and cumbersome countermeasures to protect their movements," said Nasrallah.

Nasrallah maintained that Hezbollah acted on its own and did not receive instructions from Teheran or Syria to either escalate or restrain its activities.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres said last week that the IDF will do "everything necessary, on the basis of operational considerations," in response to the recent wave of Hezbollah attacks in south Lebanon.

For the first time, the Iranian Embassy in Beirut also issued a statement last week warning Israel against any action against the embassy or Iranian interests in Lebanon.

"The embassy of the Republic of Iran holds the Zionist entity and its American protectors responsible in advance for any aggression against it or any other [Iranian] institution in Lebanon or anywhere else in the world," the statement said.

The announcement was seen as an attempt by the Iranians to head off accusations by Israel of Iranian involvement in the latest wave of Hezbollah attacks in south Lebanon, in which six IDF soldiers have been killed and over 20 wounded.

It was also seen as an indirect threat from Iran itself that it would respond if the IDF hits its bases in Lebanon, including training bases where Iranian Revolutionary guards are instructing Hezbollah terrorists.

Meanwhile, the situation in south Lebanon, in the security zone and along the northern border remained tense.

Closure still in effect

[Cont'd. from page 1]

when he stated last week that the PNC will not convene to amend the charter until the closure is lifted.

Abourdena said that the PNC will definitely meet in April to discuss amending the charter, which the Israeli government wants changed because of the sections in it calling for Israel's destruction.

Asked about Salam's statement that the PNC would not meet until the closure is lifted, Abourdenah said, "Arafat did not say that. The political leadership is committed to the PNC meeting being held within two months of the Palestinian Council" election.

In a separate development last Sunday, Israel allowed a group of 200 Palestinian police to enter Gaza via the Rafah crossing from Egypt.

The group, which had arrived from Libya, had been waiting at the border for a month, after two wanted Palestinians were discovered trying to sneak in with them.

Meanwhile, Palestinian security officials released Fouad Nahhal, head of the new Islamic National Salvation party, who was arrested Saturday.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Congress examines Farrakhan's foreign travels

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON – Louis Farrakhan's supporters descended on Washington again last week, this time to answer a congressional probe into the Nation of Islam leader's controversial foreign travels with their own show of force.

At a tense congressional hearing, lawmakers criticized Farrakhan for verbal attacks he made against the United States during his recent multination tour.

The criticism at the hearing prompted angry jeers from Farrakhan's backers in the audience. Two people were arrested and charged after being ejected for disrupting the proceedings.

The hearing came just days after black newspaper publishers honored Farrakhan as their Newsmaker of the Year, an honor which dismayed Jewish groups.

One of the four criteria for the award from the National Newspaper Publishers Association is the display of a "higher level of moral authority."

The Nation of Islam leader has come under fire for his recent tour of at least 18 countries. The tour included stopovers in Libya, Iran, Iraq and Sudan, which are countries that the U.S. government considers sponsors of international terrorism.

Christopher Smith, who chairs the House International Relations subcommittee on international operations and human rights, said the hearing was part of an ongoing attempt to investigate rogue regimes and their efforts to influence U.S. policy.

Foreign policy experts testified about the relationship between those nations and U.S. interests.

But the main focus was clearly on Farrakhan.

"It is self-evident that this hearing was called in response to a series of statements made by Louis Farrakhan to some of the most despicable, bloody dictatorships on the face of this planet," said Californian Tom Lantos.

Peter King, the Nation of Islam leader's most outspoken critic in Congress, said the trip was a "terror tour" and called Farrakhan "a vicious racist and hatemonger as well as a potential national security threat."

"When you combine a foreign dictator and a foreign tyrant such as [Libyan leader] Muammar Khadafi with a domestic racist such as Louis Farrakhan, that is dangerous to our nation," King said to coughs and jeers from the Farrakhan supporters.

In Tripoli, Khadafi reportedly pledged $1 billion to finance Farrakhan's political activities in the United States.

In Iran, a newspaper quoted Farrakhan as having labelled the United States the "Great Satan" and saying that "God will destroy America at the hands of Muslims."

The Justice and Treasury departments have both launched inquiries to determine whether he violated any laws during his trip.

Yom Ha'atzmaut Teen Cartoon Festival

We are asking all teenagers to turn on their creative juices and submit to us cartoons dealing with the subject of Israel. In particular, we are looking for cartoons which have both artistic and intellectual merit. They may be funny, serious, satiric or cute. We are looking for cartoons which poignantly and tastefully convey one of the many truths about life in Israel.

Who can enter: All teenagers are eligible except the children of *CJN* employees.

How to enter: You may submit as many entries as you like.

The judges will choose cartoons which are well-illustrated, clever and tasteful.

Six cartoons will be selected as winners: three cartoons from contestants 15 years of age and younger, and three cartoons from contestants 16 to 19 years of age inclusive.

The cartoons must be drawn in black and white. This will ensure that the cartoon reproduces as well as possible.

Please write your name, age, address and phone number on the back of your submission.

You may mail or deliver your submission to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont., M3C 3A1. If you want us to return the cartoon, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on April 15, 1996.

Prizes: The "winning" cartoons will be published in *The CJN* Yom Ha'atzmaut issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a $50.00 cheque.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only six will be chosen for publication. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: The contestants whose cartoons are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, April 19, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning submissions will be published in *The CJN* of April 25, 1996.

We hope the contest generates original, witty, imaginative and possibly even inspiring thought. We look forward to receiving your entries.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Sales Rentals Syndications Consultancy Management Re-Appraisal

'Capital of terror' funds extremists

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

It was a conspicuous failure, one that Iran surely relished.

At the anti-terrorism summit in Sharm El-Sheik on March 13, called in response to the spate of suicide bombings in Israel in February and March, Prime Minister Shimon Peres of Israel tried, but failed, to convince the participants to single out Iran as "the capital of terror."

Among 29 nations present, only the United States and Britain supported Israel's call to isolate Iran, which contemptuously dismissed the hastily-convened conference as a tool of Washington and "the Zionists."

Observers were not unduly surprised by the generally tepid response to Israel's recommendation. Iran, with enormous oil and gas reserves and a market that exporters and investors covet, is a country few nations wish to alienate.

Late last year, for example, almost 100 European and Asian executives travelled to Tehran to discuss Iran's latest investment opportunity, a package of 11 oil and gas development deals valued at $6 billion.

Companies from the United States, which once enjoyed a privileged position in Iran, were forbidden to send representatives to Tehran. In May 1995, Washington imposed an embargo on all forms of trade with Iran, and last December, the U.S. Senate passed a bill which penalizes foreign firms from doing business with Tehran.

Mideast Analysis

Iranian link

Washington's antagonism toward Iran, shared by Israel, stems from a variety of circumstances. The United States was not pleased by the fall of the pro-Western Iranian monarchy and its replacement by a hostile Islamic fundamentalist regime in 1979.

The new Iranian government, led by Ayatollah Ruhallah Khomeini, threatened to export Islamic fundamentalism to its Arab neighbors and tolerated the takeover of the U.S. embassy in Tehran, which resulted in a complete breakdown of relations with the United States.

During this period, Iran also severed its ties with Israel. From that point onward, Iran joined the rejectionist camp in the Arab and Islamic world.

Iran's relationship with the United States deteriorated still further when Washington tactitly backed Baghdad during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq War.

In May 1993, after years of mutual estrangement, the United States enunciated a doctrine of "dual containment" toward Iran (and Iraq). The policy was unveiled by Martin Indyk, the Clinton administration's chief Middle East advisor and at present the U.S. ambassador to Israel.

In essence, dual containment is designed to weaken Iran and Iraq, the main destabilizing forces in the Middle East today.

Iran, which finds itself on a U.S. list of states supporting terrorism, has funnelled significant sums of money to Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah and Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

Iran is remarkably candid about its attitude toward Israel, the Oslo peace process and terrorism. Tehran denounces Israel's right to exist, rejects Israel's growing rapprochement with the Palestinians and with various Arab nations, and glorifies suicide bombings.

Responding to the carnage in Jerusalem on March 3 and in Tel Aviv on March 4, Iran's official news agency described them as "divine retribution" heralding "the beginning of the end of Israel." (Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestinian Authority, has accused Iran of being behind the latest suicide bombings).

The United States has made it clear that it will relax its economic sanctions against Iran only when Tehran ends its opposition to the Arab-Israeli peace process, drops its support for terrorism and halts its efforts to develop a nuclear capability.

According to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Iran "is engaged in a crash effort" to build a nuclear arsenal.

In a bid to squelch its ambitions, the United States has urged Iran's chief trading partners — Germany, Russia, China and Japan — not to sell nuclear reactors or vital technology to Iran. And in another step to keep Iran from building nuclear weapons and financing its ongoing military buildup, the United States has asked Western nations to stop providing Iran with credits.

Washington's overtures have fallen on deaf ears. No country, including Canada, has joined the American embargo of Iran, and thus the sanctions, which Iran has largely been able to circumvent, have caused relatively little pain in Tehran. What is more, Western countries continue to provide Iran with generous credits under their policy of "critical dialogue" with Tehran.

No wonder Iran did not take the anti-terrorism summit in Sharm El Sheik too seriously.

The Week in Israel

March 18

• *Kol Yisrael* reported that the Israeli economy grew by seven percent in 1995. This was the same rate of growth as the previous year. Exports of goods and services rose by 10 percent. Work productivity rose by one percent and the standard of living rose by five percent.

March 19

• *Ma'ariv* reported that Dr. Eran Shenkar, the leading candidate to become the first Israeli in space, completed an advanced stage of training at NASA's space centre in Houston, where he is undergoing training with five American doctors.

March 20

• *Ma'ariv* reported that Tunisia would open an interest office in Tel Aviv today. The Israeli interest office in Tunis is scheduled to open in two weeks. Both missions will be located initially in hotels and then moved to permanent locations.

March 21

• *Ha'aretz* reported that for the first time since his arrest and conviction in 1985, Jonathan Pollard was scheduled to be visited, on March 24, by an official representative of the Israeli government.

• *Davar Rishon* reported that Ireland announced plans to open an embassy in Israel. Stating that it hoped the embassy would assist in strengthening relations between the two countries, the government of Ireland sent a request to Israel seeking official approval of the opening.

March 22

• Eleven senior police officials from Atlanta, Ga., arrived in Israel for a fact-finding and training mission on ways to detect and prevent terrorism. The security officers were in Israel as part of the security apparatus preparations for the upcoming Summer Olympics.

JERUSALEM 3000 EVENTS

• Seven hundred people were expected in Jerusalem to attend two conferences this week: The 12th International Symposium on Sport Injuries and The International Conference on Psychodrama.

Right wing show of unity could boomerang in election

By SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The image that will remain from the spectacle the Likud staged last week at its central committee meeting will be of Benny Begin standing alone in a raucous crowd holding up his yellow card in a vote against the Likud-Gesher-Tsomet merger.

Commentary

A little earlier, Begin had used the rhetorical talents inherited from his father to mock David Levy's "principles" and movement and attack the merger.

Begin was apparently the only Likud member standing for election in this week's primaries with the guts to spoil Benjamin Netanyahu's public demonstration of "unity." Several others known to agree with him kept silent. The few rank and file members who dared join him were jeered by the crowd.

It wasn't democracy at its best, but when the end justifies the means, who cares about democracy? The goal, as we all know, is to send Labor and its partners back into opposition and halt the Oslo process.

But last week's show left a bitter taste, even among the right-wing camp, and it is more likely than not to boomerang.

Despite what some polls have indicated, the new alignment is likely to receive fewer seats in the 14th Knesset than it would were the three parties to run separately.

Why? First, because many Tsomet voters in the last elections were either Labor-oriented hawks who found Labor's positions and list too dovish, or young people attracted by Tsomet's stand on human rights and clean government, and against religious coercion.

None of these are likely Likud voters and while the former might now vote for the Third Way, the latter could opt for Meretz.

Secondly, many of Gesher's potential voters are now likely to vote for Shas on ethnic grounds, while those foolish enough to take Levy's social platform seriously will probably look elsewhere.

The whole exercise has left the Likud's image badly tarnished.

Netanyahu paid an exhorbitant price for the merger. Many devoted Likudniks who had hoped for realistic places on the Likud list will now be left off it.

Women to lose places on list

The alignment is expected to win at least 44 or 45 seats, but if we take the 36 seats today commanded by the Likud, Tsomet and Gesher, 29 belonging to the Likud, five to Tsomet and two to Gesher, then of the 45 projected seats, 36 ought to be reserved for Likud members and not 31 as agreed.

But even this calculation is faulty. If the Likud ran on its own without Tsomet and Gesher, it would most probably gain more than 36 seats; thus the number of Likudniks left out will be greater than five.

One group that will lose are women. The Likud women, whose two current Knesset representatives, Limor Livnat and Naomi Blumental, are both first-class parliamentarians, had originally managed to reserve four slots for women up to the 40th place. They are now unlikely to get even three out of 31. And since neither Tsomet nor Gesher has a woman in a realistic place, the alignment will probably end up represented by only two women, compared to Labor's reserved six.

But the Likud hasn't just suffered in terms of representation. It has also paid a high price as regards image. Netanyahu has shown himself a poor bargainer, the last thing Israel needs just now. And his number two, David Levy, might have made the deal of his life but to the public, including most Likudniks, he now represents cynical politics at its worst and a total lack of credibility to boot.

Numbers three and four, Rafael Eitan and Ariel Sharon, "heroes" of the 1982 Lebanon war, will both be celebrating their 70th birthdays in the course of the 14th Knesset. The "princes" have been left behind sulking, and the likelihood of new faces entering the Likud list now look slim.

Finally, there was Benny Begin last week, calling out like the little boy in the fairy tale: "The emperor has no clothes!" Only this isn't a fairy tale, and the naked emperor could end up Israel's next prime minister.

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On Friday, March 22nd, 1996, Jean Sable, beloved wife of Samuel J. (Shamai) passed away at Wellesley Hospital.

Dear mother of Marlene Weller, Heather and Martin and Gayle, loving grandmother of Mark, Howard, Jordan, Jamie, and Josh and Simona, and dear sister and sister-in-law of Morris (Puddy) and Myrna Finer, and Celia and the late Harry Finer.

The funeral service took place at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, on Sunday, March 24. Interment was at the Shaarei Shomayim section of Mount Sinai Memorial Park. Shiva is being observed at 1 Ava Road.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Jean and Samuel J. Sable Fund c/o The Baycrest Centre 789-7071.

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Einstein document donated

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Albert Einstein's earliest manuscript on the Theory of Relativity has been donated to the Israel Museum in Jerusalem by the Jacob Safra Foundation.

The autographed manuscript was sold privately for an undisclosed sum by Sotheby's auction house in New York. Sotheby's described it as one of the most important extant scientific manuscripts, a museum spokesperson said.

The manuscript, dated 1912, consists of 72 pages, on which Einstein made several corrections. Since Einstein is known to have destroyed most of his manuscripts, the document is extremely rare, the spokesperson said. It is Einstein's longest and most comprehensive exposition on his relativity theory.

The document came to light in 1987, when a private owner sold it for $1.2 million to an anonymous buyer. It was again offered for sale last week and bids went as high as $3.3 million, but failed to meet the owner's $4 million minimum. It was then put on block.

"This is totally unexpected, but it is the greatest gift that any institution could get," former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek, chairman of the museum's board, said last week. "I cannot find words to express my gratitude to the Safra family."

Museum director Martin Weyl described the manuscript as "a precious and historic document that will be a most welcome and proud addition to our museum collection."

The Hebrew University, which owns Einstein's personal archives, has a shorter version of the manuscript on relativity, this one dated 1916.

Celebrate Yom Hachayalim - Soldiers' Day at A Gala Dinner and Dance

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Creating a healthier home environment

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For most people, home is a place of refuge, a safe place to relax, unwind and recharge your batteries.

Unfortunately, your place of refuge may also be home to a chemical soup that could be making you sick.

With the rise of fuel prices in the mid-1970s and with energy conservation a major concern, we built tightly sealed homes in which household chemicals and biological contaminants float through the air and have nowhere to go, said Danita Aziza, a self-taught authority on healthy homes.

The result of those changes is home pollution levels that rival those of some major cities and a growing awareness among researchers that many chronic illnesses are exacerbated, if not caused, by poor indoor air quality, she said.

Irritated eyes, nose and throat, headaches, dizziness, fatigue and other ailments are some of the results.

A 1980s study conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency found the concentration of 11 chemicals was two to five times greater indoors than outside.

There are numerous trace chemicals floating in the air, the most common being formaldehyde, Aziza said. Formaldehyde is commonly found in paper towels, particle board and other pressed wood products, synthetic carpets, some plastics, cosmetics and even bed linen.

Volatile Organic Compounds, a "chemical soup," are emitted from paints, cleaning supplies, caulking compounds, new carpets and floor coverings, drywall and some plastics, she said.

These can get into the air and linger, moving from room to room and attaching themselves to carpets where they remain for some time, she said.

Mould, whose growth is enhanced by moisture, release disease-causing toxins that can create allergic reactions; carpets, particularly the wall-to-wall variety, can serve as a reservoir for chemicals, moulds, smoke (from cigarettes), dust mites and other substances that affect people's health.

Fortunately, there are steps that can be taken to alleviate the problem. Some require some planning, others are as low-tech as simply opening windows, Aziza said.

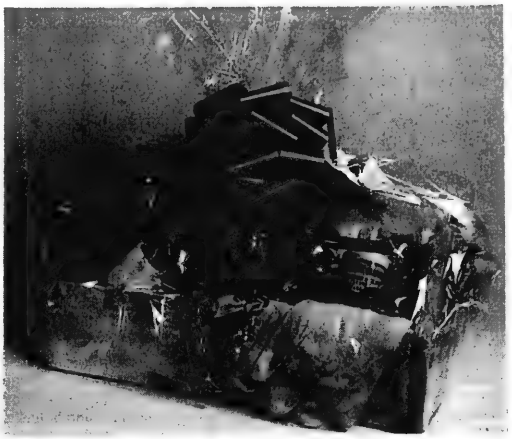
"People should open their windows every day. It's the best way to flush chemicals outside the home," she said.

Aziza recommends obtaining carbon monoxide detectors, to warn against the colorless, odorless gas created in the combustion of natural gas.

Another measure Aziza is touting is the acquisition of a kit containing natural and non-toxic products to replace more conventional housewares. Aziza's company, Healthy Home Services, markets the kit as a gift box in several sizes.

The kit contains cleaning products by Nature Clean, renovation materials and accessories that are environmentally safe and hypoallergenic.

Among the products are a kitchen spray cleaner, laundry powder, bleach, borax, window cleaner, environmentally-safe sponges, a non-toxic caulking compound, natural soap and a spot remover.



The Healthy Home Gift Box contains natural and non-toxic products designed to reduce indoor air pollution.

There's also an Enviro-Dial from the Ontario Waste Management Corporation that contains recommended alternatives to commonly used household products.

Aziza's interest in creating a healthier home environment began three years ago after she and her husband Michel purchased and renovated a home.

After they moved in, she began to develop various ailments that included dizziness, congestion, a loss of appetite and a lack of sleep.

She visited a dozen doctors whose diagnoses ranged from serious ailments to psychological stress. She even visited the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., but, wouldn't you know it, her health improved when she went to be examined.

After another bout with her non-specific ailments back home, "a friend of my mother-in-law suggested it was a reaction to the renovations."

Their wood floor had been sanded and urethaned, new tiles and some broadloom had been laid down, a new kitchen counter had been installed and the place had been painted.

After some study, it turned out an oil-based paint was the source of her grief. Their solution was to "bake the house." The windows were opened and the thermostat set to just under 85 degrees farenheit so that the heat and ventilation released the chemicals and vented them out, Aziza said.

In addition, a special sealent was used on all the oil-based surfaces and the new surfaces were cleaned, bringing down the chemical level to an insignificant level.

"When this happened to me three years ago, nobody had heard of it. Today, people are really starting to become more conscious of it," she said.

Improving residential air quality is a booming business in the United States, while in Canada, there are services that will test the quality of your home's air, she added.

Here are some healthy home tips, recommended by Aziza:

- Have your heating and air conditioning systems serviced every year.
- Clean your humidifier regularly.
- Store toxic cleaning products, paints and other chemicals in a separate, ventilated space like a garage or garden shed.
- Use non-toxic cleaning products.
- Avoid solvents and aerosols.
- Minimize use of conventional fabric softeners.
- Minimize exposure to conventional pesticides.

The Ontario Waste Management Corporation's Enviro-Dial suggests alternatives to commonly used household products. Among them:

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- Instead of using floor stain remover, mop floor with full strength vinegar, let stand for half an hour and wipe with a damp cloth.
- Instead of using scouring powders, sprinkle baking soda and scour, then rinse; or, shake salt on surface, scour with cloth dipped in lemon juice, then wipe clean with damp cloth.

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IGTO event draws Arab nations

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO – For the first time, representatives of tourism authorities from two Arab countries – Jordan and Tunisia – attended events here and in Montreal hosted earlier this month by the Israel Government Tourist Office in Canada (IGTO).

The presence of Jordanian and Tunisian tourism officials at the IGTO events on March 13 and 14 signals the willingness of an increasing number of Arab countries to recognize the lucrative potential of joint tourism initiatives with Israel.

The IGTO's combined travel trade show and dinner attracted at least 400 travel professionals in each city. At both functions, IGTO director Ruth Ben-Tzur spoke proudly of the increasing flow of Canadian travellers to Israel – there were 52,000 in 1995, a 25 percent rise over 1994 – and said that Canadians are still travelling in record numbers to Israel, despite the recent terrorist bombings.

"Some tragic events happened in Israel in the last few weeks," she said at the Toronto meeting. "But did the tourists leave Israel? Definitely not. More than 200,000 tourists are still visiting Israel each month. When I speak to my office, they say the streets and cafes and hotels are still full of people."

Israelis and Palestinians will continue together down the road to peace despite the terrorists, Ben-Tzur said.

"Terrorism is dangerous for everybody, whether it occurs in Tokyo, London, Oklahoma or Paris," she said. "This road we've started down with our Arab neighbors leads only in one direction: to peace."

Ihsan Naghaway, a representative of Royal Jordanian Airlines who attended the IGTO event, told *The CJN* the number of Canadians his airline carries to Amman and points beyond has increased dramatically since the recent peace accord and open borders with Israel.

"In Jordan, we believe peace is inevitable and that the process will continue. It will never stop," he said.

Naghaway said both Royal Jordanian and Israel El Al airlines will begin regular service between Tel Aviv and Amman in April.

"Very soon, they will allow private cars to be driven between Jordan and Israel,"he said.

Joanne Cothran, group travel representative for Regent Holidays, said she had been in Israel escorting a group of 12 Christian clergy from Ontario when Hamas began its dirty work.

"Usually on such a tour, participants are interested in their own spirituality. This time, they were concerned with the people, praying for the families and for peace in Israel. The bombings did not dampen any part of the tour whatsoever," she said.

"Two more groups left with Regent on Monday, and not one person cancelled," she added.

TORONTO FIRM WINS PR AWARD

Deborah Weinstein, (left) and Judy Lewis of Strategic Objectives Inc. have won the 1995 Golden World Award for Marketing New Product from the International Public Relations Association, (IRPA). The award honored the PR agency's work in support of a photo corporation's publicity campaign. It's the fourth Golden World Award for Strategic Objectives since 1990.

Gritty film examines racial hatred

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

An Arab teenager is viciously beaten by the police. A riot erupts. A new cycle of violence is unleashed.

No, this is not the West Bank, but Paris, the setting of Mathieu Kassovitz's searing movie, *Hate*, now playing at the Cumberland theatre.

Hate, which left a favorable impression at last year's Cannes Film Festival, turns on three young men — a Jew, an Arab and an African — and their reaction to the latest case of police brutality.

All three live in the projects, the drab neighborhoods just outside Paris where resentment of authority is the golden rule.

Vinz (Vincent Cassel), the Jew, seethes with anger. When a loaded police revolver falls into his hands, he is sorely tempted to use it.

Hubert (Hubert Kounde), the African, is more restrained. But he, too, can hardly contain his rage.

Said (Said Taghmaoui), the Arab, teeters on the fence, bitter at the police, to be sure, but wise enough to keep his cool.

Hate unfolds over a 24-hour period in the immediate aftermath of the riots, as Vinz, Hubert and Said roam the city and let off a head of steam.

The film, which focuses on the interlocking themes of troubled and disenfranchised youth and racial hatred, is made in black and white and in a gritty realistic style.

The language, colloquial, irreverent and profane, reminds one of black or Hispanic gang cultures in the United States.

In a film where racist skinheads lurk behind dark corners, waiting to pounce on their hapless victims, there is delicious irony in the fact that the main protagonists — Vinz, Hubert and Said — are bound in a bond of unlikely brotherhood.

Unrelievedly corrosive, *Hate* offers neither redemption nor hope. Kassovitz calls a spade and spade and lets the cards fall where they may.

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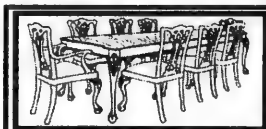
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TAB news

Interactive Haggadah fun

By LESLIE KINRYS
CJN Staff

TORONTO – If you're like me, you're quite tired of all those Passover chores. So, let's take a break with our kids and instead have some fun preparing for Passover, with The Interactive Haggadah.

The Interactive Haggadah, a CD-ROM operating under Windows, comes from the creators of *The Animated Haggadah* book and video. Your computer allows you to enter the world of these colorful clay animated characters with a click of your mouse.

Join the family in English, Hebrew or Russian at their seder table. Click on anyone or anything and see what happens.

But don't stop there. Everything can be clicked on more than once, for added adventures. Be prepared to wait your turn. My family wouldn't let me on until they checked out everything.

My kids' favorites were the jukebox and the clock. Click on Grandmother to get the jukebox of seder songs. Try to name that holiday tune (there are three levels of difficulty). Click on the grandfather clock for time travel to ancient Egypt. Follow the signpost for a stroll along the Nile. You'll hear Moses crying in his basket, while Miriam tells him to hush.

My husband was impressed by the information found within the seder table's haggadah. It includes being able to hear and read the full text of the service with explanations and commentaries.

As usual, I ended up in the kitchen. Check out the cookbooks on the shelf and find some holiday recipes. Also, watch out! If you try to open the chometz cupboard, it will scold you.

For the whole family, there are games, quizzes and puzzles to solve.

The Interactive Haggadah retails for $69.95 at Israel's Judaica stores.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

The Centaur and The Chanteuse: As Theresa Tova rehearses for From Belz to Broadway, the concert she is headlining March 31 at Toronto's New Yorker Theatre, she is also gearing up for a dramatic role in a play at Montreal's historic Centaur Theatre.

Rehearsals start in mid-April for *The Freedman Family Fortune*, by Montreal playwright-actor David Gow. According to Tova, the story concerns a large monied family in Montreal that is loosely based on the Bronfmans or the Steinbergs.

The cast also includes actors Joan Orenstein, Maurice Podbrey and Andrew Ackman. The play opens mid-May and runs to mid-June.

Tova expects to perform some concerts around town while she is in Montreal. As well, she is scheduled to perform a Yiddish concert April 14 at the Capital Theatre in Windsor.

Tickets are still available for the New Yorker concert, which takes place March 31 at 8 p.m. The evening is presented as a benefit to support the development of Tova's *Still The Night*, a new work of musical theatre. For tickets, call 416-537-6066 or 416-789-5100.

* * *

Did You Know?: *Echad Mi Yode'ah?* (*Who Knows One?*) is featured in the Haggadah of the Ashkenazi tradition as one of the concluding songs of the Passover seder. The song consists of 13 stanzas, each made up of questions and their corresponding answers, with all previous sets of questions and answers repeated with each successive refrain.

"Who knows 13? I know 13. Thirteen are the attributes of God; 12 the tribes of Israel; 11 the stars (in Joseph's dream); 10 the commandments; nine the months of pregnancy; eight the days of circumcision; seven the days of the week; six the books of the Mishnah; five the books of the Torah; four the matriarchs (Sarah, Rebeccah, Leah, Rachel); three the patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob); two the tablets of the Covenant; One is our God in heaven and on earth."

According to the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, the purpose of the song was "to keep the children awake" until the end of the seder."

Echad Mi Yode'ah? first appeared in print in Ashkenazi Haggadot of the 16th century. Folklorists have noted its similarity to a popular German pastoral song, with which it shares a line of lyrics. According to 19th-century Judaic scholar Leopold Zunz, the song was sung in Avignon on a variety of festive occasions. Variations have been found in Jewish liturgical music in Ceylon and Cochin, as well as in Greek and English church songs, and Scottish nursery songs.

Theresa Tova

Strong plot and crackling script makes Dangerous Liaisons a crowd pleaser

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — People who enjoy a play which proceeds logically from one turn in the plot to another, and is full of crackling dialogue, will find Sam Rosenthal's direction of *Dangerous Liaisons* to their liking.

The action takes place in prerevolutionary France in this drama by Tribal Productions running until March 31 at Theatre Centre East, 142 George Street, 538-0988.

The brilliant costumes and ensemble scenes are highlights, along with the skilful characterizations of the co-conspirator by Lisa Horner, and of the woman who proves to be the villain's downfall by Sara Dickinson.

Unfortunately, Eli Lukawitz doesn't bring enough menace to the role of the villain to be credible. The audience is too swayed by his arguments to consider him anything but a nice guy being misjudged.

Melany Eli, a student at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, has a minor role as a housemaid. Danny Webber is the producer.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Cairo Diary: Bartering is a way of life in this bustling, dirty, exotic city of 15 million people. From the moment you arrive, you will be beseeched and cajoled to buy perfume, eat a shishkebab, hire a taxi, or purchase an antique papyrus of dubious provenance. You cannot walk far without someone saying, "Hello – are you American?" and perhaps walking alongside you, asking, "Where are you staying? At the Semiramis? Nile Hilton?" and "What would you like to buy?"

The streets are overgrown donkey paths, ill-equipped for the motor traffic that now clogs them. Few intersections have traffic lights. Cars honk continuously. Not even the white-uniformed traffic police can tame the disorderly stream of vehicles that includes donkey carts, horse-drawn buggies, even pickup trucks loaded with livestock.

The sights, smells and sounds are overwhelming. Here, a man is polishing a car; a boy is beating a donkey; three men in caftans are sitting at a cafe, drinking Turkish coffee and smoking a hookah; a girl, barefoot and in rags, plays with a dog; a veiled woman reclines on a pile of straw. The nostrils are filled with incense, dung, perfume, smog, fresh-baked bread, dust from the desert. The calls of children, muezzins and wild geese reverberate in the air.

In a bazaar by the Nile, street after narrow street is filled with a diverse assortment of apothecaries, bakeries, cafes, furniture makers, rug weavers and merchants of aluminum kitchen utensils, colorful fabrics, cassette tapes, leatherbound Korans. Behind pushcart and scales, an elderly woman takes the hen she has been weighing, sips some water and bites the live chicken mortally through the neck.

En route, by foot, to the Egyptian Museum: "Hello, mister, you need a taxi? I take you all around Cairo – the pyramids, the Citadel Mosque, Old Cairo, the old synagogue, the old Coptic church. Everything."

"No thank you. I'm just going to the museum."

"Ah, well then, perhaps later? I will wait for you."

"No thank you. That won't be necessary. *Salaam al komen*."

Relics of ancient dynasties

The Egyptian Museum is a wonderful 19th-century building of classical proportions with a massive collection of sarcophagi, mummies, obelisks, statues and other relics of ancient dynasties. After two hours, my usual limit, I emerge into the daylight, wondering what to do next.

"Hello, mister! I wait for you! Now I take you to pyramids, okay?"

"No thank you. I've already seen them."

"To the Citadel Mosque and Old Cairo I will take you. I show you everything. You will be very happy or you give me nothing. Okay?"

The negotiation for the two-hour hire starts near $50 (US), which we both agree is a ridiculous figure, and ends at about 20 Egyptian pounds, or about $10 – "plus *baksheesh*." Our first stop is the Citadel Mosque of Mohammed Ali, a spectacular piece of architecture with a commanding view of the whole megalopolis, including the Sphinx and the three pyramids on the desert's edge.

To reach the 800-year-old Ben Ezra synagogue involves passing through Old Cairo, where the squalor is overwhelming. The roads are no more than dirt tracks, the houses stone hovels with corrugated iron rooves. From the taxi, one peers into the City of the Dead, a centuries-old cemetery whose tombs double as residences for the poor.

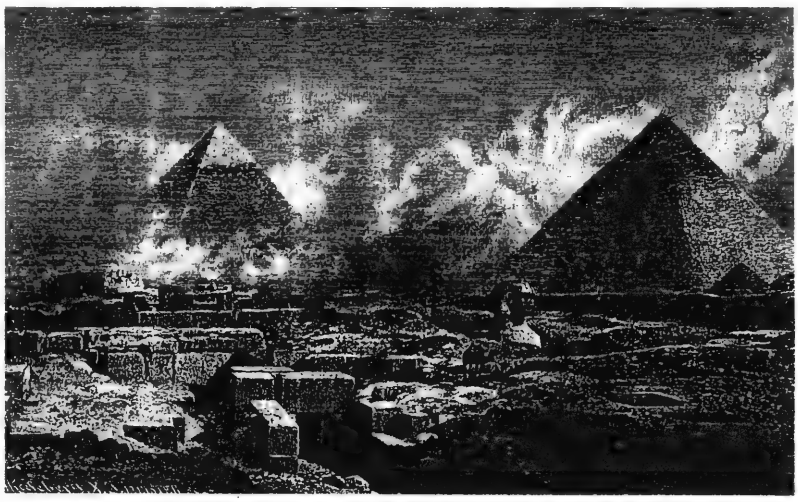
"Mister, are you Jewish?"

The venerable old synagogue is plain, dusty, under constant repair. For centuries, its attic *genizah* was the burial place for more than 100,000 discarded Hebrew texts, letters and other documents. The *genizah*, rediscovered in the 19th century, has yielded a wealth of knowledge. (Prominent in medieval times when Maimonides lived here, Cairo's Jewish community has all but disappeared.)

My first visit to the pyramids was at night; like the views, the sound and light show was disappointing. So on my last full day in Cairo, I return to the pyramids. Now the taxi rolls right up to them in daylight and their grandeur becomes at once apparent. Then we go further into the desert and look back at them with the sprawling, smoggy city as a backdrop.

For three Egyptian pounds I buy entry into a pyramid. An old man leads me, crouching and backwards, down a narrow sloping tunnel deep into the monument's heart. Eventually we enter a chamber with a stone sarcophagus inside and flecks of ancient paint on the wall. Back in the Egyptian air, I give my self-appointed guide the expected *baksheesh* and buy my waiting driver a Turkish coffee at a cafe beside the quixotic Sphinx.

Although many of Egypt's famous monuments were ancient even in the days of Jacob, some historians conjecture that Jewish slaves helped construct them. It's a fertile irony that we who were once slaves in Egypt may now return as tourists, dispensing *baksheesh* as we go. For information on travel in Egypt, contact the Egyptian Tourist Authority in Montreal, 514-861- 4420.



A lithograph of the ancient Egyptian pyramids and the Sphinx.

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Toronto trio trying to form a Jewish triathlon club

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ever felt you were on a treadmill, walking or running but not getting anywhere?

Oh, the cardio can be pretty good as the "Ks" add up, but boy can it get boring doing the same routine over and over again.

Howard Esakov has what he believes is an appealing alternative for like-minded athletes who don't mind a challenge — training for triathlons.

Esakov is a triple-threat sportsman who's starting a club for other budding Jewish triathletes. He and his friends Randy Richmond and Michael Cohen are devotees of the sport, seeking to turn on other weekend (and weekday) warriors to the joys and benefits of running, swimming and biking your way to a healthier future.

Plywood Man

The proposed club, which has no name as yet, will bring athletes together to train, to create camaraderie and social bonds, to promote the sport and to permit the group to enter events as a team, he said.

While triathlons may be best known for the Iron Man variety — where athletes run 42 kilometres, swim four kilometres and bicycle 180 kilometres, in anywhere from eight to 14 hours — he and his friends practise a gentler brand of the sport. More Plywood Man than Iron Man, they compete in events that generally entail eight to 10-K runs, 25- to 30-K bike rides and 750-metre swims.

They've got their eyes set on several summertime events in Barrie, Collingwood, Orillia and King City and they've already begun pounding the pavement and doing laps in preparation for the competition, Esakov said.

Three times a week, they get together at a mid-Toronto pool for early morning laps. Then, for one night a week, they hit the track at York University for eight Ks of interval training (high intensity runs followed by a brief rest followed by more running, etc.). Finally, twice a week, they ride stationary bikes at a sports club, though with the weather changing, outdoor rides are getting on the itinerary.

Esakov says participation in triathlons is growing as "people are getting sick and tired of one-dimensional sports. They want variety."

The new club will be open to men and women of all levels of achievement, with cost set at $25. Members will receive a T-shirt, a training schedule and the encouragement of working out in a group environment, he said.

For more information, Esakov can be reached at 905-731-4433.

WE'RE NUMBER ONE

Sporting big smiles, the boys from USDS Bayview celebrate victory in the first-ever Jewish day school hockey tournament over teams from Bialik, USDS Bathurst and Associated North. Seen here (back row, from left): Oren Eizenman, Erez Eizenman (asst. coach) Josh Korman, Matthew Henechowicz, Jeff Somer (co-head coach), Leny Puterman, Jared Puterman, Jared Shochyet, Jason Puterman (asst. coach). Front row (from left): Jason Szames, Lee Grossman, Rafe Malach, Michael Somer, Seth Klerer, David Goldstein, Brandon Marek, Shane Urowitz, Milton Mednick. Absent: Benjy Goldstein (co-head coach).

Junior gymnast finishes first

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Justin Gerson continues to vault up the gymnastics ladder.

The 18-year-old Toronto-area athlete finished first overall in the Elite Canada gymnastics competition in Montreal recently, bettering the efforts of Canada's top 27 junior gymnasts.

The first place finish comes on the heels of a third place result at the Union of West Vienna Cup late last year.

For Gerson, the Montreal meet produced his best showing yet in a major event and included a victory over number 1 seed Ben Potvin of Ottawa. Potvin came in second at the Canadian nationals last year.

Potvin led in scoring after Day 1 with Gerson close behind, but Day 2 was a different story, as Gerson continued his solid performance while Potvin faltered.

Potvin finished fourth, while Gerson edged out his nearest competitor by a cumulative score of 100.35 to 99.85. The half point difference is the equivalent of a deduction for a fall, Gerson said.

A second in rings and a third in parallel bars were Gerson's best scores. Other events included pommel horse, floor exercises, vault and high bar.

"I felt really good," Gerson said. "The month before, my training was really good. I was hitting the [routines] in practice and I hit them in the competition."

Except for a fall on Day 1, Gerson was nearly flawless.

"I was trying a new move on the high bar, a release move. I let go of the bar and catch it and then repeat it, except I missed the second catch," he said rather matter-of-factly.

The results of the Elite Canada competition count for 30 percent of marks needed to make the national team. The other 70 percent will be determined by the results at the Nationals in Sault Ste. Marie in May.

A strong showing in the Soo — top eight, Gerson believes — should place him among the four highest-ranked members of the junior team and will likely mean a ticket to the Junior Pan Am Games in Guatemala in August.

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Lake Simcoe, Belle Ewart, 3 bdrm, public beach, next to daycamp, $3500 per season. eves. 785-6222, 763-4553.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

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120 COTTAGE WANTED

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Live-in companion for Jewish lady, kosher home, refs. req., call 633-7934.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Who knows whereabouts of Peter Lewinger, born 1944, Slovakia, parents Lenka Bernstein & Ivan L. Immigrated to Canada or USA, 1948. Write to: Jana Guy-Skripsky, 11 Rue de Bourgogne, 1260 Nyon, Switzerland.

You're in the Air/Con-refrig'n business & travel to Israel frequently. I lost your bus. card, please phone 416-787-3453.

270 PERSONALS

Musicians wanted to jam for jazz band, traditional, Dixie, swing. Call Milt 905-889-4499

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Active female, 55-60, intelligent, fit and cultured, sought by an established, useful 65 yr old male who enjoys sports, theatre & travel, for a permanent relationship. Box 6723 CJN.

Articulate, caring widower, 42, interested in computers, sports, music and art, seeks intelligent, outgoing female, 35-46, who enjoys children & public affairs for a lasting relationship Box 6724 CJN.

Gay, white, Jewish, Sephardic male, romantic, university post-grad, 48, looks late 30s, 5'8", 140 lbs., seeks same, 30-40, for long term, non smoker, no alcohol, no drugs, HIV negative. Box 6714 CJN.

Jewish female, 40, very much into nature & outdoor sports, spontaneous, fun-loving, family orientated seeks male friend & companion. Box 6725 CJN.

Man 60 +, educated, sincere and sensitive is interested in a serious relationship with a woman, 50 +, of European or Canadian origin, Box 6683 CJN.

Re. Box 6706: Replies to this box for ad in the issue of Feb. 22 beginning: "SJF, 32, 5'5..." were lost by the Post Office. Please reply again to Box 6706 CJN.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #________
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

SJF, 29, attractive, intelligent, fun-loving, would like to meet other singles, male and female who are interested in going to clubs and singles events. Box [illegible] CJN.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJF, 30, who enjoys the variety life offers seeks funny, caring, SJM for a long term relationship. To find out more, write me at Box 6726 CJN.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Support Group for adults who have been emotionally abused by their families. Please contact Risa at 416-226-5299.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

AIZIC - Gil & Dunja are thrilled to announce the birth of their first, Alana Goldie Emily, on Feb. 26, 1996 at 6:30 p.m. Proud grandparents are David & Aliza Aizic, Rudolf & Maria Stoehr. Special thanks to Dr. Grynspan, Dr. Levy & the maternity staff at Branson Hospital.

BRAUDE/YABLONSKY - Paul and Linda Braude have great pleasure in announcing the engagment of their daughter, **Lisa**, to **Shmuel**, son of Reuben and Ruth Yablonsky.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Wedding gown bought in May at $2300, all lace and beads, size 8/9, worn for 2 hours, hoop skirt, veil. Asking $1000. Must sell! Other assorted gowns available, 782-2275.

330 OBITUARIES

Hank Gruenstein on February 29, 1996, late of 182 Banbury Rd.
Naomi Adaskin on March 1, 1996, late of 38 Orchardview Blvd. #1605
Patricia Wall on March 3, 1996, late of 95 Ridge Hill Dr.
Fanny Goldbach on March 3, 1996, late of 218 Old Forest Hill Rd.
Louis Selskey on March 3, 1996, late of 6200 Bathurst St. #606
Merle Gordon on March 3, 1996, late of 4981 Bathurst St. #604
Bertha Roebuck on March 4, 1996, late of 355 St. Clair Ave. W. #604
Leo Levitt on March 3, 1996, late of 3036 Bathurst St. #414
Hattie Bloom on March 5, 1996, late of 780 Eglinton Ave. W. #313
Morris Bessner on March 5, 1996, late of 173 Park Home Ave.
Lillian Brooker on March 6, 1996, late of 4979 Bathurst St. #211
Cecille Hyde on March 7, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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330 OBITUARIES

MAJER, Elizabeth - On Tues. March 12, 1996, wife of the late Eugene, mother of Arthur and Edith Majer. Loving grandmother & greatgrandmother. Sister of Elmer and Ada Farkas. Burial was in Windsor, Ontario.

Ginsberg, Molly on March 11, 1996
Jacobovici, Joseph on March 11, 1996, late of 601 Finch Ave. #502
Zigelstein, Alex on March 12, 1996, late of 601 Finch Ave. #1121
Knafo, Albert on March 14, 1996, late of 351 Christie St.
Awenus, Louis on March 14, 1996, late of 14 Southgate Ave.
Lindzon, Sara Queenie on March 15, 1996, late of 73 Ava Crescent
Sharpe, Thelma on March 15, 1996, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. W.
Lenskis, Berta on March 17, 1996, late of 6030 Bathurst St. #1809
Gould, Alda on March 17, 1996

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Grace Weinzweig on March 7, 1996, late of 102 Rajah St. #105
Jerry Korman on March 8, 1996, late of 3720 Bathurst St. #714
Samuel Starkman on March 8, 1996, late of 69 Palm Dr.
George Barkin on March 10, 1996, late of 1 Northwestern Avenue
Lou Miller on March 10, 1996, late of 10 Twickenham Court
Chana Rosenblatt on March 8, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Pauline Goldman on March 9, 1996, late of 36 Hove St.
Renee Matenko on March 10, 1996, late of 15 Leacock Cres.
Sophie Edelist on March 9, 1996, late of Seven Oaks Nursing Home
Sandra Tash on March 8, 1996, late of 450 Winona Dr. #409
Harry Maltman on March 10, 1996, late of 20 Shallmar Blvd. #104
Jane Berenbaum on March 11, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
Mary Qualer on March 12, 1996, late of 1 Northwestern Ave.
Raye Heksel on March 12, 1996, late of 31 Four Winds Drive #610
Jack Sky on March 11, 1996, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E. #2301
Avis Fram Alderson on March 11, 1996, late of 804 Indian Rd.
Joseph Chapnik on March 12, 1996, late of 1121 Steeles Ave. W. #811

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

Call 422-2528
for information on rates

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Dear Lisa,

This spring I will be graduating and I haven't seen any job advertisements related to my experience. Where else can I look besides the newspapers? What should I do?

Dear Reader,

Continue to read the newspapers, but expand your reading to include more than just major papers. In addition, job listings in the newspapers are slim so don't count on seeing something there.

Visit the employment centre at your campus. The people there can help with resume preparation, job search tips and work placement opportunities. Often graduates of your school who are now working will place their company's job advertisments at their campus employment centre.

Find out if there is an association in the career area you want to enter. If you can't find one, check the Directory of Associates in Canada. Some associations advertise job postings in their newsletters; all of them offer opportunites to meet people.

Volunteer in an organization that will let you practice what you have learned. This will give you experience you can place on your resume and may lead to a work opportunity in the organization where you have been volunteering.

Speak to your teachers and see if they know of any work opportunities. If they don't know about any openings, ask them if they can recommend two people to talk to about work opportunities.

Go to the library and research companies in your area of interest. To find these employers look in directories such as *Scott's Industrial Directory, Canadian Key Business Directory, Dunn & Bradstreet's Directory, Fraser's Canadian Trade Index, The Blue Book* (list of social service agencies) and *Canadian Advertising Rates and Data* (list of advertisers and advertising agencies). Many other directories can be found with the help of your librarian. When you research, look for a contact whom you could speak to about the company, the industry and your hopes for employment.

Ask for a brief meeting and show that person a copy of your resume. A question about job opportunities within that company can also be part of the discussion.

Begin to read trade magazines, journals and publications related to your field. Keep your eyes open for companies who are doing well. Industries currently in the growth mode include technology, environmental services, communication and media relations and anything related to aging.

When you contact a potential employer be polite, professional and prepared. Have a few questions ready. Know a little bit about the company you are contacting. Show some focus regarding your career, but be open to suggestions. Listen closely and don't interrupt.

If every day you speak to 10 people who are in a hiring position, you should find a job within three months. It's finding these people that takes the effort.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Gulet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

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A WONDERFUL FINISH TO YOUR SEDER MEAL

1 cup dried apricots
2 cups water
1 cup sugar or honey
3 tblsp lemon juice
2 tblsp Passover Triple Sec
4 egg whites

Bring apricots and water to a boil, lower heat and simmer until soft (about 15-20 mins.). Reserve water. In a food processor or blender, purée apricots, 4 tblsps cooking liquid, sugar or honey, lemon juice, Triple Sec. Beat egg whites until stiff, but not dry. Fold into apricot mixture. Chill. If desired, garnish with chocolate dipped apricots. *Serves 6 to 8.*

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

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Shaliach ties two communities

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — A former Soviet Refusenik who was able to escape to Israel long before the Soviet Union broke up, is bringing the message of her new homeland to British Columbia communities.

Orit Katzov, the United Israel Appeal (UIA) shaliach to the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, has spent the last three years here "trying to get Vancouver Jews closer to Israel."

Katzov, born in Kiev, managed to make it to Israel in 1973, after more than a year of agitating to emigrate and taking part in a hunger strike with a group of other Jews, including her husband Alex — a protest which attracted attention around the world.

"Protesting in the Soviet was something you didn't do easily," Katzov told *The CJN*. Nevertheless, she and 15 others took the risk and succeeded in due course.

She had completed three years of a BA at Kiev State University but was expelled when it became known she wanted to emigrate to Israel. She was also fired from her job as an information officer with the Kiev Ministry of Communications.

Her family had observed Judaism "to a degree," she said, "and I always felt that I was Jewish and should be in Israel."

Katzov earned a teaching diploma and a BA in English and Russian studies at Hebrew University. That, plus a bubbling personality, won her a job with the Israeli Ministry of Tourism. Then she was transferred to South Africa, where she earned a diploma in public relations at Damelin College in Johannesburg, and she mastered the mysteries of the computer. Meanwhile she served Israel as emissary to students for the South African Zionist Federation.

Then it was back to Israel to become director of the Jerusalem office of the Israel Public Council for Soviet Jewry, a position she held for six years until the Jewish Agency sent her to Vancouver in 1982 or 1992.

Her public relations and administrative experience has been used during special assignments with the Jewish Agency: a freedom flight to help bring Jews out of the Soviet via Hungary; face-to-face canvassing for UJA in South Africa; a tour to the Soviet Union with a UIA Canada group; Operation Exodus fundraising in Australia; speaking assignments in Toronto and Calgary; and other tasks.

In British Columbia she is available to help all Israel-based organizations. If it's an Israel meeting or social, you can be sure Katzov is there talking up Israel. She lends a hand with the Jewish National Fund Negev Dinners in Vancouver, Victoria and Kelowna, and, as she put it, "I try to explain the challenges and realities of Israel today. I work hard to promote a lasting partnership between Israel and Canada, and especially encourage young people to visit Israel and think seriously about aliyah."

Jewish continuity, she said, is important to her "and I can't see fostering Jewish identity without an Israel connection. Jewish identity and Israel are one."

You don't have to be religious to be a supporter. "It's in the heart," she says. "To be a Jew, make Israel part of your life."

She said Vancouver Jews have warm feelings for Israel. "It's a vital, vigorous community and I've received a very courteous reception here."

You can now send your letters through

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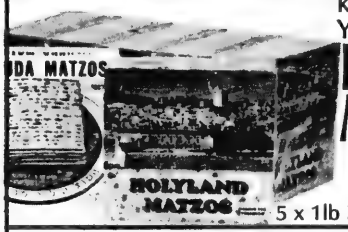

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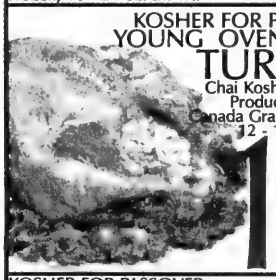

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TURKEYS
Chai Kosher COR 218
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Canada Grade A, Frozen
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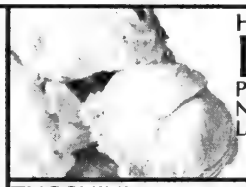
1.89 LB
4.17 kg



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ZUCCHINI
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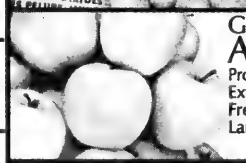

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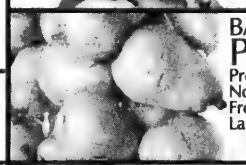

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GRAPE JUICE
Assorted Varieties
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This Week
Greater Toronto Area

Shlork! Ron Boyd gives weight to superheroes. ***Page 16***

Coast to Coast

Polish ambassador honors teens who died in Auschwitz revolt. ***Page 32***

Sports news

Mathieu Schneider: the other guy in the Wendel Clark trade quickly makes his presence felt. ***Page 39***

Kid's news

Two-page special section, first in a monthly series. ***Page 40***

TAB news

Israel's economic counsul to Canada, Yael Varsano-Barzilay, is optimistic about Israel's economic future. *Profile* ***Page 55***

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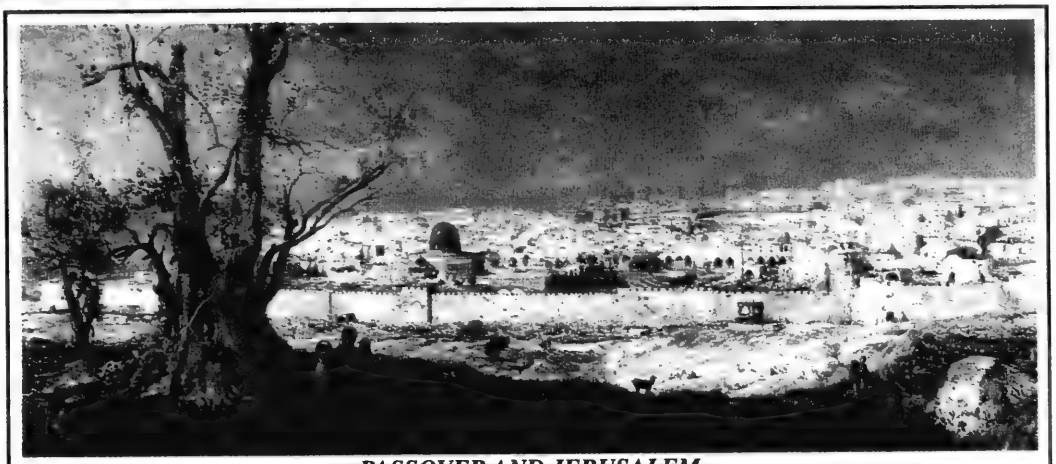

PASSOVER AND JERUSALEM

"Three special holidays celebrate for me during the year." (Ex. 23). The three holidays became the pilgrimage holidays to Jerusalem, and Passover is the first of the three. In *A View of Jerusalem* by Pierre Tetar van Elven, we see visually expressed the language of Psalm 87 "The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwelling places of Jacob."

Tracking down Arafat's 'speech'

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

A story which claims that Yasser Arafat outlined a plan in Stockholm, Sweden, to eliminate Israel through the Oslo peace process has sparked an international debate concerning its veracity.

Some maintain that the story is unsullied fact, others claim it is a nefarious example of media manipulation, and still others are just unsure.

The controversy, which has left a long paper trail, has exploded at a sensitive juncture:

• The Mideast peace process, which has divided Jews in Israel and in the Diaspora, has been shaken by a spate of suicide bombings in Israeli cities.

• An Israeli election, too close to call, is set for May 29.

• The Palestine National Council, the parliament-in-exile of the PLO, is scheduled to convene soon with the avowed purpose of amending the PLO's national covenant, which calls for Israel's destruction.

• A Hebrew-language daily, *Ha'aretz*, recently reported that Israeli and Palestinian officials drafted a secret agreement which purportedly addresses such thorny issues as the future of Jerusalem and the possibility of a Palestinian state, a claim denied by Israel.

The story about Arafat's alleged remarks first appeared in the Feb. 2 edition of the *American Jewish Times*, a biweekly in Howell, N.J. The newspaper, with a circulation of 5,000, opposes Israel's negotiations with the PLO. The author of the piece, Manfred Lehmann, believes that the current peace process is a fraud and a danger to Israel.

Feature Report

On Feb. 7, the story was broadcast by Arutz Sheva, the off-shore Israeli radio station which supports the Jewish settlement movement in the territories.

On Feb. 9, Lehmann's story was reprinted in the *Algemeiner Journal*, published in New York City. *Dagen*, a small, conservative daily newspaper in Bergen, Norway, which is described as "Christian Zionist" in orientation, picked up the story on Feb. 16, and ran it on its front page with a bold headline.

In Israel, the story was carried by, among others, the *Jerusalem Post* and *Ha'aretz*.

It has also received play in *The Economist*, a British news magazine; in Cal Thomas' syndicated column in *The Washington Times*; in a *Wall Street Journal* editorial; and in Gary Rosenblatt's column in *The Jewish Week* of New York.

In Canada, the story was mentioned by right-of-centre columnist Barbara Amiel in the March 18 issue of *Maclean's*, and reported in the March 14 edition of the *Tribune*, the house organ of B'nai Brith Canada.

Throughout North America, the story has been ignored by such dailies as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Toronto Star* and *Globe and Mail*.

Asked to explain the omission in his newspaper, the foreign editor of the *Globe and Mail*, Patrick Martin, said: "The story was terribly murky and the source seemed unreliable. There seemed little basis for believing it. Its authenticity seemed in doubt. It became very questionable. We won't touch a story that seems doubtful."

Lehmann, however, is "absolutely convinced" that his account is true. By his reckoning, Arafat told a closed meeting of Arab ambassadors at the Grand Hotel in late January of his grand strategy toward Israel.

Arafat, chair of the PLO and president of the Palestinian Authority, was reportedly in the Swedish capital to receive a peace prize shared by Peace Now, the Israeli Labor party's young leadership group and the PLO's Fatah Youth organization.

According to Lehmann, Arafat told the Arab envoys that a Palestinian state was in the offing, that the PLO's objective was to split Israel into two psychological camps, that many Jews would leave Israel, and that the PLO planned "to eliminate the State of Israel" and replace it with "a purely Palestinian state."

In an interview from his winter home in Miami Beach, Lehmann claimed that Arafat's purported comments are in line with his calls for holy war against Israel and with Islamic doctrine that Muslims are not permitted to make peace with Israel.

Continued on page 3

EARLY DEADLINE

Display advertising deadline for the April 18 issue is Tuesday, April 9 at noon. Deadline for classified and organization ads is Monday, April 8 at noon.

Special report on adoption in our Passover supplement

The News In Brief

CANADA

Cohon To Be Honored

TORONTO – Toronto businessman George A. Cohon and his family will be among a select group of international Jewish families who will be honored as part of the State of Israel Bonds Jerusalem 3000 delegation in April.

Cohon and his family will participate in a special ceremony, where they will encase in a special time capsule, scrolls capturing the legacies of their famliies who have contributed of their energies and resources to the communities in which they live, to the State of Israel and to Israel Bonds.

Heritage Experience

MONTREAL – The national small communities committee of Canadian Jewish Congress is organizing a Summer Family Bar/Bat Mitzvah Heritage Experience in Israel which will take place Aug. 4 to 14.

The itinerary will include visits to Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem, Masada and much more.

For more information call Shellie Ettinger at 514-931-7531 or Frances Maron of Travel-Ezre at 1-800-387-9966.

ISRAEL

El Al Jet Hit By Lightning

JERUSALEM – An El Al flight to New Delhi and Bangkok was forced to turn around shortly after takeoff last week after it was hit by lightning.

The accident, on March 25, damaged the plane's weather radar equipment, forcing the plane to return to Ben-Gurion Airport for repairs.

None of the 270 passengers on board were injured. The flight took off after spending an hour on the ground.

Hamas Cell Uncovered

JERUSALEM – Palestinian security officials in the Gaza Strip maintain they have uncovered a secret network of the military wing of Hamas that is dedicated to attacking Israel and weakening the Palestinian Authority.

The head of the Palestinian Authority's Preventive Security Service in Gaza, Mohammad Dahlan, was quoted as describing the network as more dangerous than a group of Hamas fugitives wanted by both Israeli and Palestinian police.

Second Terminal Opened

JERUSALEM – In an effort to cope with the expected rush during the Passover holiday, a second terminal started operating at Ben-Gurion Airport.

The terminal, normally used for domestic flights, was converted to handle international charter flights.

Ethiopian Blood Donations

JERUSALEM – Only six Ethiopian immigrants have donated blood since it was disclosed the blood is not used.

All six pints have been frozen pending recommendations by the Navon Committee, investigating Magen David Adom's policy of not informing the donors their blood would be discarded.

Likud On the Internet

JERUSALEM – The Likud party has launched its Web site on the Internet making it the first political party in Israel to establish a presence on the information super highway.

The site will include up-to-date information on the party's election campaign, as well as details about the Likud leadership and the party's history.

The site can be found at http://www.likud.org.il.

Israeli Population Up

JERUSALEM – Israel's population has reached 5.6 million, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The bureau, reporting preliminary results of a 1995 census, said March 25 that Israel's population increased by 40 percent since 1983, when the total population stood at 4 million.

The bureau also said that the number of settlers living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip had grown to 134,000, compared to 24,000 in 1983, when the last census was taken.

Science Pact Signed

JERUSALEM – Israel and the European Union (EU) last week signed a scientific cooperation agreement in Brussels.

Under its terms, scientists from both sides will be able to work together in technology-oriented research programs.

Israel is the first non-European country to be associated with EU research programs, which also gives it access to European private industry.

WORLD

Immigration Reform Bill

WASHINGTON – One week after gutting anti-terrorism legislation, the House of Representatives included a key provision of the measure in an immigration reform bill.

Lawmakers approved streamlined deportation proceedings for accused terrorists living in the United States. The measure, which was buried in the immigration bill, drew no attention during debate.

Mini-mall Halted

NEW YORK – In the wake of criticism from Jewish leaders and the Polish government, construction of a mini-mall across the street from the Auschwitz death camp has been halted.

The project came to a stop last week when a Polish retailing outfit, Krakchemia SA, withdrew its participation from the controversial plan to sell food and other services to visitors to Auschwitz.

Pollard's Hopes Dashed

WASHINGTON – The White House closed the door on Jonathan Pollard's quest for a pardon, with White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta saying that President Bill Clinton opposes an early release for the confessed spy for Israel at this time.

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Julia Koschitzky of Toronto;
Lionel H. Schipper, Q.C. of Toronto;
Robert Vineberg of Montreal.

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Vol. XXXVI, No. 48 (2,794)

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Contents of Arafat speech denied by all

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Pearl Herzog, editor of the *American Jewish Times*, called Israel's talks with the PLO "a *piece* process" designed to exert pressure on Israel to relinquish territory.

Lehmann, who charged that the Israeli government has tried to suppress the story, claimed that the contents of Arafat's alleged comments were leaked to an unidentified freelance Jewish journalist in Sweden by an unidentified Arab diplomat who attended the meeting.

"The ambassador was struck by the bellicose and hateful tone of the speech," Lehmann said. "He took notes and passed them to a friend."

Lars Storstrand, a *Dagen* reporter who covered the story and stands behind it, said that one of his sources was the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem.

According to Akiva Eldar, the Washington correspondent of *Ha'aretz* who has followed the story closely, the International Christian Embassy is against the Oslo peace process. Efforts by *The CJN* to reach the International Christian Embassy were unsuccessful.

Gadi Baltianasky, the press counsellor of the Israeli Embassy in Washington, told *The Canadian Jewish News* that Arafat never stated that his goal is the elimination of Israel.

"This story was invented by interested elements. I will not name them. They're doing such a thing not for the first time. The aim of those people who oppose the peace process outside Israel is to try to sabotage any chance of success of this process, to damage the chances."

Speaking from Stockholm, the PLO representative in Sweden, Eugene Makhlouf, who claimed he was present at the meeting, denied that Arafat had ever spoken in terms of undermining Israel's existence.

"He did not say a single word of this. Arafat said the Oslo process is the only way for the peace process to go ahead, and he expressed the hope it would succeed."

Makhlouf added that extremists on both sides are attempting "to disrupt" the peace process.

"It's a conspiracy to discredit Arafat at this time," observed Rashad Saleh, head of Palestine House in the greater Toronto area. "Arafat has many enemies. People are fishing in muddy waters and spreading rumors."

Eldar, who discussed the story on the television program *Canada AM* in early March, said that neither the Israeli nor the American ambassadors in Stockholm have been able to clearly verify the accuracy of the story.

"It looks like a campaign of disinformation to discredit the peace process," he noted.

Eldar said that just before appearing on *Canada AM*, he had read Cal Thomas' syndicated column, in which he wrote that "Arafat's remarks ... were later confirmed by Israel's most respected military correspondent, Ze'ev Schiff, in the *Ha'aretz* newspaper."

But in a March 15 letter to the editor in the *Washington Times*, Schiff protested. "I never wrote about Mr. Arafat's meeting with the Arab ambassadors, and this was not mentioned in any of my columns. I can neither confirm nor deny that Mr. Arafat said this."

Ehud Ya'ari, in his April 4 column in *The Jerusalem Report*, claims that "the government of Israel already has ... full confirmation of the accuracy of the words Arafat has been quoted as saying in his meeting with Arab diplomats in Stockholm."

Ya'ari could not be reached for clarification. "I understand he is quite inundated with such requests from journalists and cannot manage to speak with everyone who calls him," said a receptionist at *The Jerusalem Report*.

Paul Michaels, director of communications of the Canada-Israel Committee, said the story remains unverified. "We ask the media to be accurate in dealing with Israeli and Middle East issues," he cautioned.

David Bedein of the Institute for Peace Education in Jerusalem, which monitors Arafat's speeches, said he had "no way of knowing" whether his alleged comments in Stockholm are accurate.

But he pointed out that Arafat has delivered scores of inflammatory speeches in the past year.

Eli Yerushalmi, chargé d'affaires at Israel's embassy in Ottawa, said "no one in Israel" really takes Lehmann's story seriously.

Gary Rubin, executive director of Americans for Peace Now, said the story lacks attribution and is therefore "totally unfounded."

Greater Toronto Area

A long-distance hug for the people of Israel

Hirsh Goodman, the editor-in-chief of the *Jerusalem Report* is an experienced newspaperman and writer. We have grown accustomed to reading his freshly-reasoned and concisely-written analyses of contemporary political events in Israel. He backs away from no issues. He "paints" what he sees in clear, vivid, bold strokes. Because of its uncompromising honesty, his column in the April 4 issue of the magazine struck like a jab into the solar plexus of our concern and care for Israel.

Goodman wrote about "how vulnerable (Israel) has become, just how close we are to exploding emotionally and physically". He describes Israel as "a country on tenterhooks...In four months, this country has gone through unbelievable trauma: it started with Rabin's assassination, and now it's this spate of suicide bombings. Every nerve is raw. Everything seems to hang in the balance. We are walking on eggshells."

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Sense of siege

What grips the reader most though and steers him toward a feeling of melancholy is the column's downcast, sentimental conclusion from this usually upbeat, unsentimental writer. "If Israel has ever been in need of a hug, the time is now. Perhaps this is a war that is hard to see and understand. But never has the time for encouragement been so ripe."

We must provide that encouragement. It mustn't be maudlin or mawkish. Rather, it must be realistic and resolute, based on the deep personal and collective truth of shared peoplehood and common destiny, on the lofty notion that we are responsible one for the other, and on a view of Jewish history as unfolding along a metaphysical line, inscrutably but inevitably toward a better future.

In an attempt to respond to Goodman's plea, I reproduce excerpts of an article which I wrote nine years ago, to try to abate the sense of existential siege felt by Israel and its people at the height of the intifadah.

As Goodman points out, with Israel "on the eve of an national election that promises to be ugly, and with international sympathy...dissipating into tacit condemnation," that sense of siege also persists today. The specific focus of what I wrote nine years ago dealt with Jerusalem, but its overall objective was encouragement to the Jewish people inside and outside of Israel. Thus it applies as much today as it did then.

As we suggest elsewhere in *The CJN*, in the editorial, the connection between Jerusalem and the need to provide encouragement will become evident in the days and months ahead when the international community begins shining an increasingly questioning and intense spotlight on Jewish sovereignty over all of Jerusalem.

"In their war, Israel's enemies have resorted to a propaganda of moral inversion. Over the past 20 years, they have insidiously appropriated the symbols and the vocabulary of Jewish history. The Holocaust as hoax. Zionism as racism. Israel as Nazi. Palestinians as victims. Arabs as Jews. As a result, without reference to historical truth, the world has come to redefine its terms of reference in the Middle East, withdrawing from Israel the aspects of the argument that formerly were hers: equity and passion.

"And now we are in the midst of the latest appropriation - Jerusalem's stones. The visual imagery is strong and clear: tattered, courageous, stone-throwing youth against a mighty and fearful army, the few against the many, David versus Goliath. But the symbolism is false and the imagery contrived. We must understand this for what it is - a further tactic in the effort to undermine the only Jewish state on earth: Israel.

"We must not surrender to those intent on Israel's harm, the symbolic possession of the stones of our history, the precious pieces of our millennial longing. Those who would deny our history must be the possessors of its symbols. Not unopposed.

" Jerusalem's stones are the anvil of our memory on which was forged, in captivity and dispersion, the nation-sustaining dream of Return. We have always loved these stones, even as we have always loved Jerusalem.

" 'Arise and have compassion upon Zion. It is time to be gracious unto her; the appointed time has come. For your servants hold her stones dear and have pity on her dust.' (Psalm 102:15)

"Jerusalem's stones bear the secret stirrings of our past. We have held them in our hands and carried them in our hearts. We have erected altars with them, and gravestones. We have kissed them; we have prayed with them. We have blessed them, and in turn, sought their blessing. They are the Temple. They are the Kotel. They are Jerusalem. They are Zion. Through the long night of our exile they were our signposts, our future, to be rebuilt, reassembled into a national normalcy. And now they are hurled against us. We cannot surrender their sanctity to those who would decree for us no future and no normalcy.

Secret stirrings of our past

"In his firm grip, young David held five smooth stones. He stepped forward boldly, because the others, standing aghast and ashamed on the ridge of the valley, would not dare. No choice save combat existed for him.

"Today's stone-throwers, though young, are not David. They step forward in stealth, masked, while on the side, their leaders cheer and exhort and decry and defame. The youngsters are the weapons; the rocks the excuse. Possibilities beyond combat are not even considered.

"Three generations of Jews have stood in modern Jewish history, witness to Israel's rebirth: the Remnant, which, in 1947 proclaimed "We shall not die, but live;" the Reawakened, which, in 1967, was stirred back to Jewish life; and now, the Remote, which, alas, in 1987, finds the road to Zion strewn with confusing images, less inviting, less certain.

"We must restore to their hearts what has been lost to their doubt - the justice of our cause, and, the cause of our justice - our history, our right to be sovereign in the land of our dreams, the land which our stones have built and would yet build.

"Israel is Jerusalem. Jerusalem is in the stones. The stones belong to us. No inversion or attempted appropriation can make it otherwise. Throughout the ages we pledged to set Jerusalem above our highest joys. We shall not repudiate that pledge. To do so would be to repudiate the Bible, our history. And if we repudiate the Bible, we repudiate ourselves."

Not repudiating ourselves is the flip side of hugging Israel. MBD

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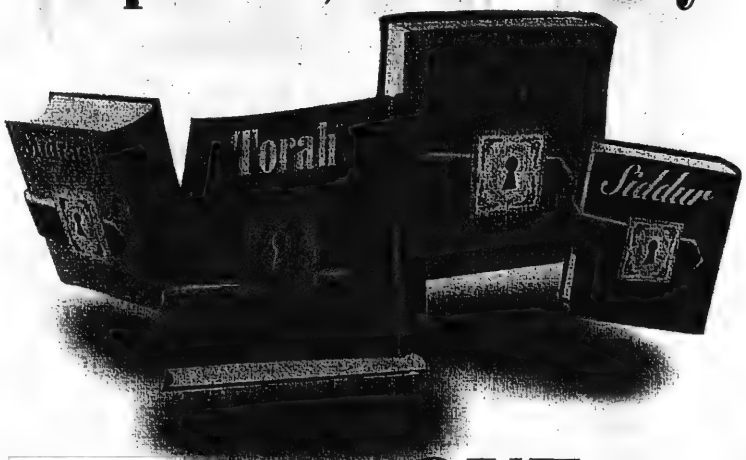

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Greater Toronto Area

Court dismisses Heritage Front contempt charges

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Federal Court judge last week dismissed a charge of contempt of court against the Heritage Front, its leader Wolfgang Droege and Front member June French.

The recorded telephone message that formed the basis of the complaint against the three did not vilify the Jewish community to the extent required to support a contempt charge, Judge Bud Cullen stated.

"I am not satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the evidence demonstrates that the message was likely to promote hatred or contempt of the Jewish community," he wrote in an 18-page judgment.

The case against Droege was launched by the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC), which alleged that Droege, French and the Front had violated a consent order not to communicate messages on the telephone that are likely to expose people to hatred or contempt.

Evidence presented by the CHRC alleged that on Feb. 2, 1995, a telephone message recorded by French charged that "Nazi hunters are on the rampage."

The recording criticized government efforts to bring Nazi war criminals to justice and it asserted, "The Jewish community is prepared to pull elderly men out of nursing homes and off life-support systems ..."

In his judgment, Cullen was critical of Mervin Witter, director of the CHRC's Ontario region, who had transcribed the message. In one transcript Witter had written "Jewish mafia" while in a second he had written "Jewish lobbyists."

In addition, Witter had first written that the Canadian government was "seeking vengeance for the Jewish community," while in the second transcript he had written it was "seeking justice for the Jewish community."

Witter's mistakes were serious and affected the evidence of Susan Ehrlich, an expert on linguistics and text analysis, Cullen wrote.

The judge rejected Ehrlich's analysis of the message, saying the recorded message "does not vilify the Jewish community in the same manner or degree" as earlier messages by the Front that formed the "baseline" for comparison.

"I am also troubled that neither the CHRC nor Ehrlich took the time to examine whether there was even a grain of truth in some of the allegations in the subject message," he added.

Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay, deputy chief of the CHRC, said a decision on an appeal has not yet been taken, but she suggested "this might be a problem because it's a question of fact only" and legal issues were not at the heart of Cullen's decision.

The CHRC will continue to monitor the Front's hotline and won't be deterred from other legal proceedings should they be warranted, she added.

"Canadian Jewish Congress was very disappointed with the decision," said Ellen Cole, the organization's chair of community relations.

"We point out that the Heritage Front hot line has a notorious history of vilifying minorities in Canada ... In this instance, the message clearly promoted contempt towards our community. Although the documentation in this case could have been better prepared, we believe there is room for the CHRC to consider an appeal," she said.

Tel Aviv mayor to visit

TORONTO — The mayor of Tel Aviv is coming to Canada primarily to thank Canadian supporters of the Tel Aviv Foundation.

Roni Milo will visit Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal to resuscitate the foundation, relaunched a year ago after being dormant for some time.

He will also study the subway systems of Toronto and Montreal because underground transit has become a priority in Tel Aviv, the foundation's director, David Altman, told *The CJN* during a recent visit here.

Since its establishment in 1977, the Tel Aviv Foundation has raised over $250 million worldwide for day-care centres, kindergartens, seniors' facilities, public parks and sports centres, especially in poor and depressed neighborhoods.

Last year, the foundation opened a centre for troubled adolescents donated by Claridge Israel Inc., the holding company owned by Montreal's Charles Bronfman.

Milo, who chairs the foundation, will meet a Toronto contributor who has donated a public park to Tel Aviv. The dedication will take place in June.

Milo will be in Vancouver from April 10 to 13, in Montreal on the 14th and Toronto from the 15th to the 18th. While in Toronto, he will take part in the launch of Yom Hashoah services at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Earl Bales Park.

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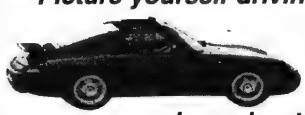

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Congregational Kiddush - Noon
Lecture - 12:30 p.m. in the Jacob Hendeles Chapel
Topic: ***"Russia in Crisis"***

Sunday Morning - April 14th
Lecture - 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Topic: ***"Judgement at Nuremberg: 50 Years Later"***

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JNF hands out honors as part of Jerusalem 3000

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

Top row, (l-r): MC Frank Wilson, Allan Silber, Rabbi Irwin Witty, Irving Abella, Moshe Ronen and JNF Toronto president Tom Ungar. Bottom: JNF Toronto board chair Rose Ziner, Judy Feld Carr, Rosalie Abella and Frances Mandell National VP, JNF Canada. [Clifford White photo]

TORONTO — A Jewish "group of seven" was honored here last week by the Jewish National Fund (JNF) of Toronto, as the organization launched its year-long Jerusalem 3000 celebrations.

Those receiving a Jerusalem of Gold Award from JNF world chair Moshe Rivlin were historian Irving Abella, Judge Rosalie Abella, Syrian Jewry activist Judy Feld Carr, Livent chairman Garth Drabinsky, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen, businessman and communal volunteer Allan Silber and Rabbi Irwin Witty, the retiring director of Toronto's Board of Jewish Education.

Carr noted that a total of 3,211 Syrian Jews escaped the country as a result of the efforts of the Toronto Jewish community.

The gala evening at a packed Leah Posluns Theatre, co-sponsored by Canadian Zionist Federation, also heard greetings from Israeli consul general Jehudi Kinar, JNF Toronto president Tom Ungar and Naomi Frankenburg, national JNF Jerusalem 3000 chair.

Rivlin, a seventh-generation sabra, recounted his ancestors' perilous, year-long journey from Eastern Europe to Palestine, beginning in 1810. He said they were asked to go live in the Holy Land by the Vilna Gaon.

Soon to be unveiled in Jerusalem will be a public park named for slain prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, he said.

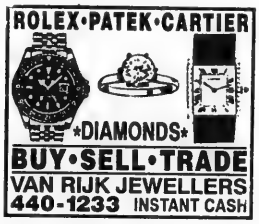
Rivlin exhorted Diaspora Jews to put aside differences of opinion on politics. "If it's one thing that unites us, it's Jerusalem. If a day goes by that we don't strengthen Jerusalem, we will be sorry. It's much more important to build, build, build," he said to applause.

He called on Toronto Jewry to support building Gan Yaldei Yisrael, a JNF project in the Jerusalem Peace Forest, a children's park.

A pitch was also made for the construction of KKL Park Jerusalem 3000, a huge JNF anniversary gift to the Israeli capital.

Envisioned as an outdoor amphitheatre and recreation site in southwestern Jerusalem, plans call for picnic sites, playgrounds and a venue for special events that will accommodate 40,000 people.

The evening's highlight was a colorful musical play, *Our Jerusalem — Gan Yaldei Yisrael*, staged by 35 Toronto teenagers. The production encapsuled in song and dance 3,000 years of Jerusalem's history.



Hospitals the losers in govt. funding plan, Baycrest exec. says

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last week's announcement by the Ontario government that it will boost funding to community-based home care for the elderly by $170 million is good news and bad news for the Jewish community, says an official of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

It's good news because the Jewish community has long lobbied for more money for home care for the elderly. But it's bad news because the extra funds will come at the expense of the amount the province spends on hospitals, points out Baycrest vice-president Moshe Greengarten.

Health Minister Jim Wilson last week said the funding boost for home care will mean an additional 80,000 to 100,000 people will get long-term care at home.

But the extra money will come from the $1.3 billion the Tory government plans to cut from hospital budgets over the next three years.

That means less money for Baycrest's hospital and home for the aged, Greengarten notes.

"The community will benefit [from the boost to home-care funding]. It's needed and welcome. But it's a reallocation of funds from the hospital sector to the home sector. We will definitely be affected, but we don't know yet how."

Under the new funding formula for homes for the aged and nursing homes, about $144 million will be taken from 138 institutions, and redistributed to 362 institutions, meaning Baycrest may get a much smaller piece of the pie.

Starting in June, nursing homes and homes for the aged will be funded according to what kind of care patients need.

But the allocation of more money to home care means more Jewish elderly, especially those on waiting lists for institutions, will be able to remain in their homes longer, Greengarten explained.

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THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED

From coast to coast

Israeli organization thrives behind the scenes

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Despite her expertise, you will rarely hear Sari Revkin's name or see her face in media reports dealing with social issues in Israel.

The 41-year-old Brooklyn-born director of SHATIL, who was in Toronto and Montreal recently, is firm about operating only "behind the curtains."

The Jerusalem-based organization that she has headed for the past 12 years was founded by the New Israel Fund (NIF) in 1982 to provide Israeli non-profit social change organizations with free hands-on assistance in such areas as media relations, advocacy and fundraising.

After Ethiopian immigrants rioted in January following revelations that Israeli blood banks had been discarding most blood donated by Ethiopian olim, Revkin was asked to speak on an American radio program about Jews and Racial Justice, she said in an interview at the Toronto office of the New Israel Fund of Canada.

"Absolutely not," was her response. "One of the key issues that people were so angry about is who took leadership in the community. For us to speak in their name is as bad as everything the government's been doing."

A social worker by profession, Revkin has worked closely with groups representing virtually every segment of Israeli society since she joined SHATIL in 1984, a year after making aliyah. At that time she was the only paid employee, not even working full-time.

In the past dozen years, the organization, whose Hebrew name is an acronym for Consulting Support Service, has expanded to three offices (the main one in Jerusalem and outreach offices in Haifa and Beersheva) with a total of 30 employees. Its budget has grown from $25,000 (US) to $1.5 million.

Over the years, SHATIL has assisted a total of 500 organizations, not all of which are funded by the NIF. Some are well established; others are informal groups of people wanting to change their situation.

The Beersheva office, which opened last year, is largely supported by Canadians, Revkin noted. It serves the entire Negev, reaching out specifically to the Bedouin population so that they can have greater access to services such as preschools.

Canadians have been involved with SHATIL not only as donors but as volunteers, lending their skills to SHATIL or its organizations for six months or more. There is also a volunteer program for professionals who share their expertise on a short-term basis, even a day or two, she said.

Sari Revkin

Now that Israeli elections are imminent, SHATIL is helping organizations get their issues on the political agenda. "Since we don't have a representational government, [politicians] have to build constituencies."

Revkin emphasized that SHATIL doesn't write grant proposals or do other work for the organizations, but focuses on teaching them how to help themselves.

Now SHATIL is branching out further, helping non-profit organizations in countries like Bulgaria develop a SHATIL model.

"We see ourselves as emissaries of democracy, [sharing] what we've learned with emerging democracies."

Jewish literary magazine becomes reality for students

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A student's idea — to start a Jewish literary magazine — has become a reality, thanks to a $600 (US) student initiative grant from the Hillel International Foundation.

York University student Sidura Ludwig, 19, recruited three of her peers — Janna Cohen, 21; Moishe Weinberg, 24; and Dave Gordon, 24 — to co-edit the publication with her. All four are English majors.

Dorot: A Contemporary Jewish Literary Magazine is hot off the press, and a launch party was held recently at the York University Student Centre.

The publication's name is the Hebrew word for Generations. "We want to show the public the talent of today's youth," say the editors in the first issue.

"Our mandate is to publish creative pieces — fiction and some non-fiction," said Ludwig recently at York's Jewish Student Federation, a sponsor of the magazine.

"The bottom line is, we want well-written pieces from diverse points of view. We should be getting people to think. If not, we're not doing our job."

The editors also welcome artwork. All submissions must have a Jewish theme, although contributors need not be Jewish themselves.

The first edition is available at Jewish campus offices in Toronto and in limited quantities, in other Canadian cities.

A mixed bag of prose and poetry, with a gracefully executed cover illustration by Liora Zion, who also designed the logo, the 8½ by 5½ inch, 30-page first effort includes eleven written pieces. Among them are a poignant allegorical tale, an essay on a York Arab Student Federation display, a sensitively written short story about a teenager dealing with the death of his alcoholic grandfather and four poems.

From left, Janna Cohen, Sidura Ludwig, Dave Gordon and Moishe Weinberg discuss submissions for their new Jewish literary magazine, *Dorot*. [Frances Kraft photo]

The editors mulled over all contributions, checking them for literary merit, Jewish content and appropriateness for university-age readers.

"We should have had five editors," Ludwig said with a laugh, referring to the occasional need for a tie-breaking opinion.

The editors aim to publish twice yearly and hope to distribute *Dorot* across the country eventually. Submission deadline for the next issue is Oct. 18, 1996.

Dorot can be reached c/o Jewish Student Federation, 442 Student Centre, York University, 4700 Keele St., North York, Ontario M3J 1P3.

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Passover 5756

The splendor of the seder only starts with the story. As we have written in the past, the seder is a singularly special occasion among Jewish holidays. It exceeds "mere" celebration in a way far beyond all other holidays. Indeed, as Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Ottawa suggests on page 9 of *The CJN*, that is its essence and its purpose. The seder is an excursion into the far-off but ever near reaches of Jewish history.. Through collective experience and collective memory, the soul of the individual soars to a point in the national past.

The seder evening is a rich pageant of history, a dialectic of discovery, a culinary feast in which all who are hungry are invited to join, and all who are in need, are invited to take part. Reclining comfortably around a long table, with family and friends, the exodus is "re-enacted" deep into the night. The eyes of the children are made wide with tricks and tales, miracles and merriment, symbols and song.

Very few stories indeed, in the Bible or in classic western literature, can match the sheer drama, the force, the imagery and the sweep of the exodus from Egypt. To what part of the human imagination does the story not travel? Which corner of the human heart is left untouched?

As history, as metaphor; as politics, as theology; as prose and as poetry, the story of the delivery of Israel out of bondage by God's outstretched and powerful hand is the seminal fire that burns in the innermost part of the human spirit. All torches of human endeavor-- idealism, liberty, freedom, revolution, justice, the rule of law, decency, goodness, truth, conscience, hope, possibility, future and optimism -- are sustained by and take their flame from this original fire.

The seder summons us to come together, sit together and speak together. Around that long table, we gather each year to tell, re-tell and "re-enact" the story and thereby, to ensure that the magnificent original fire will burn for all generations.

...and Jerusalem

Like Yom Kippur, the most solemn of the Jewish holidays, the seder concludes with the proclamation: *"Next year in Jerusalem."*

For 3,000 years, in each generation, around each of those long tables, we have uttered this very same proclamation. It is a metaphysical tie, a hope, a vision and an inspiration. It is also a fact that will soon need to be stated and re-stated and re-stated yet again by all of us who have gathered round a seder table in 5756.

After the upcoming elections in Israel, the issue of Jerusalem will occupy centre stage in the "final status" negotiations. The election platforms of both major parties include solidly, unassailable planks on the subject of Jerusalem. They are both committed to maintaining the Oslo process. And they are both committed to an undivided Jerusalem standing forever as the capital of the sovereign Jewish state.

There will undoubtedly be a great deal of international pressure brought to bear on Israel to offer up some form of territorial, functional or political compromise on Jerusalem for the sake of Arab honor, Palestinian dignity and a "comprehensive peace" in the region. Thus, regardless of the party that wins the election in Israel, the entire Jewish world must be united on the subject of Jerusalem. Inter-communal divisions must fall to the side. Isaiah's plea must form our code of political conduct on the subject of Jerusalem. "Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, **all** you who love her. Rejoice with her in joy, **all** you who mourn over her."

For three thousand years, Jerusalem has occupied our hearts and filled our prayers. Jerusalem has always been the pilgrim's destination, the seder's conclusion, and Passover's fulfilment. It is the blue light at the centre of the heart of the flame of Judaism's seminal fire.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

Light is perceived only out of darkness.

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

At a seder in 1922 at the home of David Marks in Vancouver, Benny Kubelsky met Sadie Marks. Five years later they were married and became famous under the stage names of Jack Benny and Mary Livingstone. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Time to give thanks

There are usually good reasons to do or not to do something, and sometimes it is better to do it late rather than later. I would like to thank, while I still have a voice, the American Army, my liberators in Dachau; the Canadian Jewish Congress, the Jewish people of Canada who gave what money they could, who gave their time, who opened their homes, who, after the Holocaust, helped hundreds of boys and girls like myself to come to Canada to start a new life.

I was one of those "boys" in 1948, who arrived in Halifax from Germany via the Kinderheim in Prien, a place also maintained and staffed by Jewish money. What this granting of a new beginning meant for me then, what it means to me today, from a distance of almost half a century, words cannot adequately tell.

Life and an opportunity to prevail is all I ever wanted. I found myself a sole survivor at the age of 14. My mother had five sisters, all married and they all had children, all lost. I had lost my father in 1931, when I was only one year old. I had a tremendous desire to be, to want to continue. It seems that throughout my lifetime, it was the goodwill and generosity of other people who made life possible and fulfilling for me. Relatives, friends, teachers, persons often strangers to me, reached out to help. I am now a father and grandfather whose very survival was and is immeasurably helped by you, the people of Canada.

I am deeply moved, not only for what I received and am receiving, not only because you spoke up and reached out, but also for granting me that I too may be part of "you," that I too am able to contribute.

George L. Scott
Willowdale, Ontario

Terror must not derail peace process

Outrage and condemnation will and should follow the latest cowardly and sickening atrocites by members of Hamas on innocent civilians in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. As deplorable and despicable as the acts are to any right thinking human being, they must not be used to derail the peace process. To do so would be to play into the hands of those whose single agenda is the destruction of the State of Israel. While doing everything reasonable to keep Israel an open and free democratic society, the Israeli and Palestinian authorities must implement stringent methods to ensure that those who harbor and encourage such acts are monitored and where necessary, punished according to law.

The Hamas leadership must know where these terrorist madmen are trained and by whom they are funded and where the bombs are assembled. Undoubtedly, much support comes from renegade states like Libya, Sudan, Iraq and Iran, and when links are established, UN sanctions should be immediately imposed. The Palestinian Authority should declare Hamas an illegal organization and prosecute all members who support its murderous activities. By doing so, Yasser Arafat will empirically demonstrate that he is committed to peaceful coexistence with Israel and is not simply using the process as a vehicle to impose the PLO mandate to drive the Israelis into the sea.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Attorney general has to answer

I was shocked to learn that Attorney General Charles Harnick, my own MPP, had caused Sabina Citron's privately laid charges against Ernst Zundel for conspiracy to promote hatred and publishing defamatory libel to be withdrawn because of "insufficient evidence." As Citron notes in your report (March 21), Harnick had been very critical of past attorney generals' behavior and, indeed, his own re-election campaign literature had clearly stated that he intended to make an issue out of why no attorney general in Ontario had ever given signed authority to have Zundel prosecuted under the anti-hate legislation. That is why Citron has had to lay charges privately and under different laws.

Harnick has a great deal to answer for!

Bernard Katz
Toronto

Rabbi Marmur's lesson in humility

Lorrie Goldstein's response to Rabbi Dow Marmur misses the point. It is Premier Mike Harris who believes himself to be "right," that only he knows what is in our best interest. He sees himself as "the savior."

Rabbi Marmur emphasized "G-dliness," which has been dangerously lacking for a number of years. It is the major priority of life.

It is the arrogance, the lack of respect and dignity and the condescending attitude of this government that enrages us. It is the speed, thoughtlessness and lack of planning with which decisions have been made that are totally unacceptable.

In my opinion, Rabbi Marmur is giving the government a lesson in humility. It is the religious community that must call us to task since too many have forsaken that part of ourselves that makes us human.

Etta Ginsberg-McEwan
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Understanding God's promise to Israel

By RABBI REUVEN P. BULKA

Illustration by Edward Dunbar

Passover is designed for us to gain a profound appreciation of our history.

There are three paragraphs in the Haggadah which address this issue. The first deals with our ancestors as idol worshippers, the second focuses on God keeping the promise to Abraham and the third concerns the sustaining nature of the promise.

These form an interrelated series: the first paragraph goes back to the roots; the second reflects on the present moment — in seder terms, the exodus from Egypt; and the third paragraph reflects on the post-exodus realities, up to and including the present.

"At the very outset our ancestors were idol worshippers, but now God has brought us near to serve God, as it is written: Yehoshua said to the entire nation: Thus says the Lord, God of Israel: Your fathers always lived on the other side of the river, Terach the father of Abraham and Nahor, and they worshipped other Gods. Then I took your father, Abraham, from over the river and led him through the entire land of Canaan; I increased his offspring and gave him Isaac. To Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau; to Esau I gave Mount Seir to inherit, but Jacob and his children descended into Egypt." (Yehoshua, 24:2-4).

A full appreciation of history demands going back to the beginnings, to those events which may seem inconsequential but which in hindsight are crucial to our understanding of what we are all about.

Thus, we go back to the very first days, when our ancestors tasted other menus and lived other lifestyles. But our spiritual parents recognized the folly of these alternatives and embraced the way of God. God has now brought us near because of Abraham, who rejected idolatry and realized the existence of one God only. Abraham transmitted this monotheistic belief to Isaac, Isaac to Jacob, and Jacob to his 12 sons, who were to become the super-families, or tribes of Israel.

The Haggadah quotes from Sefer Yehoshua (the Book of Joshua). The quote is not to prove that our ancestors were idol worshippers, since only the idol-worshipping ancestry is referred to and in any event, that point is explicit in the first verses. The subsequent verses, referring to God's taking Abraham and giving him Isaac, and blessing Isaac with Jacob, followed by Jacob and his children going down to Egypt, only tell half the story. The actual bringing near of the people of Israel to serve God is elaborated in subsequent verses, but these do not appear in the Haggadah. It must be assumed that the omission of these verses is no accident.

That reason may be linked to the purpose of citing the verses from Sefer Yehoshua in the first place: to prove that when contemplating our history, we must go back to the beginnings.

For this purpose, there is no better source than the verses in Sefer Yehoshua. Yehoshua has summoned the Israelites just prior to his passing, to give them a parting message to reinforce their faith in God. The parting message is an eloquent synopsis of Israelite history, from the idol worship of their ancestors to their settlement in the land of Israel. After pointing to all the great deliverances effected by God for Israel, Yehoshua then elicits a promise that they will remain steadfastly faithful to God.

Yehoshua does not focus only on their immediate past. He takes the people back to the days of idol worship, to stress that our spiritual ancestors had the wisdom and courage to reject idolatry.

In addition, Yehoshua urges the people to see themselves as part of a larger context. They are not a new entity making a new beginning in a new land. They are in Israel because of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses and Aaron. They must not lose sight of their history, of their triumph over adversity.

The verses cited from Sefer Yehoshua offer a vivid illustration of how we must approach the telling of the story at the seder. The story has its climactic moment; it also has its vital beginnings.

Immediately after the last point in the verses that "Jacob and his children descended into Egypt," Yehoshua reminds the people of how the redemption from bondage was effected by God through Moses and Aaron. Since this redemption is the central theme of the seder, it is unnecessary to cite Yehoshua's references to it.

We move on to the second paragraph, about God keeping the promise made to Israel.

"Blessed is (God) the keeper of God's promise to Israel, blessed is God. For the Holy One, blessed is God, took into account the end (limits of endurance) to do according to that which had been said to our father Abraham in the Covenant between the parts, as it is written: God said to Abraham: Know with certainty that your offspring will be aliens in a land that is not theirs, and they will enslave and oppress them for 400 years. And also the nation whom they shall serve will I judge, after which they will leave with a great bounty (heritage)." (Bereshit,15:13-14).

We contemplate the sense of timing that was involved in the redemption. The history of Israel up to the point of redemption is a history of suffering, but a measured suffering. God took into account the limits of endurance and how much the people could endure before reaching the breaking point. That is when He intervened.

God had previously promised Abraham that his children would be enslaved in a foreign land and that they would be redeemed with a great deliverance. Both the servitude and the deliverance are part of the promise. That deliverance was promised is understandable, but why was enslavement also promised?

The human being cannot really appreciate freedom if the absence of freedom has never been experienced. Thus, enslavement in a strange land was intended to engrain in the Judaic psyche an appreciation of freedom and of home. This was part of the promise. God told Abraham that his ancestors would inherit the land of Israel and that they would also appreciate the land.

The people of Israel left Egypt with a deeper understanding of human dignity and of what being free means for the human being yearning to live a meaningful existence. That the Jewish people have throughout history been the champions of human rights is no accident. It is a lasting legacy, part of the great bounty that was promised to Abraham when his ancestors would leave Egypt.

Unfortunately, the appreciation of freedom, of the land of Israel and of God Who granted these great gifts, did not endure. Expulsion from the land and exile therefore followed.

The obligation to recall the enslavement in Egypt is thus an imperative to continually remember what absence of freedom means, to value freedom and to be grateful to God as the agent of that freedom. Historically, we have had lapses, but we resolve on Pesach evening to be guided by the past towards better behavior in the present.

We move now to the third paragraph of this important trilogy. It offers a deeper understanding of the ultimate meaning of God's promise to Israel, a meaning with implications for our own times.

"It is this that has sustained our ancestors and us. For not merely one has risen against us to annihilate us. Rather, in every generation they rise against us to annihilate us, but the holy One, blessed is God, rescues us from their hand (designs)."

Implicit in the promise given by God to Abraham is the assurance that no matter what they may be forced to endure, the people of Israel will never be destroyed. They will persevere through the worst pogroms, crusades and mass murders. The losses may be heavy, but the people of Israel and the idea of Israel will never end.

All this is implicit in the promise.

In explicit terms, God spoke only about the exile and enslavement in Egypt and the eventual redemption from bondage. Implicitly however, the promise goes beyond the Egyptian enslavement. For it is small comfort to know that your great-grandchildren will benefit from a great deliverance, but that after a few more generations, your family will be totally destroyed. The promise of deliverance applies to all of Jewish history.

It is this, the implicit pledge in the promise, that has sustained our ancestors and us. We have often hovered on the edge of disappearance, but at the last moment, or when people seemed almost lost, God intervened to save the day and the future.

During the seder, we culminate the short excursion through Jewish history with a triumphal tone, lifting the cup of wine to sing God's praises. We do not exult; we exalt. Our survival is not our victory as much as it is God's. With all that we have endured, we are still grateful to be alive and free to tell the story.

Our cup is full even though we may have reason to complain. For it is characteristic of the community of Israel to magnify the good that God has done for us, to be grateful and appreciative. We express the hope that the entire community will soon be able to voice such thanks.

Next year, may we all be able to celebrate Pesach in Jerusalem!

Rabbi Bulka is the spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa.

Opinions

Why wasn't Netanyahu at summit?

By Emil Fackenheim

I started this column after the Israeli government accepted the Nobel Prize (July 1995). Had it refused to do so until there was peace, the whole country would have supported it. But in accepting the prize, the government widened still further the Israeli polarization already caused — or in any case widened — by the Oslo accord.

Now I have a sense of déja vu. The "Summit of the Peace Makers" is about to take place, but Shimon Peres has not invited Benjamin Netanyahu to join him at Sharm el-Sheik. The reason given is that U.S. President Bill Clinton is not bringing a Republican, and British Prime Minister John Major is not bringing a Laborite. But the United States and Britain are not at war. In contrast — as Peres himself has said — after four suicide massacres in 10 days, Israel is. When the United States was at war, FDR kept consulting Republican Senator Vandenberg; and Clement Attlee was in Winston Churchill's cabinet.

The announced subject of the "Summit" is "international terrorism." It so happens that on this particular subject Netanyahu is, among politicians, one of Israel's longest and most persistent students. To say nothing of his earlier work, there is his recent *Fighting Terrorism*, a book available in America since last October, and soon available in Israel as well. Precisely because he has stressed all along the need for fighting terrorism worldwide, he would, at the "Summit," have special authority to protect against deflections, bound to occur, from the *particular* terrorism that caused the hasty convocation of the Summit. And no Israeli could insist on stressing the four suicide massacres of Jews in Israel, without asking whether — what with Israeli withrawal from areas vital to her security — Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PA) is part of the problem or part of the solution. Will even-handed attention be given to both possibilities? Here are some questions:

Prior to Oslo, Yitzhak Rabin deported many chief Hamas inciters, and more than 200 murdered Jews might, arguably, still be alive had the world supported him. Instead, coming down on him like a ton of bricks, the world forced him to take them back. Will the Summit now support such Israeli action, at the same time — lest once again they are stuck in no-man's land — provide a place where to take them — say, Oslo?

In clear violation of the Oslo accord, European politicians have kept visiting Orient House in Jerusalem, encouraging PLO claims to the city. For obvious reasons, they are staying away this time, but will they return in a few weeks, or announce that, until there is real peace, they will never set foot there again?

To turn from the world to Israel and Hamas, the British used to bury Muslim suicide terrorists in pig skins, preventing their entry into heaven and apparently this tactic worked: the word got around and without their reward in heaven the suicide terrorism stopped. Will Israel announce that in the future it will emulate this policy?

To turn from Israel and Hamas to Israel and Arafat, will Israel, with support of the Summit, follow its announced policy and interrupt the peace process unless Arafat makes, not a few cosmetic changes in the Covenant calling for Israel's destruction, but removes 30 of its 33 articles?

To turn to the world, Israel, Arafat and terrorism, in the past the PA has arrested wanted Hamas terrorists, only to release them after a suitable time. Despite many requests by Israel, to this date no Arab terrorists, however heinous their crimes against Israelis, have been handed over to Israeli justice. Will the "Summit" cause Arafat to change his policy?

With the leader of the opposition as well as the prime minister present at the Summit, I would be a bit more optimistic about positive answers to these questions. At least the world would have been shown that, when it comes to massacres of Jews, Israel is united.

Becoming a just and holy people

By David Hartman

As Pesach approaches, many of us are asking ourselves: How can we celebrate our liberation while feeling the pain and anxiety of the recent acts of terrorism and fanatic violence? What possible meaning can the words "Next Year in Jerusalem" have when Jews fear riding on buses or walking the streets of Jerusalem?

We believed in our hearts that our return to Jerusalem would usher in a period when Jews would no longer feel the anxiety of homelessness and powerlessness, when the Jewish psyche would regain a sense of security and trust.

It appears, however, that the idea of redemption in terms of total security and safety is more of a messianic hope than an historical fact. In this sense, the prayer "Next year in Jerusalem" still remains unfulfilled because we realize that returning home – in the fullest sense – remains an aspiration and not a description of our lived reality.

Nevertheless, we continue to celebrate the holiday of Pesach and to retell the great drama of liberation which marks the birth of our people. The significance of this lies, I believe, in its deep formative effect on Jewish consciousness. The story of this founding moment of our history combines two countervailing motifs: a great hope for redemption and a profound understanding of the pain and suffering of unredeemed history.

Jewish history and Jewish memory begin with the words: "We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt." The first memory engraved in our souls is that of slavery and exploitation, of the humiliation and degradation of being subject to the arbitrary will of a political despot.

"A new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph" (Exod. 1:8) Despotism cannot be healed by finding favor or by appeasement. The abuses of power are endemic to the human condition. History may always give rise to new pharaohs who seek power without limits, who feel no moral compunction in reducing human beings to objects. The story of Passover shatters any romantic illusion about the inherent goodness of human nature and history.

However, our movement from Egypt to Sinai – from the cruel despotism of Pharaoh to the hopeful vision of Moses – informs the harsh reality of human oppression with the dream of becoming a holy people. As long as we maintain Moses' dream – as long as we understand the significance of commandment, of law and of justice and we don't lose sight of what human life can and should be – we can face the realities of human history without despair.

Tell your children the story of Pharaoh and Egypt. Do not romanticize life or deny the reality of exploitation and injustice. But, at the same time, bring them to Sinai, to the place where a nation of slaves heard a call to aspire to holiness and justice.

Throughout Jewish history, we never revelled in the degradation of Egypt because we held on to the dream of Sinai and Jerusalem. Despite our bitter experiences of hatred and moral ugliness, our psyches were not defined by our suffering. Our longing for Jerusalem was the expression of our dream that one day the sword would be turned into the plowshare.

In recent history, the rebuilding of Israel and Jerusalem embodies the sense of hope that has always nurtured us as a people. The State of Israel attests to our strength to defy the pharaohs of the 20th century by our decision to become a visible – and vulnerable – member of the community of nations. The Jewish people refused to define itself as a persecuted victim. Instead we chose to build a homeland in a world where evil and violence continue to defile the human spirit. This courageous act shows that moral aspiration and hope can transcend the memory of suffering in shaping our destiny.

As in the past, so today, we cannot let the terrorists and the Assads of history become the focal points of our identity.

No one knows if suicide bombings will end or whether another madman will blow himself up in a crowded bus or pedestrian crossing. We are told there is no absolute security against maniac terrorists.

There is, however, one form of security which our enemies have never been able to destroy. It is our power to remember and to tell liberation stories; to pursue freedom and justice even from the margins of history; to sing "Next year in Jerusalem" in spite of insecurity and vulnerability.

We must never forget Egypt; we must never forget the Holocaust. But we must remember that what makes us Jews is the fact that Moses brought us to Sinai.

We must, as always, teach our children that Jewish identity is not defined by the memory of suffering but by the prophetic challenge to become a holy and just people - by our continuing to sing "Next year in Jerusalem."

Some notes on Pesach calendar

By the time you read this column, Pesach is about to arrive, and Christians will be celebrating their Passover.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

No, this is not a slip of the pen (alias computer keyboard), for "Passover" is indeed the holiday that Christians too will observe during our Pesach week. Better known as Easter in the English speaking world, the festival is almost everywhere else in the West known by a variant of the Hebrew *pasach*, to pass over, which recalls the biblical story of the angel who passed over the houses of the Israelites who identified themselves as the children of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and readied themselves for the exodus from Egypt. Thus European languages speak of *pasch, pask, paask, pascua, pasqua* and, in French *pâques*. And to what does Easter (or, in German, *Ostern*) refer? To a long forgotten pagan goddess, Eoastra.

The early Christians still considered themselves as Jews and insisted on identifying the death-and-resurrection story with the observance of Pesach and observed their festival always at that time. Later on, a struggle developed within the Church between those who wanted to preserve their Jewish memory and those who wanted none of it. After some centuries, a compromise was reached and the observance of the Christian Passover was arranged to remember both the Jewish moon calendar and the Roman solar year.

We Jews of course continue to celebrate Pesach on the same day in our calendar, on the 15th day of Nissan (the first seder being observed the night before). To be sure, our calendar, being based on the revolutions of the moon around the earth, also pays attention to the solar year. For 12 revolutions of the moon would not quite add up to 365 days and therefore, in order to keep Pesach in the spring, we insert an extra month into our calendar to keep us au courant with the season. (The extra month, Adar II, is inserted seven times during a 19 year period). To repeat: in the Jewish year the date of Pesach always remains on the 15th of Nissan.

That's the way the first Christians too celebrated their Holy Week, but the above-noted compromise altered it in this fashion: Western Christians identify the first full moon after the spring equinox (this year April 4) and observe Easter on the Sunday following. Thus both the solar equinox and the lunar year are used in arranging this feast in the Christian calendar, which every year falls on a different day.

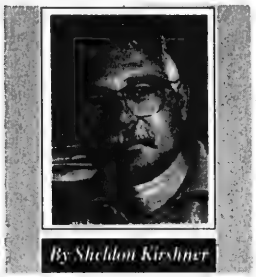
However, despite their origins, Pesach and Easter have little in common nowadays. For us, the festival recalls the beginnings of Israel as an independent, identifiable people, and the Haggadah recasts the biblical story into its familiar frame. It is a pity that so many families run through the text without comprehending its message and instead have their eyes fixed on the culinary feast.

Make sure that there is enough time to tell the tale and discuss its meaning. The gathering of family and friends is the frame of the celebration, but the focus must be on the story. It's a party all right, but a party to which God must be invited.

The Kirshner File

Buchanan's presidential bid attracted extremists

Pat Buchanan's presidential aspirations are dead in the water now that Bob Dole has mathematically clinched the



Republican party's nomination. For a while, following his startling victories in the Louisiana caucus and in the New Hampshire primary, Buchanan's prospects seemed limitless. But in truth, he never really had a chance of wresting the glittering prize from Dole, being too far removed from the mainstream.

Never mind that Dole called him an extremist, or that Steve Forbes, yet another GOP aspirant who dropped out of the race, described him (and Louis Farrakhan) as "a dangerous" political force.

The most damaging blows to Buchanan's candidacy were in fact administered by two putative allies, the Christian Coalition, whose social views he upheld with untiring conviction, and Barry Goldwater, the 1964 Republican party nominee.

The Christian Coalition, whose endorsement he desperately sought, eventually backed Dole, though some of its members and sympathizers will stick with Buchanan to the bitter end. Buchanan has not withdrawn from the race. And Barry Goldwater, the grand old man of the Republican party who once proclaimed that "extremism in the defence of liberty is no vice," branded Buchanan's message as "fearful and decisive."

Buchanan, a right-wing populist who has been likened to George Wallace and Huey Long, is an xenophobic nationalist who articulates the fears, resentments and desires of an insular and perhaps nativist bloc of voters who want to outlaw abortion, bring prayer back to schools, limit legal immigration, jettison free trade and stop foreign aid.

Despite his stinging defeat at the hands of Dole, Buchanan was in no way a marginal candidate. As of last week, about one-quarter of Republican voters favored him over Dole. In the main, Buchanan appeals to Americans who have been "downsized" or who live in constant dread of being declared redundant.

Given the level of his popularity, Buchanan is anything but a spent force in U.S. politics. "Our time is coming, our time is coming," he crowed after all but conceding victory to Dole last month. This may be interpreted as a self-serving, face-saving statement. But let there be no doubt that Buchanan commands a constituency out there, and that he may yet upstage Dole at the Republican convention in San Diego in August. There is ample precedent for this. At the GOP convention in 1992, he embarrassed George Bush, the moderate Republican standard-bearer, by calling for "a cultural war" for the soul of the country.

* * *

Buchanan has a serious problem with Jewish concerns ranging from Israel to the issue of Nazi war criminals. Worse still, he has been accused of being an anti-Semite.

William Buckley, editor of the *National Review*, a leading conservative journal, has written that he cannot defend Buchanan from charges of anti-Semitism. (Lately, Buckley has backtracked).

Buchanan, who has described anti-Semitism as a form of pornography, has laughed off such accusations, while his campaign manager has said that Buchanan "rejects any kind of racism ..."

For the record, Buchanan rebuffed an endorsement from Russian rabble-rouser Vladimir Zhirinovsky (who labelled him "a brother in arms"), declared that he would maintain an open-door immigration policy for victims of persecution, and claimed that he has Jewish supporters (the most notable being an Orthodox Brooklyn rabbi named Yehuda Levin, who was one of the co-chairs of his presidential bid).

Even so, there is no denying that the whiff of anti-Semitism hovers over Buchanan, that anti-Semites consider him something of a role model and that several of his campaign workers were forced to quit when their white supremacist affiliations were disclosed.

Before we proceed any further, it should be clear that the comments for which he has been sharply criticized were expressed in the 1980s and early 1990s, *before* he ever plunged into the hurly-burly of national politics. However, it is true that an anti-Israel article — which blamed the Mossad for the death of President Bill Clinton's aide Vincent Foster — appeared on Buchanan's Internet site recently. But apart from this, Buchanan's record was remarkably free of anti-Israel or anti-Jewish innuendos in 1992, and this has been the case so far this year.

The same cannot be said of the period prior to and after the Gulf War, when passions were running high in the United States.

Shortly after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990, Buchanan said that "only two groups are beating the drums for war in the Middle East — the Israeli defence ministry and its amen corner in the United States" (taken to mean American Jews).

And in a none-too-subtle ethnic slur, Buchanan stated that the war would be fought by "kids with names like McAllister, Murphy, Gonzales and Leroy Brown."

With the Gulf War over, Buchanan excoriated Israel as "a strategic albatros draped around the neck of the United States." This may have been a reference to Israel's passive role during the war, forced upon it by Washington.

Buchanan, who was apparently pro-Israel during the Cold War, has also criticized U.S. aid to Israel as "subsidizing a policy that denies to Palestinians that God-given right to a homeland;" denounced Israel's settlement policy in the territories as "illegal and unjust"; and railed against Israel's enlistment of an American citizen, Jonathan Jay Pollard, to spy against the United States.

In addition, Buchanan appears to have questioned the existence of gas chambers at Treblinka, has written that Holocaust survivors engage in "group fantasies of martyrdom and heroics," and has advocated the abolition of the Office of Special Investigations (the agency which hunts down suspected Nazi war criminals).

What is more, Buchanan rushed to the defence of two war criminals — German scientist Arthur Rudolph and Latvian concentration camp commandant Karl Linnas — and attacked the U.S. ostracism of Kurt Waldheim, the former president of Austria.

During this year's campaign, Buchanan was forced to dismiss several of his key operatives: Larry Pratt, who appeared at white supremacist meetings, and Kenny Knight and Bill Carter, who were connected with former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke, now a Louisiana state senator.

These dismissals may have exonerated Buchanan of the libel that he knowingly consorts with fascists. But is it merely coincidental that figures from the far-right, including Jean Marie Le Pen of France, are drawn to Buchanan like moths to light, and that *The Spotlight*, a neo-Nazi periodical in the United States, has published excerpts from his newspaper columns, speeches and talk TV appearances?

Buchanan may not be a demagogue, but he comes awfully close to being one with his wink-and-nod invective. He should be reminded that "extremism in the defence of liberty" is definitely a vice.

YOM HASHOAH V'HAGVURAH

Monday, April 15, 1996

כז ניסן תשנ"ה

7:00 p.m.
ASSEMBLY
at
Yad Vashem
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North York

7:30 p.m.
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March of the Living
along Bathurst Street
to Synagogue

8:00 p.m.
COMMEMORATIVE
PROGRAM
at
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda
Synagogue
100 Elder Street,
North York

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Canadian Society For Yad Vashem and
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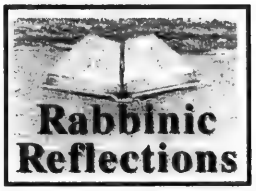

Seeking to understand God's role in suffering

By RABBI KENNETH KATZ

Everyone has some suffering in their life. Why does God allow this? April 16 is Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Memorial Day. Remembering the Holocaust makes the problem of why God allows suffering especially poignant. What shall we say?

For some people, it is sufficient to say that God is God, and He has "all the cards." There is no point in questioning what God does. Other people say that the Holocaust and most suffering in the world is caused by human beings, and that the answer to suffering is for us to always be on guard to prevent future Holocausts, and to work hard to make the world more just, more safe, more healthy.

But what if these answers aren't good enough? What if our suffering, whether it's from the Holocaust or our personal misfortune, is too great to bear and no explanation gives us peace? What then can we say about suffering and God's role in suffering?

The Jewish tradition has two responses to suffering. One is the sort of response that I have been mentioning, a response that speaks to the mind, that tries to give reasons for why we suffer and why God allows us to suffer. But the other Jewish response to suffering is, I think, more powerful and perhaps the only true one; and that answer appeals to the heart, not the brain.

Our best Jewish response to suffering is to be there to console and help the sufferers, to go to a shivah house, to visit a hospital room, to organize ambulance services and medical research, to bring emotional and medical assistance as fast as possible to where it's needed the most. We may never be able to explain God's ways, though we continue to try; but perhaps the simple act of visiting a sick person or writing a cheque for medical research is better and more consoling than any explanation could be.

Rabbi Katz is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth-El in Montreal.

Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Preferred area of practice: Family Law
Author of Religion and Culture in Canadian Family Law

The *Get*: Use and Abuse

PART 1 OF 2

Exactly 10 years ago, the Council of Orthodox Rabbis of Toronto and B'nai Brith Canada formed a Holy coalition which successfully lobbied for the enactment of a law in Ontario, and later on at the federal level, designed to assist Jewish spouses in obtaining a religious divorce. Orthodox Rabbi Baruch Taub of Toronto inspired this coalition to act; Frank Dimant of B'Nai Brith quickly moved to help sponsor the legislation. Under Jewish law, a Jewish divorce can only be obtained with the consent of the other spouse and it cannot be imposed by the rabbis. A Jewish woman who fails to obtain a Jewish divorce is trapped. If she attempts a relationship which is "illicit" under Jewish law, even if she remarries under secular Canadian law, then any children of such a relationship would be considered bastards or *mamzerim*.

In Jewish law, *mamzerim* and their offspring — and their children's offspring to the tenth generation — can only marry other *mamzerim* or converts to Judaism. There are actual *mamzerim* associations all over the world — lost souls looking for each other other to marry as a result of some failure of an ancestor to obtain a proper Jewish divorce.

In addition, the Jewish woman is ostracized socially. If she is religious, she cannot even be seen alone with another man while she is still married, even though she may be separated from her spouse. However, even less ostensibly observant Jewish women are greatly concerned that one of their offspring or future descendants may become more observant and find it difficult to marry in a more observant synagogue or have children in the event that they do not obtain the *Get*.

Many spouses — often men — blackmail their partners by bargaining unfairly for property rights, access rights, or even custodial rights in exchange for their consent to the *Get*, and they have done so for several centuries. However, in modern times, as the authority of the Jewish religious courts has been diminished and their powers taken away by the secular state, their ability to punish such recalcitrant spouses has been extremely limited. Except for the power of social ostracization, it becomes difficult for Rabbis and community leaders to persuade someone to consent to a *Get*.

April 18 issue: Lobbying provincial and federal governments for legislative changes to combat Get abuse.

John Syrtash is a litigation lawyer with the Toronto firm of Kronis, Rotzstain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler. Mr. Syrtash's preferred area of practice is Civil Litigation and Family Law. Neither Mr. Syrtash nor the law firm of Kronis, Rotzstain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler nor B'nai Brith Canada is liable for any consequences that may arise from any party relying upon the information in this material. Mr. Syrtash can be reached at (416) 225-8750.

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Cleaning for Pesach unearths a variety of past treasures

By JORDAN MAX
Special to The CJN

My thoughts of Pesach don't really begin until the first panic attack, which is usually precipitated when I first see the shelves at the supermarket converted to Pesach products before Purim has even started. Once my heart stops pounding and the tension headache subsides, like most families, we begin our Pesach planning and cleaning in earnest.

By far our biggest challenge is emptying out the pantry and freezer. When it comes to food taking up valuable storage space, we'd rather eat it than schlepp it. Although we still sell whatever *chametz* is left over, it is nice to be able to see the back of the freezer, at least once a year. I like to think of Pesach as the freezer's Yom Kippur, a chance to clear itself of past gastronomic and shopping sins.

The freezer's treasures of the deep usually provide more than a few surprises. Our freezer's contents are a testimony to failed plans, marital miscommunications (I thought you said we were out of pita), weekly specials and other ideas whose time has passed. So far I have discovered 10 half-loaves of challah (French toast here we come), lots of frozen over-ripe bananas (banana bread ad nauseum), children's toys (don't even ask), four cooked pullets, chicken bones (from an overzealous nanny), endless bags of bread ends (waiting for bread crumbs, no doubt), and a dozen really bad bran muffins (well, I liked them). Needless to say, the microwave oven is about to get a real workout.

As for the pantry, we're getting a little better. In our younger days, sans children, and therefore sans day school fees, our lives were relatively carefree, our funds more available. As a result, much take-out food was consumed, particularly in baked goods. We would typically buy new boxes of sugar, salt and spices for Pesach and barely get through half of them before Pesach was coming again and we needed a fresh box. We used to think that we were destined to leave to our children an estate of 50 half-empty boxes of sugar and salt.

Kosher products found in the pantry

Happily, one of the side effects of having children has been more home baking. Our oldest son no longer asks the embarrassing question "What goodies did you buy for Shabbat?" nearly as frequently.

However, more than a few weekly specials, child-selected pastas and new kosher products still find their way to the back of the pantry, only to emerge into the cold light of day a week before Pesach begins. This gives rise to my first rule of the kitchen. The utility of a food product is inversely proportional to its distance from the front of the shelf.

There are two responses to this unintentional stockpiling. The first is to practise carbohydrate-loading, just like marathon athletes do prior to the big race, albeit for a whole month. After all, isn't Pesach cleaning a marathon itself? Or perhaps it's a subconscious attempt to build up an overexposure to *chametz* so you won't actually miss it on Pesach. This is similar to people who work in chocolate factories being initially allowed to eat unlimited amounts of chocolate, so that after a while they don't want to even go near the stuff.

The second response to *chametz* stockpiling is a proliferation of faux nouvelle cuisine, which is truly international in scope if nothing else. When you're desperately trying to finish off what's left in the pantry, refrigerator and freezer, who's to say that you can't eat kugel with hoisin sauce, chicken with frozen raspberries or spaghetti with canned salmon and baked beans? Aside from kashrut considerations, the gastronomic possibilities are endless, if not gastrointestinal.

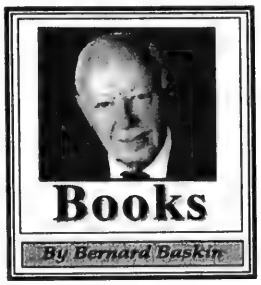
These culinary creations are the ultimate challenge for any cook, equivalent to the proverbial engineering project of constructing a satellite out of some tin foil, rubber bands, juice cartons and a bicycle tire. We just tell the kids it's nouvelle cuisine like they serve in fancy restaurants.

Better yet, think of these combinations as a culinary warm-up to Pesach or the start to a new cookbook, *Pre-Pesach Quease-ine*. And by the way, does anybody know what to do with a whole pound of chili peppers?

Jordan Max is a freelance writer living in Toronto.

Jewish Life

Knowledge, passion combined



God Was Not In The Fire: The Search for a Spiritual Judaism by Daniel Gordis Scribner $30.00

The famous Elijah Gaon of Vilna — one of the great spiritual leaders of 19th century East European Jewry — was once asked a strange question. If he were to receive infallible religious instruction from an angel would he accept it? The rabbi replied that he would refuse, because faith achieves greater meaning and satisfaction when one struggles to find it for oneself.

For Daniel Gordis, dean of the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, the quest for faith and identity involves unending struggle and honest searching. Jews are called "children of Israel" after a renamed Jacob who wrestled with God. Our tradition requires from us more than quiet acceptance or mere subservience; it validates our intellectual and spiritual struggles for increased meaning — and encourages us to never give them up.

Combining knowledge with passion, the author involves the reader in a step by step investigation of five major areas of Judaism: ritual, prayer, study, mitzvah and ethics.

Judaism, asserts Gordis, focuses more on "relationship with God" than on belief in God. "While some Christian communities urge their followers, 'Believe, and you will be saved,' Judaism's rough equivalent is 'Search, and you will find meaning.' Most of Jewish tradition decided long ago to focus not on His essence, but on God's presence; Judaism seeks not God's truth, but God's closeness."

For the author, the Jewish spiritual odyssey is not about blind or unquestioning faith. It celebrates the mind and the soul, and even reaches out towards the skeptic. But it also asks the skeptic to give Judaism a chance, "to live fully, to participate in the richness that Jewish life has to offer."

In a chapter devoted to ethics in Judaism, the author maintains that ethics and spirituality are indivisible. As Isaiah taught "the Holy God is hallowed by righteousness." Ethics offer not only a unique means of improving the world, but intellectually sophisticated and spiritually satisfying means of adding depth, consequence and meaning to the relationships that make up the world in which we live.

Above all, there must be the recognition that there is no easy formula to the difficult and persistent problems that Jews face in modern society. Answers are not provided from heaven.

Gordis analyzes a passage from the Talmud in which Rabbi Eliezer and other sages are having a spirited debate. A Heavenly Voice cries out, "Why are you disputing with Rabbi Eliezer seeing that in all matters the law agrees with him?" But Rabbi Joshua arose and exclaimed: "The law is not in Heaven." (Deuteronomy, 30:12) What did he mean by this?

Said Rabbi Jeremiah, "The Torah has already been given at Mt. Sinai; we pay no attention to a Heavenly Voice, because You wrote long ago in the Torah, 'After a majority one must incline.' " (Exodus 23:2)

Rabbi Nathan met Elijah hence and asked: "What did God do in that hour?" Elijah replied, "He laughed [with joy] saying, 'My children have defeated Me, My children have defeated Me.' "

God's acquiescence with this apparent chutzpah seems to indicate that God accepts human input in reaching vital religious decisions.

The author is a splendid teacher and this simply written work teaches the reader — pious or impious, learned or uninformed — how to approach and find new meaning in Jewish thought and observance.

A valuable addition to the text is an annotated selection of books for further reading and an index of primary sources.

Author discusses the way religious practices transmitted

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Dr. Haim Soloveitchik, author of an influential essay on modern Jewish Orthodoxy that appeared in *Tradition* magazine in 1994, discussed his essay in Toronto recently before a large gathering at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

The lecture, like the essay upon which it was based, was entitled Rupture and Reconstruction: The Transformation of Contemporary Jewry.

Religious practice in such essential matters as the laws of kashrut and how to keep a Jewish kitchen is passed down by mimetic tradition, not through any textual authorities, Soloveitchik said. Even the most well-used handbooks of Jewish religious practice, such as the Shulchan Aruch, do not lay out basic procedures from scratch; rather they are problem-solving guides that presume their readers know all the basics, he said.

"The Shulchan Aruch doesn't mention the need for separate *milchig* and *fleischig* dishes, never mind all the tablecloths and cutlery and napkins," he said. "There's no way you could run a Jewish kitchen by any form of book learning ... Much of Jewish practice was transmitted the same way that kitchen practice was transmitted – simply by seeing and doing."

In probing the reason behind the increasing number of *humras* (stringent new religious laws) that are part of modern religious life, Soloveitchik said immigration, the Holocaust and other elements have weakened the formative influence of the home.

"There has been a rupture in the way that religious practice is transmitted," noted the professor of Jewish law, history and literature at New York's Yeshiva University. "The rupture usually doesn't occur in the homes of the immigrant generation, nor in their children's homes, he said. Rather, it takes place in the third and fourth generations, once individuals have been assimilated and acculturized with the host society.

"There's been a complete revolution of religious practice because received practice no longer transmits the sense of being authentic," he said.

"The practice has become destabilized. Habit used to validate in a previous generation, but it no longer validates. People turn now to texts to find out what is right. Home is no longer the authority."

Because the synagogue had made copies of Soloveitchik's 66-page essay available two weeks before his appearance as well as at the door, there were many detailed questions and comments following the talk.

The lecture was sponsored jointly by The Canadian Friends of Yeshiva University and the Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

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Greater Toronto Area

Computer whiz blasts CRTC's ties to industry

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Welcome to the brave new world of computer-dominated technology, a world of artificial intelligence, Internet access and virtual information managers.

Confused by the terminology and the technology? Well, if you have trouble programming your VCR, the years ahead should prove interesting indeed.

Proponents of the new information technology predict the widespread use of computers will be made easier than ever before with the introduction of artificial intelligence computers. These machines will serve as information managers, acting as a sort of gatekeeper/interface between you and powerful computers accessed through your telephone or cable lines.

While the onward march of new technologies seems inevitable, there are those who, fully versed in computers, are stepping back and saying, slow down, where is this technology taking us?

Jesse Hirsh is one of those asking that question. A self-taught computer whiz and a student of communications in the University of Toronto's McLuhan program, he's been touted as a candidate for one of eight commissioner positions becoming vacant at the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) this June.

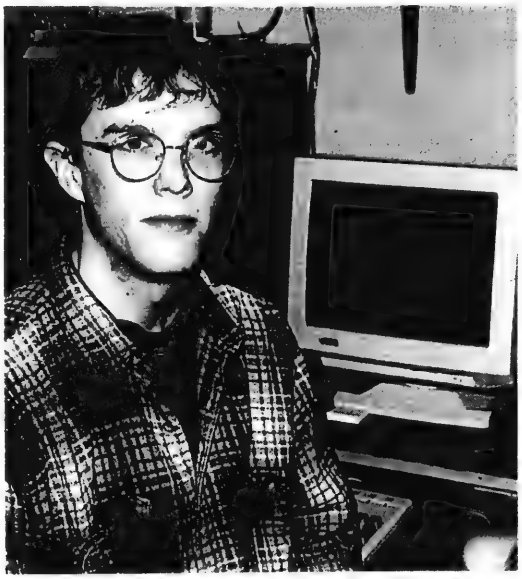
A number of public interest groups, including the Alliance for a Connected Canada, of which he is a member, are pushing Hirsh, 21, and others unconnected with big business or government for the soon-to-be-vacant CRTC seats. A longshot at best to be appointed, Hirsh relishes the opportunity such a position would offer to question the executives and information managers of major telephone, computer and cable corporations who are working to revolutionize the way society obtains and uses information.

"One of the main beefs these public interest groups have is the domination of [the information highway by] the private sector and large companies," Hirsh said. "This is something that is going to affect all elements of society and they are concerned the public interest is not being addressed."

A grassroots movement including educational groups, small business associations and consumer advocates is attempting to obtain some say in determining the directions of the new technologies.

One of the proposals being advanced by telephone companies that causes Hirsh concern would see a charge levied for every call made. That would make use of telephones prohibitively expensive for many people, he argued.

Another area of concern for Hirsh is the headlong rush towards the introduction of powerful computer networks using artificial intelligence that will collect your mail, do spreadsheets, suggest movies to watch — do everything your personal computer currently does and much more, because it will be hooked up through telephone or cable lines to outside mega-computers.



Jesse Hirsh

Not only does this raise questions about privacy, but the new technologies will also change the way society communicates. "Our concern is that it's a runaway train and there are no brakes on it," Hirsh said.

"I'm not trying to be a Luddite and say this technology is bad. I think a lot of it is good, but I don't think the solution is to blindly push it through."

In his address to a CRTC regional hearing in Toronto last February, Hirsh's language was more radical, similar to that found in his essays, which are posted on the The Anarchives (see below).

"The CRTC has consistently demonstrated their position as being in the 'back pocket of the phone companies' " he said. "It is not unreasonable to suggest that if the established authorities, in this case the CRTC, do not meet the [democratic] interests of the public, the public will take the technology into their own hands."

Hirsh is currently a junior partner at Local GlobalAccess, a Toronto company that provides Internet access, training, seminars, consultation and network development.

His essays on communications and society can be accessed at: http://www.lglobal.com/TAO/Anarchives.

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Rabbi Michael Skobac,
Director, Jewish Education Program of HILLEL
- Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto

Moderator: **Dr. Edmond Y. Lipsitz,**
Executive Vice-Chair, Association for Jewish Continuity

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Kibbutz program heightens teens' Jewish identity

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It takes a certain type of kid to leave home and family at the age of 15 or 16 to go for a year-long kibbutz work-study program.

And it takes a certain type of educator to dream up and run such a program.

Amichai Yarchi, former principal of the high school at Kibbutz Beit Hashita in the Jezreel Valley, set up the America-Israel High School Program in 1985 for Grade 11 students from North America.

Noah Stoffman

The youngsters live in dorms, spend five days a week in class, work one full day on the kibbutz and participate in hiking and camping trips throughout Israel. They are "adopted" by kibbutz families and celebrate Shabbat and holidays as a group.

A sister program for Grade 10, established 25 years ago at Kibbutz Kfar Blum, has amalgamated with the Grade 11 program and is also based at Beit Hashita.

"The students have to be mature enough to be independent for a year, not only for fun but for daily work," said Yarchi during a recent visit to Toronto, part of a North American tour during which he also stopped in Vancouver

Parents, in turn, need confidence in Israel, in their child and in Yarchi himself, he added. "If either child or parent is not confident enough, it's not going to work."

But the program, which has 26 students this year, works very well, according to alumni who speak glowingly of their year.

Of the seven percent who don't complete the program, most leave because of discipline problems, Yarchi said. "I give them many chances to learn from their mistakes. If they show signs that they are learning, I accept a period of adjustment."

Yarchi turns a third of applicants down, based on interviews, references and academic records. Qualified students are not turned down for financial reasons, he said.

Yarchi calls the $8,150 (US) fee for one year's tuition, room and board "an investment."

He began thinking seriously about the program as a Washington-based *shaliach* for the World Zionist Organization in the early 1980s.

"I felt a strong need as a Jew to look for different ways to strengthen Jewish identity, especially among young American and Canadian Jews," he said. He also wanted "to introduce another kind of Judaism to Israeli teenagers," he said.

A hands-on principal and teacher, he won't ask anything of his students he wouldn't do himself. "I don't tell them, 'You should do this.' We do it together. I try to establish friendship and still maintain my authority."

Noah Stoffman, a 19-year-old University of Toronto student, recalls that during his year at Beit Hashita (1993-94), Yarchi once disciplined him and his roommate by having them swim lengths at 6 a.m. "He got in and did lengths with us. At every point he was our leader and our principal, but he was also there with us."

Amichai Yarchi

Yarchi works at instilling values like responsibility, modesty, honesty and loyalty. "If they lie to me, they're in trouble," he said.

In 1992, on the recommendation of a former student, Yarchi received an award from the University of Chicago for "outstanding and inspiring" high school teachers.

"The thing that really makes this program different is that the education comes from so much more than what we learn in class," said Stoffman.

"Every day they have to make choices — whether to go to school, whether to do homework — and there are no parents behind them to tell them what to do," said Yarchi.

It was an adjustment, initially, to return to Canada, Stoffman admitted.

But the year away was "completely unparalleled, [with] the kind of little experiences that affect your understanding of what it is to be a Jew, to be a Zionist and to be you."

For further information about the program contact Orit Praag in Toronto at 416-633-2511 or Nachum Zait in Vancouver at 604-257-5141. or check out the Internet alumni site at http://www.ultranet.com/(spanish accent)rleavitt/beithashita

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Greater Toronto Area

Shlork! Toronto inker gives weight to superheroes

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Shlork! Krakk! Kzaaat!! Raahhrr!!!

Rest easy *CJN* readers. Multiple disturbances in the timestream connected spacially to chronal energy patterns have temporarily linked you to the 30th century. Here, teenage superheroes with an attitude, wearing membrane-thin super outfits, engage in life and death struggles against monstrous supervillains bent on destruction, domination, deviousness and just plain mayhem.

Employing their various super powers, Brainiac 5, Cosmic Boy, Saturn Girl, Shrinking Violet, Triad and Chameleon — members of the Legion of Super-Heroes — do battle to keep the world safe for ... good causes.

Yes, timestream travellers of the 20th century, the Legion lives on in monthly comic books whose artwork and storylines keep the club current with modern comic-readers' sensibilities.

Eeeyyyoowwww!!! Superboy has even shed his red cape in favor of a black leather jacket and designer sunglasses that owe more to Queen Street than to Smallville.

Back in the 20th century, humanoid bi-ped Ron Boyd has worked diligently for the past four chronal units (years) as inker for the *Legion of Super-Heroes* comic book. It's his task to take the pencilled drawings sent to him and finish the artwork prior to coloring.

"I tighten up the look, give the characters weight, create a foreground, background and add the lighting and texture," he said. Those elements have all been suggested by the penciller, "but to render it as a finished product is my job."

Ron Boyd

Working in his midtown Toronto home, far from the Phantom Zone, Boyd uses brushes, dipped pens and specialized architectural pens to give the drawings weight and texture.

He's part of a continent-wide team that produces the popular Legion comic book every month.

About 45,000 copies of the *Legion* book are sold worldwide each month and surprisingly, the majority of readers are in the 20 to 45 age group, though clearly it also appeals to those not quite so chronologically challenged.

Like many of his generation, Boyd, 31, grew up reading comics — though in his case they were mostly *Spiderman* adventures, produced by DC's arch-rival, Marvel.

A graduate of the fine arts program at York University, Boyd majored in film production and worked in that industry for some time until he got fed up with "the big egos and one-upsmanship" common in the business.

Working with Stuart Immonen, Boyd's introduction to the world of comics came when he self-published a book called *Headcheese*, an anthology of short stories they had written and drawn.

He later produced some sample inking and sent them to Marvel in New York. Eventually he was given some inking work for *Kid 'n Play*, a book about an urban rap group.

From there, he went on to DC's *Legion*.

Even as a kid, Boyd, who attended Associated Hebrew Schools, was attracted to "the sidebar stuff" in *Spiderman* comics. "I was fascinated by Peter Parker (Spiderman's alter ego), the misfit who had trouble in the world," his sense of responsibility and awkwardness.

Most of his personal interest in comics centred on the non-super hero genre. Dark Horse Comics, for one, produced *Sin City*, a gritty, hard-boiled detective comic that resembles cinema's film noir.

Will Eisner, author of the 1940s classic, *The Spirit*, is the exemplar of comics writing, he believes, and the elderly Eisner recently published a "slice of life" work about growing up a Jew in the tenements of east side New York.

(Interestingly enough, Jews have been prominent at DC comics from the very beginning. Superman was created by Jerry Siegel and former Torontonian Joe Shuster. There's even a Jewish member of the *Legion* — Leviathan, who was once known as Colossal Boy.)

"Comics are a limitless medium for storytelling" and are seen that way in Europe, Boyd says. In North America, however, they're viewed as cartoonish, escapist literature.

But Art Spigelman's *Maus*, which followed the lives of Jews living under the Nazis, is an example of gritty comics that have heart, he adds.

There are even some life lessons to be learned from the *Legion*, Boyd believes. "It's about holding their powers in check, acting responsibly ... Younger readers don't just want a testosterone punch, they want a morality tale hidden in the tale with the wham, bang."

Superboy sports nifty shades, black leather jacket in updated Legion of Super-Heroes comic book

Reena Foundation

Julea Gasner

Ronald Hoffman, Chairman of the Board of the Reena Foundation, is pleased to announce that Julea Gasner has accepted the appointment of Special Events' Coordinator for the Reena Foundation, and Campaign Associate for the Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre capital campaign.

Prior to joining the Reena Foundation, Ms. Gasner served as Campaign Associate for the United Jewish Appeal and Director of membership development for Na'amat Women of Toronto. She also coordinated fundraising events for Canada Israel Gesher Foundation and She'arim Hebrew Day School.

Ms. Gasner will coordinate all of the Foundation's special events including the Gala Dinner on June 11th, the Golf Tournament on June 18th, and Reena FUN Day at the Promenade on August 26th which will support the Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre's capital campaign.

The Reena Foundation is the fundraising arm of Reena. The Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre will provide day programs for Reena's clients and for the many hundred developmentally handicapped people in the community who currently have no support.

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Passover message from CJC president Hershon

As we prepare for Passover and the first seder, it is vital for us to remember that this Festival of Freedom is all about one of the paramount events in Jewish history: the Exodus of Jews from Egypt, which led to the birth of the Jewish nation.

Goldie Hershon

While the story of Passover dates back more than 3,000 years, it is important that we never forget the escape of the Jewish people from treacherous conditions in Egypt. Some might not agree, but I believe that we are fortunate to be living in interesting times. The conditions which existed when Pharaoh issued the cruelest of laws towards Jews are fortunately long gone. We have a strong State of Israel and a devoted Diaspora leadership to thank for that.

However, we must remember that it was only a few years ago that the gates of the former Soviet Union flew open and Jews there were permitted free emigration to Israel. The same can be said for Ethiopia and Syria.

In Israel, our brothers and sisters face challenges. It is incumbent upon us in the Diaspora to support them by being a united community standing firmly behind the only truly democratic country in the entire region. If we live as proud Jews today, it is no doubt due in very large part to what Israel has done for us. We owe a tremendous debt.

Domestically, we are working very hard towards the promotion of a united Canada. Incidents of racism and anti-Semitism continue to trouble us, while the dosier dealing with the prosecution of Nazi war criminals has not achieved the necessary results at a time when both suspects and witnesses are getting older and even dying.

As you sit down at the seder table on April 3, think about the past, concern yourself with the present and help us work towards a strong Jewish presence with its hallmark of justice and morality in Canada and around the world in the days, months and years to come.

Congregation's Aron Kodesh incorporates old and new

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Of necessity, the new Aron Kodesh built for Kehillat Ahavat Hesed, a 10-year-old egalitarian congregation, is portable.

Every Shabbat, the ark is taken from storage and rolled on small but sturdy hidden casters into the library/board room the congregation rents at the Zionist Centre on Marlee Avenue.

Because High Holy Day services are held at larger premises, architect/Kehilla member George Friedman was asked to design a piece which could be transported easily by car. The ark consists of two separate pieces, the Aron itself to house the congregation's three Torahs, and a base which also provides storage.

Coincidentally, the oldest arks were also portable, Friedman learned when researching the subject.

Ancient arks were made of the richest materials because "the closer you get to the word of God, the more precious it is," he said.

The Kehilla's ark is made of solid cherry, handpicked by cabinetmaker Henry Rose for its grain pattern and rich color variances.

The light reddish wood has been called "the North American version of mahogany, [which is] considered the perfect furniture wood," said Rose.

A collaborative effort, the new ark reflects the work of three local Jewish artisans: Rose, wood carver Siggi Buhler and fabric artist Rochelle Rubinstein Kaplan, who hand-painted and embroidered the silk *parochet*.

Both the *parochet* and the wooden ark bear the words — *HaTorah, HaAvodah, Gemilut Chasadim* (Torah, worship, acts of loving kindness) — the three principles on which the world is based, according to Pirke Avot.

"The idea was to incorporate some text which represents the aspirations of this group," said Friedman, who also served as a member of the four-person design committee.

The words are seen through long rectangular windows cut out of each door. They remain visible when the doors are opened.

"The committee didn't want the words to disappear when you open the doors," said Friedman.

"A lot of the service takes place with the doors open," added Rose.

Carved into the ark and its base is a stylized tree of life with 12 circles, each slightly different, to represent both the 12 tribes of Israel and the diverse members of the 50-family shul community.

The Kehilla's investment in the ark is a statement of the congregation's viability, according to Gary Farb, who chairs the board of directors. Because there is no spiritual leader, decisions are made collectively.

Kehillat Ahavat Hesed's new Torah ark is rich with symbolism. [Anna Prior photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Scientists may have secret to ancient blue dye

Bid them that they make them fringes in the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of each corner a thread of blue (p'til techelet) . . . that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the L-rd. (Numbers 15:37-41)

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For over 1,300 years, the secret of *techelet*, the blue dye that was used, not only for Jewish ritual, but by royalty and priests all over the ancient Mediterranean world, was lost.

This blue dye, explained Dr. Baruch Sterman in a speech at B'nai Torah Congregation sponsored by Mizrachi of Canada, was so rare that it was worth 20 times its weight in gold.

"Wars were fought over it, such as the one between the prophetess Devorah and her general Barak and Sisera," Sterman said, quoting the hope of Sisera's mother that "he will bring back booty of the dyed fabric."

So rare was the dye that the Roman Empire passed laws that Jews not only couldn't wear it, but couldn't even be part of the industry, Sterman said.

In 650 CE, when the Arabs conquered what had been the Roman province of Judea, they destroyed the factories which produced *techelet* and the process was lost to history.

According to tradition, the *techelet* had to come from a creature called a *hillazon*, a term which in itself has given rise to arguments among scholars. What was agreed was that it had a shell, the dye had to be taken from it when it was alive, it produced a sky-blue color on fabric and it had a body that looked like the sea.

In the mid-19th century, Sterman said, Rabbi Gershon Leiner, the Radzyner Rebbe, decided that a type of squid, when its ink is changed chemically from black to blue, was the source of the *techelet*, and opened a factory which produced the colored threads for his followers, who still follow his ruling.

Mounds of snail skeletons

Rabbi Isaac Herzog, later the first Chief Rabbi of the State of Israel, disagreed and determined that the *hillazon* is actually a type of snail, *murex trunculus*.

Sterman said he and a small group of young, Orthodox scientists managed to prove that *murex trunculus* in fact fits all the criteria: mounds of crushed skeletons of this snail were found at sites of old factories in the north of Israel, giving the theory historical authenticity; in the sea, it is virtually indistinguishable from its surroundings; and its ink is photosensitive, so that when the sun shines on it it turns sky blue.

He and his friends became determined to manufacture *techelet*. As the snails were protected by law in Israel, he made pilgrimages to Greece and Spain, where they are a popular food.

"My main purpose is to make it available to the world," Sterman said, adding that they don't solicit either orders or rabbinical opinions as to its validity.

Sterman, Joel Guberman, Ari Greenspan and Rabbi Eliahu Tebger, who has written scholarly works on the use of the blue threads and has recreated the manufacturing process according to halachic criteria, have established the non-profit P'til Tekhelet Foundation, to produce *techelet*, and to promote research and educational projects.

Mizrachi of Canada is selling kits with the coveted blue thread. The kits also include instructions for weaving it into the fringes of a *tallit katan* and of a regular *tallit*.

It is not surprising that Mizrachi, the religious Zionist organization, should be involved with *techelet*. The resurgence of interest in it by Rabbi Leiner was inspired by the growing belief in the possibility of a return to Zion and the associated fulfilment of religious law.

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פון משה קירשענבלאַט

עס איז געוואָרן 88 יאָר, זינט די ערשטע יידישע שפּראַך-קאָנפערענץ איז אָפּגעהאַלטן געוואָרן אין טשערנאָוויץ, אין די טעג פון 30-סטן אויגוסט ביזן 3-טן סעפּטעמבער, 1908. די קאָנפערענץ האָט געלייגט דעם חותם אויף דער חשיבות פון דער יידישער שפּראַך און קולטור.

די פרוכטבאַרע באַראַטונגען און פאַרהאַנדלונגען האָבן געדויערט פינף טעג און עס זיינען אַרומגערעדט געוואָרן אַלע אַספּעקטן פון דער יידישער שפּראַך, קולטור און ליטעראַטור. דער נאָמען טשערנאָוויץ איז געוואָרן און וועט פאַרבלייבן דער ליכט-פאַקל פאַר יידיש.

דער איניציאַטאָר פון רופן אַזאַ שפּראַך קאָנפערענץ איז געווען דר. נתן בירנבוים, וועלכער האָט פאַנאַנדערגעשיקט אַן אויפרוף (במקום אַ פּלאַטפאָרמע און טאָג-אָרדענונג), וועגן דער געפּלאַנטער קאָנפערענץ. דר. בירנבוים האָט אויך אַזאַ אויפרוף צוגעשיקט צו י. ל. פּרץ, מיט דער ביטע, אַז פּרץ זאָל דעם אויפרוף אונטערשרייבן.

פּרץ איז ניט מסכים געווען מיט דעם נוסח פונעם אויפרוף און גע-מאַכט אייניקע אויסבעסערונגען. צווישן אַנדערע האָט פּרץ פאָרגעשלאָגן פאָלגנדיקע פּונקטן, וואָס וואָלטן באַדאַרפט באַהאַנדלט ווערן: 1. אָרטאָ-גראַפיע; 2. גראַמאַטיק; 3. דער באַנוץ פון פרעמדע ווערטער; 4. פּרעסע; 5. ליטעראַטור, און אַנדערע.

דער אויסגעבעסערטער אויפרוף, מיט די אונטערשריפטן פון דר. נתן בירנבוים, י. ל. פּרץ און י. דינעזאָן איז פאַנאַנדערגעשיקט געוואָרן צו שרייבער, דיכטער און צו אַ ריי אָנגעזעענע יידישע פּערזענלעכקייטן.

דער אויפרוף האָט געהאַט, צו יענער צייט, אַ גרויסע פּעולה. סיי די באַטייליקונג און סיי די דעבאַטעס זיינען געשטאַנען אויף אַ הויכן ניוואָ. טשערנאָוויץ איז געווען דער פּיאָנער, אָנזאָנער און גערופן זיך צו באַציען מיט רעספּעקט און אָנערקענונג צום לשון יידיש. טשערנאָוויץ האָט פּראָק-לאַמירט יידיש אַלס אַ נאַציאָנאַלע שפּראַך, עברית אַלס די נאַציאָנאַלע שפּראַך. די פאָרמולע איז נאָך אַלץ גילטיק און דאַרף רעספּעקטירט ווערן פון אַלע שאַטירונגען פון יידישן פאָלק אומעטום.

נאָך דער שפּראַך-קאָנפערענץ אין טשערנאָוויץ האָט מען ניט געשאַפן קיין קאָמיטעטן. די השפּעה און ווירקונג איז געווען אַן ענטוזיאַסטישע. אין די וועלטלעכע יידישע קולטור רייען האָט מען נאָכגעפאָלגט די אויספירן און באַשלוסן.

י. זרבבל שרייבט (אין זיינע זכרונות), וועגן אַ באַזוך אין טשערנאָוויץ מיט 20 יאָר שפּעטער (1928). דאָס געשפּרעך, דאַמאָלט, ביי יידן אין בוקאָוינע און רומעניע איז געווען דער רושם, וואָס די טשערנאָוויצער קאָנפערענץ האָט געלאָזן.

„יאָרן שפּעטער האָט מען אין טשערנאָוויץ גערעדט און קאָמענ-טירט, אָנגעוויזן די ערטער און גאַסן, וואו פּרץ איז געגאַנגען . . . מען האָט דערציילט פאַרשיידענע עפּיזאָדן, וואָס זיינען פאָרגעקומען בשעת דעם פאַרלויף פון די פאַרהאַנדלונגען". *(מלך ראַוויטש).*

י. ל. פּרץ האָט געהאַלטן אויף דער קאָנפערענץ אַ היסטאָרישע רעדע, וואָס איז אויפגענומען געוואָרן פון אַלע דעלעגאַטן מיט שטאַרקן ענטוזיאַזם. אָט זיינען עטלעכע קורצע אויסצוגן:

„מיר לעבן דאָ איבער אַ נייעם היסטאָרישן מאָמענט . . . מיר עפענען אַ נייעם קוואַל פון פריש, לעבעדיק וואַסער אין גאָט'ס וויינ-גאָרטן . . . פון היינט אַן וועט דאָס אָרט פייכט ווערן און בליען . . ."

„שוואַכע אונטערדריקטע פעלקער דערוואַכן און קעמפן פאַר זייער שפּראַך און מיר, די שוואַכסטע, האָבן זיך אויך אין די רייען געשטעלט . . ."

„מיר ווילן זיך שוין נישט צעברעקלען. איין פאָלק יידן, זיין שפּראַך איז יידיש און אין דער שפּראַך ווילן מיר אונדזער אוצר זאַמ-לען, אונדזער קולטור באַשאַפן, אונדזער נשמה וועקן, און קולטורעל זיך פאַראייניקן צווישן אַלע לענדער און אין אַלע צייטן . . ."

עס איז ניט מעגלעך איבערצוגעבן די גאַנצע רעדע. הגם דאָס איז אַ היסטאָרישער דאָקומענט, פון וועלכן מען דאַרף און מען קען אַ סך לער-נען, ספּעציעל אין דער היינטיקער צייט, ווען מען דאַרף נאָך אַלץ אויפ-קלערן די וויכטיקייט און חשיבות פון דער יידישער שפּראַך און קולטור.

A tale of two wise men

Two wise men of Chelm went out for a walk, when suddenly it began to rain.
"Quick", said one man. "Open your umbrella."
"It won't help," said his friend. "My umbrella is full of holes."
"Then why did you bring it in the first place?"
"I didn't think it would rain!"

March OF THE LIVING ready for emotional journey

The applications, interviews, information sessions and seminars are over, and now, all that remains is the march itself.

On April 14, 300 high school students from across Canada - 112 from Ontario - will join thousands of other youth from around the world on the March of the Living.

The UJA Federation funded project involves a 3 kilometre march from Auschwitz to Birkenau, paying tribute along the way to victims of the Holocaust. Participants will also visit historic Jewish sites in Warsaw, Cracow and Lublin, Poland as they mark Yom Hashoa. The second half of the trip will be spent in Israel, celebrating Independence Day, Yom Ha'atzmaut, and learning about the country.

Preparations for the two week tour, which began last November, included interviews, information sessions, a series of educational programs and a weekend at Maple Lake, near Parry Sound. So, it was an emotional day when Toronto participants and their parents gathered recently for the final orientation meeting.

"We really wanted them to know as much as possible about what they were going to see in order to enhance their experience," explains March of the Living co-chair Barbara Bank, who will be making the trip with her daughter Hannah.

Aaron Weinstein from London Ontario decided to go on the March of the Living as a way of getting in touch with his past. "It could have been my family," says Weinstein, who is looking forward to sharing the experience with others his age.

Alana Samson hopes the trip will allow her to "bridge the gap between generations" so that she can have a better understanding of what her parents, both child survivors, went through.

Marci Greenwald is determined to transmit her experiences to her peers. "It's important," she believes, "that each generation passes on this information to the next one."

Benny Bensimon is proud his son took the initiative to go on the march. "Every young Jew must learn about this important part of our history. We support him completely."

Three of the group's chaperones, Anita Ekstein, Henry Melnick and Roman Ziegler, are survivors. "These young people are the future standard bearers," observes Ziegler, who has been speaking to students about his experiences during the Holocaust for the past 13 years. "It is up to them to carry on the legacy."

March co-chair Roz Davidson has wanted to make the trip for a long time. "This," she says, "will deepen their understanding of the entire tragedy and hopefully it will have a major impact on them."

Wise guys! Nati Wise and his father Dr. Shelly Wise will share their experiences on the March of the Living.

The looks on their faces say it all. Zena Haberman (L), Marci Greenwald (middle) and Shauna Greenspan had a great time at the March of the Living Shabbaton at Maple Lake.

GENEROUS SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS FUND

Toronto's Jewish community has collected over $20,000 to date to aid the families of terror attack victims in Israel.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto created the fund in response to hundreds of phone calls from people who wanted to demonstrate solidarity.

"I'm really pleased at how quickly the community pulled together," said Dr. Harry Krakowsky, co-chair of UJA's Community Cabinet.

The proceeds will be distributed to victims and their families by United Israel Appeal. Anyone wishing to make a donation can call (416) 631-5709 or mail a donation to the Victim Support Fund, United Jewish Appeal, 4600 Bathurst Street, 5th floor, North York Ontario., M2R 3V2.

UJA conference dazzles young leaders

Recently, 32 Toronto delegates joined 3000 North American participants for UJA's Young Leadership Conference in Washington. The convention featured speeches by President Bill Clinton and the late Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin's daughter, Dalia Rabin Pelossof. One of the young leaders attending the conference was David Burstein, who provided his personal perspective for Community Matters.

The conference, with it's theme "Capital to Capital," was an intense three day session containing special moments that could even be described as life changing.

Before the conference began, members of the Canadian delegation visited the Holocaust Memorial Museum. Then, the 32 Toronto participants were exposed to a diverse array of topics and brilliant speakers from all areas of Jewish life.

There were 50 breakout sessions on subjects such as preparing for a seder, raising Jewish children, finding the holy in the mundane, Jewish medical ethics, kabalah, intermarriage, the synagogue, affirmative action, Israeli politics, the peace process and Islamic fundamentalism. There was so much to choose from and not enough time to get around to all the topics of interest.

A recurring conference theme was encouragement for delegates to use their freedom and power to make themselves better people, responsible citizens, and committed Jews.

For many, merely experiencing the energy of 3000 like minded individuals was overwhelming. But one of the really great aspects of the conference was the feeling that relationships being built could last a lifetime. The late night schmoozing and games of Jewish geography were not only fun, they added to the sense of "klal Yisrael."

President Clinton stole the show and captured the hearts of thousands at UJA's Young Leadership Conference in Washington. Photo by Sheldon Nadal.

While each delegate took home important individual memories, there were a few shared moments that won't soon be forgotten.

A speech by President Clinton highlighted the opening night. After receiving a 5 minute standing ovation, Clinton charmed the crowd by wishing 3000 Jews a happy St. Patrick's Day. The excitement of actually seeing the President energized the entire conference.

On the final day of the conference, delegates went up to Capitol Hill to meet members of Congress and relay issues of concern to American Jewry.

In the last plenary, the Nachshon award was presented to Dalia Rabin Pelossof, Yitzhak Rabin's daughter, as a tribute to the life and legacy of her father. In accepting the award, named after the first Jew to jump into the Red Sea as the Egyptians chased the Jewish people, Mrs. Rabin Pelossof read a poem that had been sent to her family after her father was murdered. After reading the poem, *Just 3 Bullets*, we were shocked to learn that the author, 15 year old Bat-Hen Shahak, was killed in the Tel Aviv suicide bombing on March 4. It was a transcendent moment. There wasn't a dry eye in the room.

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SUNDAY MAY 26, 1996

CHECK-IN 9:45AM - 10:30AM

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- ★ Israeli Music
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- ★ Clowns
- ★ Caricaturists
- ★ Israeli "Shuk"
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CONTINUITY GRANTS: ROUND TWO

The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto is looking for the perfect Jewish project without any money to move it beyond the drawing board.

A new call for grant applications has been issued by the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity (ACJC), which is prepared to fund its second series of projects.

Last year, the committee awarded $100,000 in grants for diverse endeavours from parent-teen dialogue to the Yiddishland Cafe. This time, up to $170,000 is available.

Two $25,000 grants will be issued for major new initiatives, along with three $15,000 awards, primarily designed for projects sponsored by two or more groups. There are, in addition, six $7500 grants, and twelve $2500 grants for those who have not previously received community funding.

"Genuine Jewish continuity requires ongoing commitment and a continuous stream of innovative ventures," said committee chairman Les Klein. "That's why we're so proud to announce this second round of grants."

In order to be eligible, a proposed project must be Jewish in content and scheduled for completion by the end of 1997. Priority will be given to projects sponsored by more than one group. The deadline for applications is May 31.

For more information or an application, call ACJC director Susan Jackson at (416) 631-5681.

Mission 3000's Protestant volunteer veteran

Done it. Only a few Toronto non-Jews can say that about Israeli army service. Charles Presley can.

The 71 year old son of a Pentecostal minister was a friendly fixture on Mission 3000's bus 21 - one of 25 buses that criss-crossed Israel with over 1100 participants on board.

Chic Presley poses in front of Beit Shean's archaelogical ruins.

Presley, affectionately nicknamed "Chic," was on his sixth trip to Israel, but it was the first time he could simply sit back and relax. On all the other visits, he was folding blankets or polishing army trucks as a Volunteer for Israel participant. "I was cleaning M16's and Uzi's during the Gulf War," he proudly pointed out.

Presley first discovered Volunteers for Israel in a newspaper ad, when he was 66 and promptly contacted the organization. "I was the first Protestant to apply," he said.

As a former navy man, Presley was well attuned to the army work he was asked to do, but Hebrew is something he still can't master. However, he doesn't consider his lack of language a barrier to both assisting and enjoying the country.

For Chic Presley, Mission 3000, sponsored by UJA Federation and United Israel Appeal of Canada, was certainly sheer enjoyment. "As a volunteer, I saw Israel from the inside out. Now I'm seeing it from the outside in," he explained. "On my other visits, I got more of a sense of belonging and helping the country. This time, I think I'm getting something back."

Although what Presley describes as his "strong feelings" for Israel were nurtured by his father, his love for the country seems to come naturally, especially when he talks about Jerusalem.

"The old city and the history of the Jewish people are hypnotic," he said. "That's what prompted me to come to Israel."

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Personal reflections from a crumbling capital

By Elliot Halperin

I recently returned from a four day visit to the Ukrainian capital of Kiev for a Federation UJA professional development mission. Once a centre of Jewish religious and cultural life, today, Kiev is best characterized as a frontier Jewish community in distress. The estimated 470,000 Jews living in Ukraine have been separated from their Jewish roots for 70 years of Communist rule and are only now beginning to discover their heritage.

In the last 6 years, a rebirth of Ukrainian Jewish life appears out of the shadows of Babi Yar, where more than 30,000 Jews were shot to death by the Nazis over 50 years ago. Yet, thousands of Jews, young and old, are preparing to make aliyah in the coming months.

I visited a class of teenagers who, several times a week, come together to learn Hebrew and prepare for life in a new country. These kids actually choose to leave their parents for two years to take advantage of the exceptional, UJA Federation supported Naaleh 16 program. The vast majority of them remain in Israel after graduation from high school and most of their families will join them at a later date.

On the surface, these children appear to be learning Hebrew much the way any class of teenagers would. However, what they are really learning is how to be Jewish by being introduced to the stories, legends and traditions that most Jews take for granted.

The story that they will tell their children will sound much like a modern day version of the exodus from Egypt. This year alone, through UJA Federation funding, 20,000 Jews will leave Ukraine along with its crumbling infrastructure, insufficient food and inadequate shelter. They will arrive in Israel with a strong feeling of belonging to the Jewish people and dreams of a brighter future.

For those who remain, largely the elderly, life will continue to be difficult. There is hardly an older Ukrainian Jew without a constant feeling of hunger, compounded in the winter, by the absence of heating and electricity. They receive a monthly government pension equivalent to $12 U.S. Without the food boxes provided by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, they would suffer from serious malnutrition.

As I looked into the face of one elderly woman, I could not help but be reminded of my own grandmother who escaped Poland in the 1930s. Had she not left in time, her chances for survival would have been slim and her life would have been so different.

Faces of the future at a UJA Federation funded Jewish Youth club in Ukraine. These youngsters will probably be in Israel within a few years.

Holocaust memorial spans generations

This year's Yom Hashoah commemoration, April 14, will be bringing three generations together. That's the theme of the community gathering sponsored by the UJA Federation's Holocaust Rememberance Committee. Eileen Thalenberg, Allan Farkas and Michael Lebovic, all children of survivors, will be reading poems and other Holocaust writings.

"Survivors can be secure that they and the millions of Jews who died during the Holocaust will not be forgetten," says Anna Lerner, co-chair of this year's event. "Their legacy has been passed on to the second generation and we will pass it on to our children."

Lerner is pleased to see how "dedicated and committed" the second generation is to educating the community and remembering the horrors of the darkest period in Jewish history. "We have an obligation to make sure millions of Jews didn't die in vain," she says.

Also scheduled is a video presentation depicting Jewish life in Europe before the Holocaust and the birth of Israel. "We want to show people what we lost and what we've gained back," explains Lerner. "It's a way of bridging the past to the present."

The program will include a candle lighting ceremony and a keynote address by Israel's Consul General Jehudi Kinar.

The commemorative service will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 14 at Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Crescent at Bathurst St. For more information call (416) 635-2883 ext. 144.

Three generations say "never again." This year's Yom Hashoah Commerative service will take place on April 14 at Pride of Israel Synagogue.

Bloor JCC assists Rwandan relief

BloorJCC

April 6, 1994 was Rwanda's day of infamy, the day when one of the world's most stunning human disasters started.

After war erupted in Rwanda, more than a million people died and hundreds of thousands were wounded or left homeless. Many of them are orphaned children.

This year, on April 27, nearly two years after the Rwandan nightmare began, the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, a UJA Federation agency, is hosting a fundraising art auction to aid Rwanda's children.

Children of the Earth: Struggles, Hopes and Dreams is being organized by Hope for Rwanda's Children Fund. The event includes:

- A preview viewing of art for auction, with wine and cheese, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Program of the Spoken Word, 7:30-8:15, highlighting original readings from the evening's guest speakers
- The auction itself at 8:15, featuring dozens of excellent donated works
- Sale of Rwandan sculpture and handicrafts following the auction.

Event proceeds will be placed in a scholarship program to provide school books, supplies and tuition for Rwandan children and to assist other relief efforts.

"The atrocities in Rwanda have created one of the greatest aid crises in history," explained Fund president Shyrna Gilbert.

Admission to Children of the Earth: Struggles, Hopes and Dreams is $10. For more information, contact Shyrna Gilbert at (416) 609-9375 or Bloor JCC at (416) 924-6211.

Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto/ United Jewish Appeal

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9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Lipa Green Building 4th Floor Conference Centre, 4600 Bathurst Street

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JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO UJA

Community Matters

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TO SECURE COMMUNITY CALENDAR LISTINGS CALL FRAN AUGENBLICK AT JEWISH INFORMATION SERVICE (416) 635-5600 OR FAX 631-5715

DATE		EVENT	ORGANIZATION	TIME	PLACE
APRIL					
Thurs 4-June	28	"Beta Israel: The Jews of Ethiopia" Exhibition	CJC Ontario Region/ Consulate General of Israel/ Beth Tzedec Reuben & Helene Dennis Museum	various	Beth Tzedec Reuben & Helene Dennis Museum
Sun	7	2nd Annual Variety Show	Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda	8:00 pm	Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
Sat	13	Yom Hashaoh Remembrance Weekend with Professor Stephen Berk	Sam & Sarah Kerzner Holocaust Studies Institute	12:30 pm	Beth Tzedec Congregation
Sun	14	Lecture: "Judgement at Nuremberg-50 Years Later"	Sam & Sarah Kerzner Holocaust Studies Institute	10:00 am	Beth Tzedec Congregation
Sun	14	Yom Hashoah Community Commemoration	Holocaust Remembrance Committee of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto	2:00 pm	Pride of Israel Synagogue
Mon 15-June	23	Ethiopia Jewry Exhibition	Shaarei Shomayim	9:00 am	Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
Wed	17	Gala Opening "The Diary of Anne Frank"	Holocaust Remembrance Committee/ Young Peoples Theatre	6:00 pm	Young Peoples Theatre
Thurs	18	Baycrest Spring Sale '96	Baycrest Centre Women's Auxiliary	9:00 am	Baycrest Centre
Thurs	18	Annual Dinner	Ner Israel Yeshiva	6:00 pm	Constellation Hotel
Sat	20	4th Annual "Le Bal Masque"	Israel Cancer Research Fund	8:00 pm	Arcadian Court
Sun	21	Speaker: Laurie Levenson	Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University- New Leadership	7:45 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
Mon	22	Yom Hazikaron Commemoration	Canadian Zionist Federation/ Consulate General of Israel	6:00 pm	Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
Tues	23	Israel Independence Day Celebration	Mizrachi Organization of Canada/ Emunah Women/Bnei Akiva	7:00 pm	Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto
Wed	24	Salute to Israel Concert celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut	Canadian Zionist Federation	7:30 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Wed	24	Speaker: Les Klein, Action Committee for Jewish Continuity, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto	Pride of Israel Adult Education Committee	8:00 pm	Pride of Israel Synagogue
Thurs	25	Tribute Dinner for Rose Wolfe	Kolel: Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning	7:00 pm	Inn on the Park
Sun	28	National Hebrew Literacy Day	Kolel: Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning/ Arza Canada	9:00 am	Various
Sun	28	Annual Spring Sale & Silent Auction	Jewish Women International	10:00 am	St. Lawrence Market
Sun	28	Jerusalem 3000 Brunch honouring Wendy Eisen	State of Israel Bonds-Women's Division	10:30 am	Inn on the Park
Tues	30	Social & Political Action Spring Program	Jewish Women's Federation	7:30 pm	Lipa Green Building
Tues	30	Lecture: Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, Chief Rabbi of Israel	Mizrachi of Canada/ Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region	8:00 pm	Beth Avraham Joseph of Toronto
MAY					
Thurs	2-9	Film Festival Opening	Toronto Jewish Film Festival	7:30 pm	Bloor Cinema
Thurs	2	Public Lecture: Elaine Mazlish	Aish Hatorah Women's Division	8:00 pm	Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto
Sun	5	50th Anniversary Celebration	B'nai Brith Canada-Upper Canada Lodge	5:00 pm	Beth Tzedec Congregation
Mon	6	Kerzner Memorial Lecture: Rabbi Paysach Krohn	Eitz Chaim Day School	8:00 pm	Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto
Tues	7	Community Event & Reception with Leah Rabin	Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University	6:00 pm	Elgin Theatre
Tues	7	The National Kibbutz Choir	Beth Tikvah/ Consulate General of Israel	8:00 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
Wed	8	Financial Planning '96	United Jewish Appeal/ Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Sun	12	Baycrest Challenge	Baycrest Centre	9:00 am	Baycrest Centre
Wed	15	Youth Aliyah Event with Madame Jehane Sadat	Toronto Hadassah-WIZO	12:00 pm	Hilton Harbour Castle Hotel
Thurs	16	UJA Leadership Launch	United Jewish Appeal	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Mon	20	Semi-Annual Craft & Gift Sale	Na'amat Toronto-Na'amat Canada Beersheba Club	10:00 am	Bayview Village Mall
Wed	22	First Simcha Fair	Beth Tikvah	6:00 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
Sun	26	Community March for Israel	United Jewish Appeal	9:45 am	Promenade Mall to Centennial Arena
Sun	26	Jerusalem 3000 Festival	United Jewish Appeal/ Canadian Zionist Federation	12:00 pm	Centennial Arena
Mon	27	Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel Dedication	Sunnybrook Hospital-Leslie Dan Chapel Fund	6:00 pm	Sunnybrook Hospital
Tues	28	Business Excellence Awards	Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce	5:00 pm	TBA
Tues	28	JF&CS Annual Meeting	Jewish Family & Child Service	7:30 pm	Lipa Green Building
Wed	29	Annual Chat Blue Jays Night	Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto	6:30 pm	Skydome
Wed	29	Concert	Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim Hospital	7:30 pm	Inn on the Park
Wed	29	Choral Festival	Jewish Music Toronto	8:00 pm	Beth Tikvah Synagogue

The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto reserves the right to include/exclude calendar listings on the basis of tentative scheduling and confirmation with the Committee to Authorize Community Campaigns (CACC). Fundraising organizations are required to follow standing CACC authorization procedures. *Material compiled by Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto*

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the* Canadian Jewish News, *is sponsored and produced by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto*

Community Matters

JEWISH WOMEN'S FEDERATION TOGETHER 1996 UJA WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

New women's leaders display deep commitment

The UJA Women's Campaign and Jewish Women's Federation (JWF) installed their new leaders last week in what could better be described as a comfortable transition than a changing of the guard.

Vicki Campbell, Vice Chair of the Women's Campaign last year, succeeded Marlene Axmith at the top spot, and Jill Reitman, one of last year's JWF Vice Presidents assumed the organization's leadership. Jewish Women's Federation unites virtually all of the city's Jewish women's organtions.

Also installed were JWF Vice Presidents Danita Dubinsky Aziza, Janice Langer, Susan Michaels and Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth, along with Women's Campaign Vice Chair Agi Mandel, joined by Portfolio Coordinators Judy Engel, Cheryl Jackson and Carole Sterling.

Axmith, the outgoing Women's Campaign Chair, said she had witnessed, during her term of office, "sacrifices large and small, whether in Kiev or Toronto." Her successor, Vicki Campbell, stressed that "we simply cannot look the other way," when it comes to "tzedaka, social justice and the human values of dignity, freedom, continuity and pride that it provides."

In her closing speech, JWF's Glennie Lindenberg called on women to "follow their hearts and fulfill the needs of Jews here and in Israel."

"Each of us can make a difference," advised incoming President Jill Reitman, "if we are, if we witness and if we accept responsibility."

Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto President Sandra Brown said women bring "sensitivity, collegiality and a sense of team work to their tasks."

Executive faces for Jewish Women's Federation. Left to right: Vice Presidents Danita Dubinsky Aziza and Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth, Nominations Chair Bev Holtzman, outgoing President Glennie Lindenberg, President Jill Reitman, Vice Presidents Susan Michaels and Janice Langer .

The new UJA Women's Campaign Executive is ready for action. Left to right: Nominations Chair, Barbara Bank, outgoing Campaign Chair, Marlene Axmith, 1997 Chair Vicki Campbell, Portfolio Coordinators Cheryl Jackson, Carole Sterling and Judy Engel and Campaign Vice Chair, Agi Mandel.

Above: The Campbell clan. Henry and Vicki (centre), Elliot & Leanne.
Below: The Reitman team. Joel and Jill, together with sons Sam & Richard.

Bev Burstein (left) and Joan Stevens were among 150 people at the JWF/Women's Campaign installation.

JEWISH WOMEN'S FEDERATION TOGETHER UJA WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

Campbell believes in personal contact

Vicki Campbell, the 1997 UJA Women's Campaign Chair, wants to build on the success of last year's phenomenally successful campaign. "One of my goals," she pledged, "is to continue to personalize the campaign."

As Campaign Chair, Campbell wants to attract new volunteers by making them feel more comfortable in the organization. "We're going to be more flexible in the way we involve our volunteers and help them fit in where they belong," she explained.

Campbell is especially excited about the introduction of mentoring teams designed to teach new canvassers, using a one on one approach. "We really want the women to feel supported and connected."

Campbell has been an active UJA volunteer for 20 years and she believes that "the more I've given the more I've gotten back. I've always made time for UJA," she said, "because it touches so many people."

Among her most memorable Jewish experiences was her bat mitzvah, three years ago, atop Mount Scopus and her participation in the March of the Living, which "showed me continuity in action."

Campbell called her family "the most important team in my life. I want my children," she said, "to have

Vicki Campbell

a vibrant Jewish community to grow up in."

The phliosophy under which Vicky Campbell operates is simple but powerful. "We simply cannot look the other way."

Reitman: Togetherness is the message of the hour

Government funding cutbacks. Relief for the poor. Violence against women. These are the major issues with which Jewish Women's Federation will be pre-occupied, and dealing with all of them, according to incoming president Jill Reitman, requires togetherness.

Working together, she said, is "the message of the hour, the foundation for our survival in so many ways and in so many areas of our lives; our future as Jews, our coexistence as Canadians, our ability to preserve our community in the face of social service cutbacks, our solidarity with Israel."

Reitman related a conversation with her 6 year old son, Richard, who asked why G-d made the Jewish people slaves in Egypt. "I said to him 'Richard, G-d didn't make the Jewish people slaves. G-d may have made people but people made other people slaves'... We also talked about the need for witnesses to social injustice to come forward and take action to help those in difficulty. When you see something wrong, do something about it, whether it's for yourself or for others.

Jill Reitman

Reitman's activism was acquired from both her parents and her in-laws. Her mother in-law, Dorothy, was the first woman to become president of Canadian Jewish Congress. Her father was the first Jewish councilman for the town of Mount Royal and her mother rose through the ranks of Hadassah.

"My commitments are strongly rooted in my history, " she said, "and I hope my children will carry on with this legacy."

Reitman, a paediatric psychologist, and her husband, Joel, were what Jill calls "back door neighbours," going to the same schools and sharing the same friends. "At Sukkot, Joel's family would build the sukkah and the neighbourhood "families would share in the festivities. So, b'yachad, togetherness has been a theme in our families and between our families, forever."

This year, under Reitman's leadership, JWF will be establishing a new committee to deal with violence against women, instituting a Community Response Project on the issue of Jewish poverty and continuing to work with Women's Campaign on *Timeless Treasures*, a successful learning series for women and about women, concentrating primarily on biblical and prophetic texts.

Lindenberg praises JWF women

Reaching out. For outgoing JWF President Glennie Lindenberg, that's what the organization is all about.

In her closing speech, Lindenberg paid tribute to JWF members for addressing key contemporary issues and reaching out to others to do so as well, especially after the series of Israel bombings.

"In the wake of horrific events in Israel, we have all felt the need to reach out," she said. "We have been able to emphasize the leading role women should play.... We must follow our hearts and fulfill the needs of Jews here and in Israel."

Lindenberg also referred to the "inextricable link" between the strength of JWF and the fundraising efforts of UJA's Women's Campaign, which collected close to $4 million last year.

Glennie Lindenberg

Marlene Axmith

Axmith: stepping down from a rewarding year

When Marlene Axmith began her term as Chair of the 1996 UJA's Women's Campaign, she wanted to "branch out into the community and make a difference." As she looks back, Axmith takes pride in the achievements and partnerships that made the Campaign "extremely rewarding."

"The Three Year Vision," explained Axmith, "really gave us an opportunity to go out and educate canvassers and donors about the needs of the community and Israel. The more we talked about the it the more the canvassers bought into it." Thirty percent of Women's Campaign contributors pledged for three years. The 1996 Campaign raised nearly $4 million.

Axmith is especially proud of the work Women's Campaign did with Jewish Women's Federation. But the highlight of her year was the UJA Federation Kiev-Israel Mission last May. "I have been witness to sacrifices, large and small," she said, "whether in Kiev or Toronto."

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, *is sponsored and produced by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto*

JEWISH WOMEN'S FEDERATION TOGETHER UJA WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

Judaism strengthened by female participation

Dr. Rela Mintz Geffen, one of North America's foremost experts on Jewish communities will be in Toronto, April 30 to speak at a program sponsored by Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Women's Campaign .

In an interview with Community Matters contributing editor Adi Waksman, Dr. Mintz Geffen, who has written more than 30 articles, explains how greater participation by women in Judaism has strengthened Jewish communities around the world.

Q What are some examples of increased participation by Jewish women in Jewish life?

A There are many and they are evident across the board...that is across the religious spectrum. The most obvious trend appears in life cycle rituals having to do with births, bar and bat mitzvas, weddings and deaths.

Mothers are more involved in the bris ceremony, bat mitzvas are being celebrated more formally, brides are participating in more significant ways during the aufrif (when the groom is called to the Torah before the wedding) and more women are reciting kaddish after the death of a parent. Women are finding news ways of partcipating and embellishing old ways.

Q What are some of the other areas in which women are becoming more active?

A In 1980, the first woman graduated with a Ph.d in Talmudic studies from the Jewish Theological Seminary. There's a general increase in women studying the classical

texts and we're seeing a real push in Hebrew day schools for young girls to learn rabbinic literature. Rabbinics is the key to power in the Jewish community and we cannot overestimate the impact a super-literate generation of Jewish women can have on the community as a whole.

Women are also playing more important roles in synagogue life, especially in the areas of planning and decision making.

Q What impact is this having on Jewish communities?

A The inclusion of women has created new sensitivities and enhanced Jewish ceremonial life. During a brit mila today there is more flexibility in terms of roles mothers can play.

Q What are some of the challenges that remain for Jewish women?

A There is still a lot of work to be done in modifying some of the liturgy; for example, the portrayal of Jewish women in textbooks. This really is the cutting edge today. This will allow women to feel more comfortable and help them relate better to what they are learning. Another important area is teaching single parents, especially mothers, how to feel comfortable leading prayers, conducting seders, etc. If they don't feel confident, they won't be able to become Jewish role models for their children.

Dr. Mintz Geffen, a professor at Philadelphia's Gratz College, will be speaking on **April 30, 7:30 p.m. at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street.** Her topic is *In Search of Our Spiritual Growth: What's Changing for Jewish Women*. For more information, contact Julie Davis, (416) 631-5698.

You're welcome, says Shalom Toronto

A friendly face and a helping hand can go a long way toward making a new community feel like home. That's why Shalom Toronto, a project of Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Women's Campaign, has been extending warm welcomes to thousands of new arrivals from all over the world.

Over the past year, Shalom Toronto greeters have welcomed more than 100 individuals and families.

SHALOM TORONTO שלום ✡ Making your new community your home ✡

Shalom Toronto relies heavily on word of mouth to identify newcomers, but as program co-chair Sylvia Peck points out "there are many people we don't know about. It's important that we're notified of new arrivals as soon as possbile so we can provide assistance to them right away, when they need it the most."

Shalom Toronto greeters are knowledgable about the community and the services available to newcomers to make their transition easier. They visit the homes of newly arrived Torontonians and bring along a basket full of information and tasty treats.

Eleanor Appleby, also a Shalom Toronto co-chair, stresses how important it is to make newcomers feel welcome." Most people don't realize the difficulty of moving to a new community without knowing anyone. It's nice to know someone cares."

If you're new to Toronto or know someone who is, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

For JWF, poverty is a priority

The Jewish Women's Federation is confronting the problem of poverty in our community.

The Community Response Project was created following a December JWF program about the impact of government cutbacks on women. Recent statistics show that women constitute 60% of the Jewish poor.

Project co-chair Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth says Community Response is designed "to enhance the services already being provided and develop new programs to meet the needs of poor women and children." Project organizers are currently consulting with various agencies and organizations to assess how volunteers can provide assistance.

"We are still in the midst of finding out where all the shortfalls are," explains Kachuck Rosenbluth. "We're also still working hard to let people know there is a big problem in the community that needs to be addressed."

Project volunteers will be working together with agencies that provide counselling, clothing, food and other necessities. "There are many women," Kachuck Rosenbluth points out, "who are coping with a lot as a result of cutbacks in social spending. We want to alleviate some of their burden."

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, *is sponsored and produced by UJA / Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. 4600 Bathurst St., North York, Ont. M2R 3V2 (416) 635-2883*

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From coast to coast

Jewish public school program killed

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Four months ago, the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (WBJE) formally adopted a Middle Years concept for the new campus scheduled to open in south Winnipeg September 1997.

The directive was that all grades 5 to 8 students in the system would be consolidated on the campus. For parents of students in the north Winnipeg Talmud Torah-I. L. Peretz School (TTILP), it was another blow to their efforts to maintain a BJE school in north Winnipeg.

Despite the pleas of Talmud Torah Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) representatives and the presence of 50 parents and supporters at a recent meeting, the BJE turned back a motion to retain a JK-6 program in the north end.

Despite repeated assurances by outgoing superintendent Dr. Arnold Carmel, BJE presidents past and present and other Winnipeg Jewish community leaders, of their commitment to a BJE presence in north Winnipeg, TTILP parents remain sceptical. Supporters feel a JK-4 school wil not fly.

Speaking on behalf of the parents, TTILP PTA co-chair Harold Sosnowicz alluded to hidden agendas. He traced a BJE history of obfuscation concerning the teaching of Yiddish at Talmud Torah (it was discontinued two years ago); the future of the building, which includes Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate (slated for Campus) and the Beth Jacob Synagogue (parents were encouraged to find alternate uses for it before learning the plan was to sell it); and assurances that a JK-6 school would be maintained "as long as numbers warrant it."

Sosnowicz and co-chair Moshe Selchen also referred to a letter they had prepared for distribution through the school to TTILP parents, which Carmel and BJE president Eric Winograd pulled without informing them. The letter, which advised parents of the meeting, was given out outside the school.

Selchen noted that the BJE mission statement encourages parents to actively participate in the schools and community.

"We weren't asking them to riot or bring placards or pull their kids out of school," he said. "We were encouraging them to attend an open board meeting. If this is confrontational, I wonder what else the board considers confrontational. I wonder how the minister of education would react to this when the government is encouraging more parental involvement in schools." (The government provides a large percentage of funding to the BJE and other private school systems.)

Although Winograd agreed the letter was not confrontational, his explanation for blocking its distribution was that he hadn't yet "come to grips with how he was going to handle the meeting."

Selchen also referred to assurances made over the years, which had not been followed through.

"We don't doubt for a minute that the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council would like our school (which numbers about 130 students) to disappear," Selchen said. "It would solve all their worries about not having enough money for Campus."

Selchen cited a scathing letter in the *Jewish Post and News* a couple of weeks ago from Rocky Pollack, a former BJE co-chair, which said that north Winnipeg parents didn't need an north-end elementary school. He suggested they could just get in their minivans and drive the additional 20 minutes to Campus. Selchen described it as a "frightening letter" and wondered if it reflected the thinking of many of the BJE board members.

"We are not against Campus," he said. "We are prepared to send our older children. We just think we have a wonderful elementary school and we want to keep it. Give us a chance. Let the parents make the choice about whether or not to send their children to Talmud Torah or Campus."

In rebutting the PTA co-chairs' arguments, Carmel defended the Middle Years concept, while Winograd and other opponents of the JK-6 proposal talked about the money to be saved by having all students in grades 5 and 6 at one location.

The $26-million campus in south Winnipeg is intended to house a K-12 school, a Jewish community centre, offices for community organizations, a Jewish museum and the Jewish library.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SAUL!

Saul Feldberg celebrated his 60th birthday by asking family and friends to send contributions to Beit Halochem. Over $24,000 was received. Michael Sax, president of Beit Halochem Canada, (right) presents the plaque to Feldberg and his wife Toby.

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WHERE ARE YOU, who still remember the liberation of our holy places in the Six Day War - the Kotel, Kever Rachel, Ma'arat Hamachpela? Don't you realize that we are on the verge of losing them again?

WHERE ARE YOU, who cringed when the arch-terrorist received the Nobel Prize for peace? You who have seen Arab mobs dancing in the streets of Gaza, Jenin, Nablus, Ramallah, whenever Jews were slain? Do you believe that the safety of our people should be left in Arafat's hands?

WHY ARE YOU silent, while the descendants of Amalek are slaughtering Jews with impunity and all that the world's leaders offer us is a circus in the Sinai?

WHY DO YOU shrug your shoulders in resignation, when Eretz Yisrael is being handed over to her enemies?

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CJN4

From coast to coast

Crown hamstrung in war crimes cases

OTTAWA — Justice Minister Allan Rock shrugs and admits dejectedly that it will be "virtually impossible" to convict any more Nazi war criminals in Canada until the criminal code is changed.

And right now, he has no idea when that could be.

There are so many other legal reforms he is planning to bring to Parliament. "I'm not making any predictions," said Rock. "All I can say is that it will be in the fullness of time."

The Canadian Jewish Congress, B'nai Brith, the Canadian Bar Association, numerous multicultural groups and humanitarian agencies, and a number of international and legal organizations and associations have urged Rock repeatedly to act quickly.

Two years ago a Supreme Court ruling rendered war crimes legislation ineffective. It ruled that Imre Finta, accused of murdering 8,000 Hungarian Jews, was innocent if he had really believed the racial hatred that motivated the killings.

That decision not only shocked Canada's Jewish community and astounded the legal community, but it also meant that no one, not just Nazi war criminals, could be tried in Canada as a war criminal with a reasonable prospect of being convicted.

Allan Rock

That opened the door to war criminals from Rwanda, Ethiopia, Somalia and lately, the "ethnic cleansers" from Bosnia, as well as any other war criminal on the run.

He is aware of the problem, Rock says. "We're drafting changes right now."

There was a meeting in his office only last month, he says, where the topic came up once again, among other reforms being considered.

That's not good enough, says David Matas, a human rights lawyer in Winnipeg who has worked long and hard on war crimes cases. Matas says the problem is getting worse, not better, because the government hasn't acted.

"Right now if you rob a bank and come to Canada, they'll charge you, but if you kill 10,000 people, they can't touch you," says Matas.

"It's complex drafting job," explains Rock. "We have to read the judgment of the Supreme Court judges and make sure we have respected the charter principles they articulated, and we have to draft changes to the code that will enable us to have effective war crimes prosecution that will allow us to make people answerable to these charges, while at the same time avoiding the pitfalls the court identified.

"We're not just talking about World War II here. We're talking about war crimes in general. Sadly, crimes against humanity are not a thing of the past.

"It is a challenging job to create language that respects the charter principles but enables prosecutors as a practicable matter to do their jobs," says Rock.

Since the Finta setback, Canadian prosecutors have resorted to using immigration tribunals and the courts to toss suspected war criminals out of the country, usually back to their country of origin. (Some countries, it appears have managed to get their act together on war crimes prosecutions.)

The hearings are held before immigration adjudicators instead of a jury, and they don't use the same rules of evidence as in a regular court case.

In order to deport a suspected Nazi war criminal, the government has only to prove that he lied about his past on his immigration application to get into Canada. That's usually easier than proving someone was a war criminal and killed people.

Rock says he's not happy with having to use extradition and denaturalization as an alternative.

"Ten years ago, the decision was to have a made-in-Canada approach so we wouldn't be extraditing abroad but judging them here in Canada under our own standards of criminal justice.

"There was a principle that Canada should take responsibility for that which is found in this country and we should have a mature justice system capable of resolving such issues.

"Admittedly there were difficulties of proof, as there always are, and there is the problem of securing evidence and bringing it before a Canadian court, and of the exacting standards we have in establishing guilt, particularly in crimes of such seriousness.

"We are looking at amendments that will change the code and restore some reasonable prospect of success when we have a strong case. We hope to bring these forward in the fullness of time."

Feds shift to citizenship cases

In the meantime, the federal government is going ahead with plans to strip five suspected Nazi war criminals of their Canadian citizenship and deport them back to their countries of origin.

Erichs Tobiass, 84, of North York, Ont.; Helmut Oberlander, 71, of Waterloo, Ont.; Joseph Nemsila, 82, of Oshawa, Ont.; Anatanas Kenstavicius, 90, of Hope, B.C.; and Johann Dueck, 86, of St. Catharines, Ont., are all expected to appear before immigration hearings this spring.

The government has spent about $15 million going after Nazi war criminals. It is only now, after 11 years and all that money, starting to get any results.

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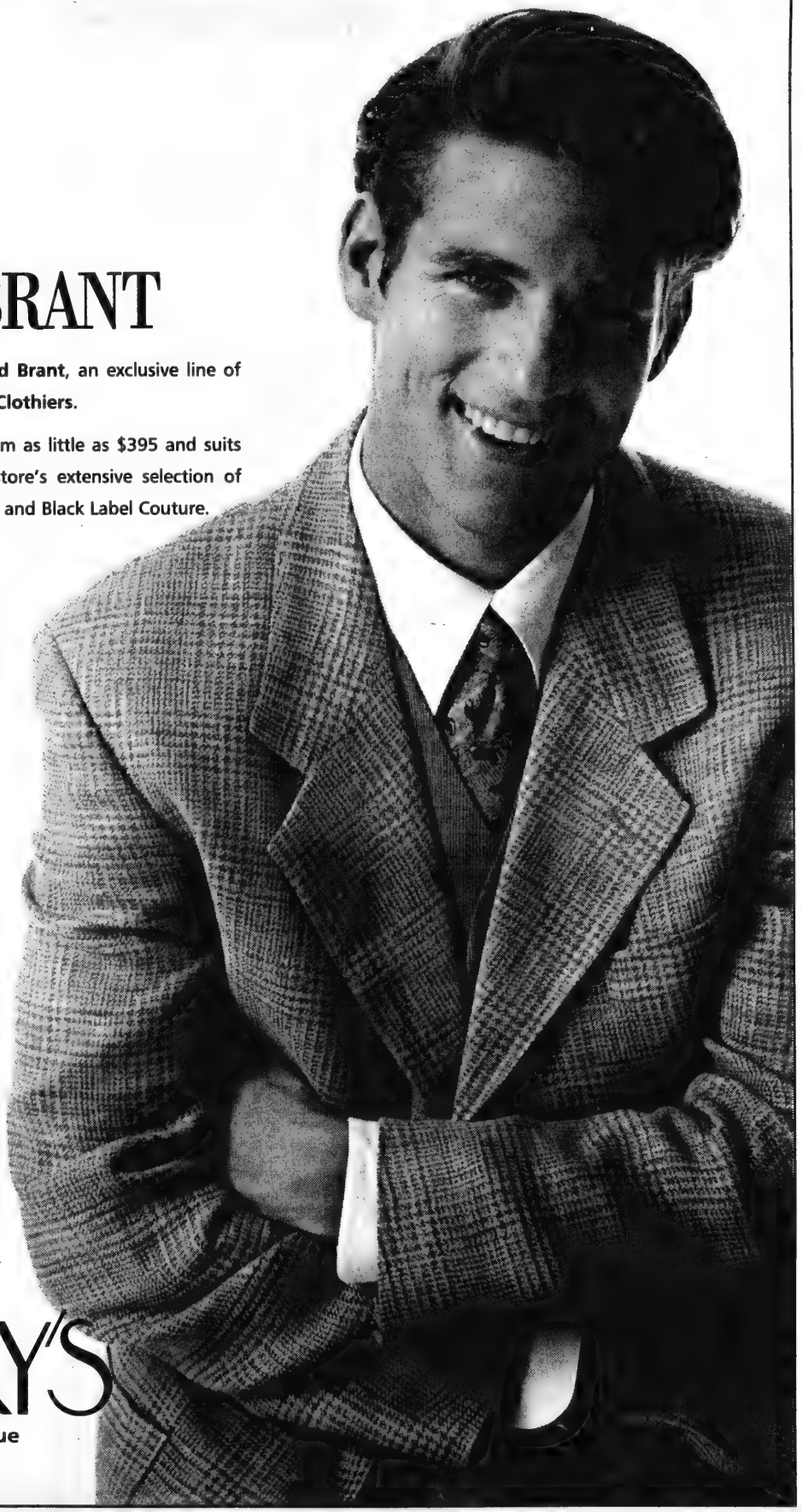

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From coast to coast

Women honored posthumously for Auschwitz revolt

By PAUL McKEAGUE
CJN Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — More than a half a century after she was executed for smuggling gunpowder to rebels at Auschwitz, Esther Wajcblum was honored by the Polish government for heroism in the face of Nazi oppression.

The Polish ambassador to Canada, Tadeusz Diem, recently presented the Cross of Auschwitz to Anna Heilman, in posthumous recognition of the courage of her sister.

"Esther Wajcblum was one of the freedom fighters who we always in Poland try to commemorate and honor," Diem said after the ceremony at the Polish Embassy in Ottawa. "After 50 years, Poland is indicating that we have not forgotten."

Wajcblum was one of four young women — the others were Rosa Robota, Regina Sapirstein and Alla Gartner — who were publicly hanged for their roles in a failed revolt at the death camp. They died on Jan. 5, 1945, less than two weeks before the camp was evacuated by the Nazis.

Heilman, a retired Ottawa social worker who was a prisoner at Auschwitz with her older sister, said the honor recognizes that "those girls could not abandon their humanity in circumstances when sadism, bestiality and murder reigned supreme."

Though the women were beaten and tortured before their executions, "they did not give the names of anyone else who was involved," said Heilman, who had herself participated in the gunpowder smuggling. "They only named people who they knew were already killed."

Esther Wajcblum

Wajcblum died just a few days before her 22nd birthday. "I know what is in store for me," she wrote in a final message to her friend and fellow prisoner Marta Bindiger, "but I go readily to the gallows. I only ask you to take care of my sister Hanka. Please don't leave her, so that I may die easier."

The significance of what the four women did "goes beyond differences of religion, nationality and cultural background," said Heilman. "When I see this medal it gives me hope that there are good people alive."

She was particularly grateful to the researchers at Auschwitz who documented their actions and ensured that history would not forget them.

On Oct. 7, 1994, the 50th anniversary of the doomed revolt was marked by the erection of a plaque at Auschwitz to honor the "four Jewish heroic prisoners."

Wajcblum worked in the gunpowder room at the munitions factory in Auschwitz. Day after day she and other women would risk death by stealing gunpowder, wrapping it in bits of cloth and hiding it in their clothing.

They would carry the gunpowder the 3.5 kilometres to Birkenau, where Robota transferred it to male crematoria workers, known as the Sonderkommando.

In one of the most important acts of resistance at the death camp, the Sonderkommando rose up against the Nazis in October 1944, and succeeded in partially blowing up one crematorium. About 400 Jewish and non-Jewish prisoners died in the rebellion.

Wajcblum's actions contradict the widespread notion that in the Holocaust "Jews went like sheep to the slaughter," said Hana Cammy, chair of the Ottawa Shoah Committee.

Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Congregation Mechzikei Hadas said the awarding of the medal by the Polish government is an important "gesture of understanding" which recognizes that people like Wajcblum were in a sense heroes of Poland, as well as Jewish heroes.

"It's another way of saying what happened in the past should never have happened and we reject outright the ugliness and we reject outright the evil and we exalt and ennoble that which was heroic," he said.

The ceremony was attended by about 30 people, including Heilman's husband Joshua, her daughter Ariela and her 9-year-old granddaughter Danika Esther Faiola.

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Religious symbols to join cross, poppy for November 11 school services

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Manitoba's largest school board, Winnipeg School Division No. 1 will continue to focus on the cross and the poppy in Remembrance Day services.

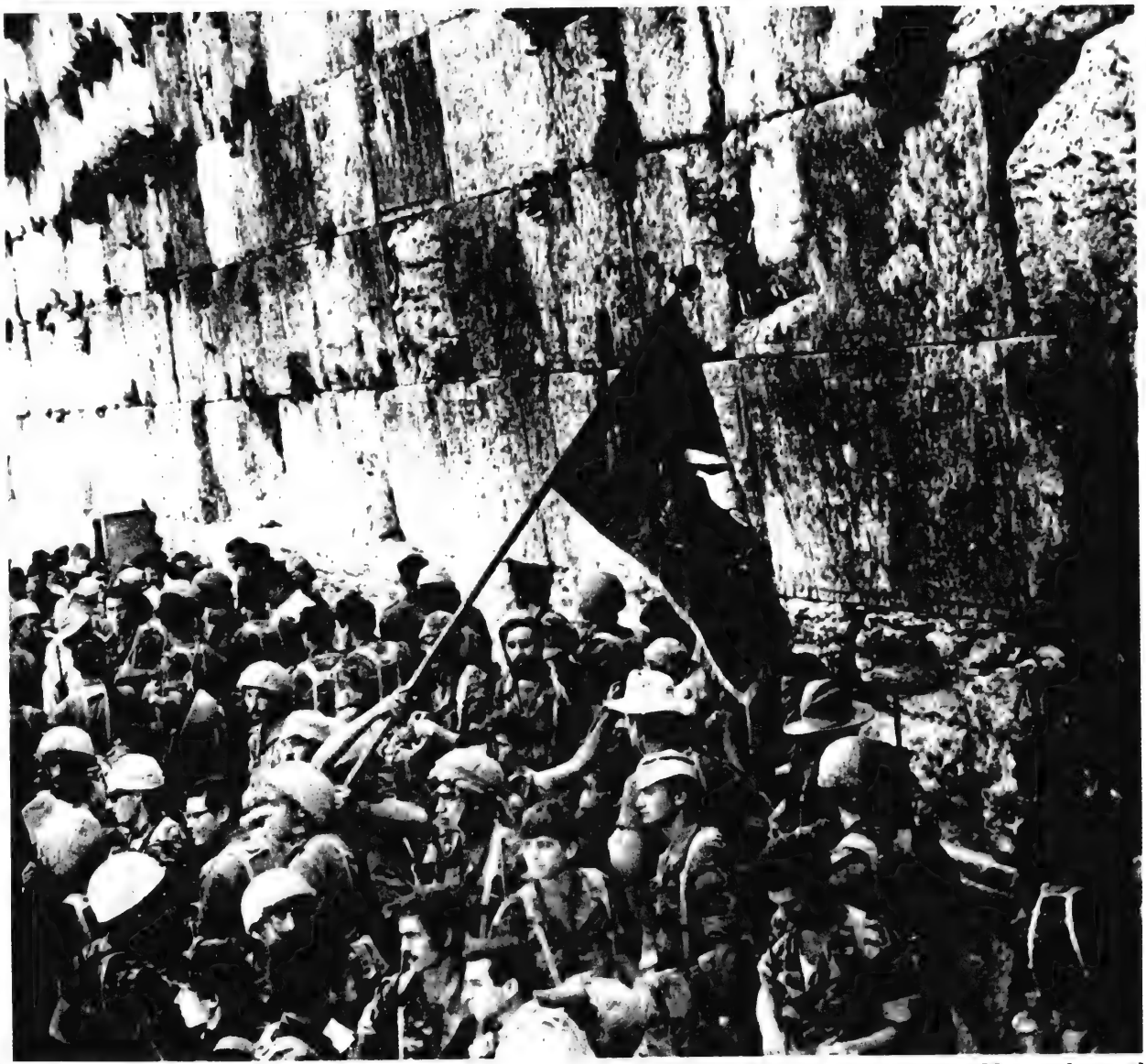
According to board vice-chair Conrad Santos, the cross is viewed in this situation as a symbol of the sacrifices made in wartime, rather than as a religious symbol.

But the good news for non-Christians is that the board will also include other multicultural and religious symbols on Nov. 11 to reflect the multicultural population in the area.

The issue was first raised by in a letter by a Jewish teacher in the public school system who was disturbed by the proliferation of crosses at Remembrance Day services in her school.

As a result of her letter, representatives of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council and the Manitoba Islamic Association approached the board about including other religious symbols for Remembrance Day services.

PASSOVER GREETINGS



Since the destruction of the second temple in 70 C.E., the last words of the Passover seder, *"l'shana haba'ah b'yerushalayim"*, "Next year in Jerusalem", have always symbolized the first prayer and the deepest stirring of Jewish history and the Jewish heart. Seen in this photo are the paratroopers who recaptured the Temple Mount and restored the Western Wall to Jewish sovereignty in 1967 and who, in the process, brought new meaning to the words of the ancient prayer.

The photo is taken from Six Days to Victory, Yafet Press, 1967 [Newsphot Photo]

The Canadian Jewish news

Passover Greetings

Pre-Pesach's a roller coaster

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

An out-of-control roller coaster. Yup, that just about describes life in my household in the past few months.

Editorial

On the one hand, one child hospitalized, one child ill at home, the third in emotional turmoil. It may seem a cliche that when a child is ill, the parents need the medicine, but let me assure you it is the absolute truth.

On the other hand, one of those same children became engaged. And that is exciting if anything is.

We find ourselves rocketing back and forth between despair and joy, tears and laughter, terror and contentment.

Much like the rest of the Jewish community just now.

We have not recovered from the shock and horror of the suicide bombings in Israel. We feel for our brothers and sisters there who can no longer take for granted such a mundane experience as the daily bus ride to work.

At the same time, who among us is not getting a certain thrill at the Jerusalem 3000 celebrations, where pageants, concerts, plays, conferences and even cooking festivals send a message to the world — and to ourselves — about our love and devotion to our eternal city?

Pesach mirrors this constant swing between the good and bad in our lives.

It is a never-ending joke that when G-d freed the slaves on Pesach, he didn't free us from the sheer havoc of the shopping, cleaning, searching, packing, unpacking, planning and cooking that preparing for the holiday entails.

We won't even mention the challenge of making sure that Auntie Perele doesn't get seated next to Auntie Miriam at the seder, as they haven't spoken to each other since one of them wouldn't give the other her secret recipe for *knaidlach*.

And yet — is there a greater sense of inner peace than looking around the beautifully arranged seder table at the family and friends gathered around you and realizing that all the effort, in the end, is worth it?

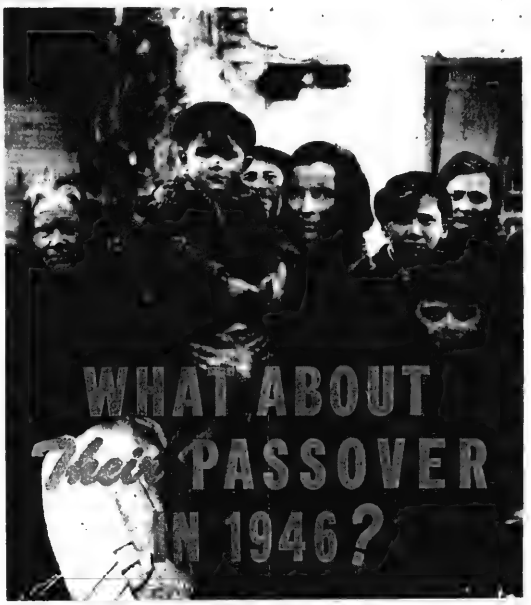
We often get so caught up in the stories of the plagues and Aaron's staff eating up the Egyptian sorcerers' snakes and, especially, the panorama of the thousands of Jewish men, women and children gathering their belongings and starting on what will turn out to be a 40-year journey, that we forget the tragedies behind the exodus.

We forget the babies destroyed by a fearful Pharaoh, the shame of a once-proud people reduced to slavery, the hopelessness that led men to refuse to have relations with their wives so as to avoid bringing more slaves into the population.

A few years ago, a popular song noted: "I never promised you a rose garden."

G-d's covenant with Abraham

[Cont'd. on page B4]



A "maot chittin" plea to the Jewish community of Canada to help their kin, the survivors and remnant of Europe, seeking their own "new beginnings" fifty years ago. [CJC National Archves]

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Passover Greetings

A student guest for the Sabbath

I had been in Jerusalem for just five days. It was Wednesday and I was sitting on an Egged bus going to my new home: *shikkun hastudentim,* Rehov Shmuel Hanavi. A lady sitting next to me tried to engage me in a conversation in Hebrew, which was hard since I knew only a couple of words:

By Sarah Taieb-Carlen

"At olah chadashah?" (Are you a new immigrant?)

"Ken." (Yes)

"Studentit?" (Student?)

"Ken." (Yes)

When we discovered that we both spoke Arabic, she asked:

Are you going to spend your first Shabbat with your family in Jerusalem?

I have no family in Israel. I am going to spend it with the students in the shikkun.

No, you are coming to us. It's lonely when we have no guests on Friday night.

Shortly before Shabbat, I walked to my new friend's house and knocked on the door. One of the daughters invited me in and called her mother. Ruth introduced me to her husband, an exhausted-looking baker; to both her and his parents who lived with them; and to their eight children, the youngest two of whom were twins in wheelchairs.

I looked around me and was fascinated. The walls were completely covered from ceiling to floor with hand-embroidered "scenes" of Jerusalem: a miniature Temple, the Kotel, Migdal David, Absalom's pillar, the gates of the old city, the Jerusalem hills, the King David Hotel, the Knesset, the museum, the Shrine of the Book and many others. One "picture" consisted of just a few Hebrew words which I was then unable to read: *Im eshkachek Yerushalayim, tishkach yemini* (If I forget thee, Jerusalem, may my right hand forget me).

Before and after the meal, they all sang songs about Jerusalem, songs from Iraq, Kurdistan and Israel. *Jerusalem of Gold* was their favorite — they sang it three times during the evening. The grandparents told me legends, anecdotes and stories about Jerusalem, about the mystic and healing power of its *shechinah* (divine presence). They kept repeating *"Zechut lehivaled b'Yerushalayim" (It is a privilege to be born in Jerusalem).*

The children, who all spoke English, explained that it had been a very old tradition in their father's and mother's families to make Jerusalem wall-hangings, which were favorite wedding, bar mitzvah and birthday gifts.

The three daughters took me to their room and opened a trunk full of Jerusalem "pictures;" some were very old, others they had made themselves in their free time. They loved Jerusalem, but said that they dreamed of spending a few years at the University of Tel Aviv or the Technion in Haifa and their parents seemed to understand.

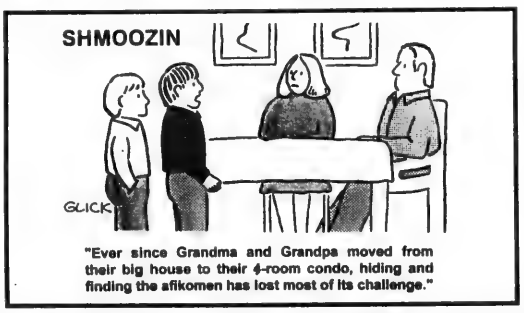
This evening has stayed etched in my mind for several reasons. The first was the pervasive feeling of joy and happiness in this family despite the "hardship" of the twin boys in their wheelchairs and the ill, confused grandmother who kept asking questions such as: What time is it? When is breakfast? No one was rude to her and there was always someone to give her an answer.

There was also the fervor with which they sang the zemirot, *Eshet Chayil* and the Jerusalem songs, and the way they recited the Kiddush.

The food — I remember mostly *kubbeh, sambousek* and little almond and date pastries — was a delicious first for me.

But I believe it was the homemade museum which impressed me most. I had spent my first five days in Jerusalem walking all over the city to discover it on my own, to create my own attachment to it, to feel and understand it. By a strange coincidence, I was spending my first Shabbat in a room which looked like a miniature Jerusalem, with people who lived in Jerusalem and in whom Jerusalem lived.

Sarah Taieb-Carlen teaches sociology at York University in Toronto.



"Ever since Grandma and Grandpa moved from their big house to their 4-room condo, hiding and finding the afikomen has lost most of its challenge."

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Paris pales in comparison to Jerusalem's incredible beauty

By Maxyne Finkelstein

I visited Jerusalem and explored the land of Israel twice as a teenager. Once from my bedroom while reading Leon Uris' *Exodus* and again for a brief few weeks with a friend in 1975. In some ways, the voyage to Israel with the characters from *Exodus* was vastly more romantic than my journey via El Al.

As I travelled with the heroes of *Exodus*, I fought vigorously for the safe and secure arrival of Kitty Fremont and the other passengers, and of course I fell in love with Ari Ben Canaan of the Mossad Aliyah Bet.

On my own trip, I fell in love with many of Ben Cannan's descendants, who, some 30 years later, were still protecting the safety and security of the Jewish people. And I learned to love almost everything in Jerusalem, even the people whom I at first found so different and difficult. In fact, it took a few more visits to Israel before I learned to appreciate the people as much as the land and I have since learned the complex intertwining of the two that allows for no real separation.

I spent most of my time exploring Jerusalem in a way that enabled me to know the city while exploring my own Judaism and its meaning. I spent many hours speaking to people who told me their stories, so that I could understand their struggle and my place in that struggle. I met Israelis who were quick to communicate their profound contempt for "American" Jews and a few who were anxious to come home with me.

Through getting to know Jerusalem, I grew to understand commitment, values and history. During my first days in Jerusalem, I stayed at a hotel near the Jaffa Gate. Each morning I walked through the gate and bought coffee from an Arab vendor who would freely offer us advice on what to visit that day in Jerusalem.

I wandered the narrow streets with the confidence of 17-year-old Canadian, ready to go anywhere and speak to anyone who was interested in conversation. Of course I bought a much-valued sheepskin jacket and wore it for the next few winters as the proud sign of one who had visited Jerusalem.

I had not arrived in Israel expecting any significant impact. I had come from Paris, overwhelmed by the history and romance of that city. And in spite of a strong commitment to the symbolism of Israel, I was completely unprepared for what awaited me. My decision to visit Jerusalem had been motivated largely by my friends' stories of the friendly people and great beaches in the south, rather than any spiritual longing that I was aware of.

Paris paled more with each day spent in Jerusalem. I wanted to understand everything about the city and most of all, how history had converged in such an extraordinary way here. I was most amazed that there was a place in the world that could encompass a person with such energy and that each visitor could define Jerusalem as whatever it represented to him or her, rather than just welcoming them as passive observers.

My love of Jerusalem was reinforced by travelling the land. The splendor of the Judean Hills, the rough magnificence of the Negev and the chaos of Tel Aviv all reinforced the importance of Jerusalem and its unique role in shaping the past and future of Israel. Most important, though, was coming to know the intense faith that pervaded this city in a way I could never have imagined. After leaving Jerusalem that first time, I believed that I had left a bit of my soul in that sacred city. I have since come to understand that Jerusalem and all it represents somehow "velcroed" to my soul and I left Israel with this eternal gift that would only be enriched on each subsequent visit.

Maxyne Finkelstein is associate executive director for Community Services with FEDERATION CJA in Montreal.

Pesach's a new start

[Cont'd. from page B2]

didn't include unending happiness; nor did it preclude suffering.

What happened at Pesach was a new beginning for the Jewish people, not just a liberation from slavery, but a chance to start again as a nation.

Maybe what we have to realize, as we swing between the zenith and the nadir, is that true happiness comes from the trust we have that ultimately, G-d will free us from our troubles and that we will be able to move from the darkness of despair to the sunshine of freedom and joy.

From all of us at *The CJN*, may Pesach be the start of good times, peaceful times, hopeful times, for all Jews, everywhere.

Chag kasher v'samayach, a happy and kosher Pesach.

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before the Lord in
Jerusalem."

(Rabbi Ovadiah of
Bartenura)

Passover Greetings

Jerusalem truly is a part of us all

It is said that G-d gave 10 gifts of beauty to the world. Nine went to Jerusalem and one was left for the rest of the world. Those

By Susan Jackson

who have set their eyes, minds and hearts on Jerusalem, the city of gold, know it is true. So much of who we are as Jews is tied to this place.

I remember the first time my mother saw the walls of the old city. The expression on her face made me understand how parents feel when their children see or do something for the first time. It is a sense of awe and comprehension with new and ever expanding bounds.

This year, as part of Mission 3000, I entered Jerusalem with an excited busload of people. Some had been there before; others had not. On our way to our evening program, we stopped to see the city from atop Mt. Scopus, to say a thankful Shehechianu for arriving at this magical and much fought over spot on earth. I asked our group to repeat the last line of the Passover Hagaddah, which they had recited for decades — *L'shanah haba'ah b'Yerushalyim* — next year in Jerusalem. For those of us standing on Mt. Scopus, we had made it. This year we were in Jerusalem.

With tears filling our eyes, we admired the lights of the city; each with our own thoughts; all agreeing Jerusalem is the most beautiful place on G-d's earth.

The reaction to this holy city has been the same for generations: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, may my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth and may my right hand lose its cunning."

Our ancestors have celebrated, struggled and sometimes died to preserve our Jerusalem for every one of us. Those who came before us travelled great distances under much duress to participate in Jerusalem's temple ceremonies. We, too, travelled far and wide to experience the wonder and joy that is Jerusalem.

I believe there are four genetic parts to a Jew. One is the cholesterol genes we all carry. Another is the guilt gene that makes us think. In the centre, in our hearts, is the *pinteleh Yid* (the little piece of Jew) we all have that needs just a small spark to light a huge flame within us. And last, but certainly not least, there is Israel, with Jerusalem as its soul, speaking out to us and helping us form a full and rounded Jewish identity.

As the Pesach season once again comes upon us, we are drawn to the lives of those who preceded us and enabled us to reach this season. We will read once again about the obstacles they overcame and the commitment they showed as a people. There is sadness and joy as there are in most things in life. But there is one thing to remember above all, our forefathers did arrive in the land of Israel and they paved the way for King David later in history to make Jerusalem our eternal capital.

And once again this year at our Pesach tables we will say *L'shanah haba'ah b'Yerushalyim.*

Susan Jackson is director of continuity, assistant director of community planning and allocations, and worker with the Israel federation advisory committee, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

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The more things change...

By Shira Herzog

This world of [historic] dialogues, which we follow day in, day out, as the pendulum swings back and forth, came home to me very vividly on 8 June, 1967, the day we took Jerusalem, reunited for all time. I went to the old city. I heard the muezzins proclaiming prayer from the minarets. I closed my eyes for a moment and hoped that it was no longer the call for jihad, holy war. Surely the time had come for the call for peace.

"I saw our soldiers as they handled their machine guns in the deserted city, as their eyes met the Arabs behind the lattices of their homes, as they began to weave a new dialogue. No longer, as depicted in Arab propaganda, was this Israel the monster, no longer Israel the conqueror. This was Israel coming home. And, as I moved up towards the Mount of Olives, I saw a great stir as the soldiers moved toward the Western Wall. I inquired what was happening, and they said: A great kabbalist in Jerusalem has asked to see the Western Wall. He fears he may pass on before he sees it with his living eyes. And so they took him by jeep, for the roads were torn up, so they brought him to the Wall.

"I recalled how, 20 years earlier, in 1948, on that Sabbath when the labor of exile came to an end and Jewish independence was proclaimed, I saw the kabbalists in Jerusalem, in the city under siege, as they eyed the young soldiers, and the one said to the other: 'These methods of the 20th century will not bring us redemption.' The other seemed to answer with his eyes: 'But how long can we wait? We have waited long enough.' Their eyes met at first in suspicion, but later in harmony. And the kabbalists were with the soldiers as they reached the Wall." (As told by Yaacov Herzog, 1971.)

"...the Kabbalists were with the soldiers as they reached the Wall."

My father, Yaacov Herzog, then prime minister Levi Eshkol's most trusted advisor, spent the early days of the 1967 Six Day War in the IDF war room, with the nation's military and political leaders. From there, he phoned us at 8:30 a.m. on June 6, minutes after the Egyptian and Syrian air forces had been decimated, to say, "We have won the war."

At that time, Jordan had not yet attacked Israel, but residents of Jerusalem were already staying close to home. For weeks, we had prepared our homes for a prolonged state of uncertainty. Sandbags were everywhere, and we had stocked up on non-perishables and water. For many native Jerusalemites, this was reminiscent of the 1948 siege. They weren't taking any chances.

And then, at approximately 10 a.m., the first Jordanian shells were lobbed across the dividing line that had split the city for 19 years. Two days later, on June 8, Israeli soldiers were approaching the Western Wall in a reunited city. My father told the story of his first visit to the Wall with the prime minister of Israel many times. For him, that moment captured the essence of the Jewish return to Zion — the metaphysical and the real, the material and the spiritual, the sense of being and belonging and the sense of going through an exercise of historical destiny.

A few days later, with special military permits in hand, I visited the Wall with my parents. But I also saw a breathtaking view of Jerusalem from the one spot that has remained my favorite ever since. At the old UN headquarters, now at the edge of the Haas Promenade, Jerusalem the golden rises from the desert and touches the sky. There one sees the beginnings of the ancient city of David and the growth of the city as it spilled over into history and space. There, for me, the temporal and the spiritual meet. There for me, ever since, is a place for contemplation and for a prayer for the peace of Jerusalem.

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Passover Greetings

All senses and emotions are heightened

When I close my eyes and consider Jerusalem, the memories include aromas and sounds. Thoughts of

By Arna Poupko

Jerusalem are located not in my mind, but in that place in the soul where we feel pain upon seeing a child's scraped knee and the place which responds to the moment of greatness in a familiar piece of music.

Without the use of the language of our prayers and the noble imagery of our writings, one can hardly speak of Jerusalem. Descriptions of Jerusalem do not lend themselves to normative uses of language associated with usual vacation spots, for spending time in Jerusalem is not really a vacation, and Jerusalem is certainly not a spot of anything. Jerusalem, after all, has been used by our tradition as the paradigm of beauty on earth and that which most closely resembles heaven on earth.

Upon graduating high school, I was amongst the fortunate who were given the gift of a year and a few months in Israel. It was a year of Torah study and personal discovery. It is still impossible for me to know which aspect of that year had the greater impact — the texts of our people or the city of our people. I clearly recall the competition between the two, each informing and complicating my relationship with the other.

Living in Jerusalem is like undergoing some kind of strange science experiment where all senses and emotions are heightened, creating an openness and vulnerability to the poetic and the sublime, and a reticence, or even disdain, for the stuff of every day.

The *Wall Street Journal* several years ago published an article entitled *The Jerusalem Syndrome*. It described a strange form of psychosis which strikes an unsuspecting Jerusalem tourist, causing them to ride the back of Egged Buses and shout claims of messianism and imminent redemption.

While none of my roommates exhibited signs of suffering from "Jerusalem Syndrome" by suddenly replacing jean skirts with long white robes, we certainly developed a heightened sensitivity to the spirituality around us.

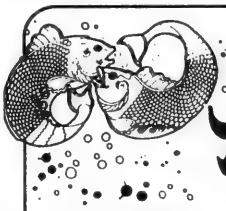
Even the most grounded and practical of my fellow students found themselves reconsidering career and personal paths so carefully planned during the final months of high school. Old models and assumptions about ourselves were quickly replaced with those far more reflective of our new idealism and commitment. This process is the evolution that many young students away from home experience, but, in this case, with a vengeance! It was at once liberating and intensely disorienting.

Many educators have attempted to identify the essence of Jerusalem. Of late, those involved in promoting and organizing trips to Israel for Jewish youth have tried to define and isolate its power, with the hope of harnessing the experience to its utmost. Others committed to the promotion of Jewish identity on Diaspora soil, are eagerly creating local educational models which they hope will reproduce some of Jerusalem's energy and influence.

While all of these efforts are certainly worthy, and may lead to greater understanding of the components of any potentially transformative experience, I prefer to opt for a less deconstructive approach to the holiest of cities. If Jerusalem is indeed a piece of heaven on earth, then within its unique boundaries one may find flashes of the soul.

I have often heard visitors remark that they feel at their very best when visiting Jerusalem, which, as students, we certainly did. This makes perfect sense, for it is the one place where the outside mirrors the inside. To behold the glory of Jerusalem is to glimpse the beauty of a soul which is informed by the spirit of G-d. This is the source of our bewilderment when we consider its grandeur, for, after all, we are only human.

Arna Poupko is a consultant to FEDERATION CJA in Montreal.



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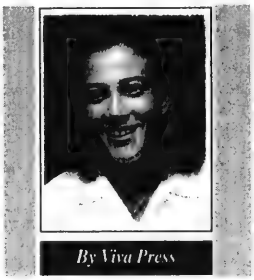
Mahane Yehuda - a market pulsating with life



By Viva Press

Jerusalem usually evokes images of the Kotel, the old city, the Mount of Olives. But for me there is another place that always invokes Jerusalem — Mahane Yehuda. Situated on Jaffa Road a few blocks from the central bus station, Mahane Yehuda is primarily a fruit and vegetable market, a market where Jerusalemites do their shopping, a market pulsing with life.

When I worked in Jerusalem last summer, I chose to buy my weekly groceries at Mahane Yehuda rather than in the sparkling air-conditioned Super-Sol grocery store in the neighborhood where I lived. I was always entertained by the clusters of merchants rubbing shoulders with one another as they shout out their goods and prices, and the feisty women who bicker furiously about who gets what first.

After living in Israel for more than two months, I persuaded myself that I was almost a true sabra. I dressed like a typical Israeli in jeans and a T-shirt. I mastered the bus etiquette; in other words, not to get in anyone's way. And if I spoke quickly, my Canadian Hebrew sounded passable, almost like the genuine thing.

I started off by going to the market on the less crowded weekdays.

A typical food stall in Mahane Yehuda [Viva Press Photo]

But the day arrived when I told myself I was ready to go to Mahane Yehuda on erev Shabbat.

I arrived one Friday with my single-person's shopping list memorized. There were hundreds of Jerusalemites pushing and nudging their way through the damp alleys looking for the best prices. After I had carefully selected the three big oranges that I wanted, I waved my bag in front of the vendor. There were already a dozen or more bulging bags and a throng of hands waving in front of him. When he got to my bag, he looked askance at me for a moment and then started to laugh. He yelled to his friend in a guttural Hebrew I had not yet heard and they both snickered. Who was buying just three oranges on erev Shabbat? The other shoppers got a kick out of it, too. I paid for my oranges, but before I had the chance to say thank you I was jolted forward by the ever growing mob behind me.

I followed the crowd until I got to the hummus tout. His booth has a little table that I was able to grab, in order to support myself and let the rush of people continue past me. I asked for a small container of hummus. He was just about to overcharge me when I reminded him, in Hebrew, that a week ago I had paid two shekels less. He apologized. He said he had mistaken me for a tourist and wished me a Shabbat Shalom.

I had my hummus and my oranges. Now I needed some vegetables. I bought all of my vegetables from Yossi. Yossi stands on a crate balanced above his piles of produce, arms folded, with a cigarette hanging from his lips. Every now and then he'll tap the ashes onto his produce and shout out some garbled words to attract prospective buyers to his stand. I always shopped at Yossi's and on this Friday he greeted me with a smirk. What is this amateur weekday shopper doing here on erev Shabbat?

I took my usual five carrots, two zucchinis, two potatoes, three cobs of corn and whatever else Yossi put into my bag. He never charged me more than a couple of shekels. For everything. I took the bag from him and turned to say thanks. But Yossi was already trying to convince a haredi man that his produce was better than the vendor's alongside him.

With my grocery shopping done, I allowed myself to be swept along by the crowd as I soaked up the sights and smells of Mahane Yehuda. I passed the fresh smell of strawberries, the overpowering smell of fish, the sweet smell of pastries.

The religious women with their long sleeves and *sheitls* filled their bags with *rugelach* and cookies. I took a plastic bag and grabbed two chocolate *rugelach*. I knew this would cause a commotion. I only wanted two: one to eat and one for later. The *rugelach* vendor lifted my bag into the air and announced to all the shoppers what I had done. Only two *rugelach*. After a good chuckle, he put two more into my bag and told me they were free.

So why is is that I choose to shop at a place where tourists are overcharged, where nothing smells like it should because something else is overpowering it, where people push and shove? Because it's *echt*. Authentic. Because Mahane Yehuda is an indigenous market, full of vivid color and poignant smells. It is not another tourist attraction where Israelis put on a show. This is the real thing.

To me, Jerusalem means the Kotel, the old city, the Mount of Olives *and* Mahane Yehuda. I look forward to my next shopping expedition there this coming summer.

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Passover Greetings

Jerusalem reaches past our minds to hold our hearts

Shall I begin to discuss the irony of Jerusalem — the City of Peace that does not live up to its name?

By Rachel Turkieniez

Writers throughout time have pondered this tiny golden city and its myriads of meaning. I do not wish to write of the paradox that is Jerusalem; I do not wish to write of the controversy that is Jerusalem, the politics and the battles. These are issues of the mind, and Jerusalem is a place that reaches our minds only after she has passed through our hearts.

All that could be said of Jerusalem has been said through the ages by those far greater than I. We have heard of her beauty, her charm, her religious significance, but we have not learned of her soul. Anyone who has walked the streets of this city cannot deny that Jerusalem embodies a soul all her own.

In ancient times, God designated Jerusalem to be the city where Solomon was to build the Temple. The neighborhood that contains the house where the presence of God dwells would surely be a proud place, a boastful place. And yet Jerusalem sits modestly and quietly while she allows mankind to play political games in her arena.

Jerusalem's soul must have begun as the soul of a child — innocent, close to God, waiting to view the wonders to be found. As each generation walked her streets, the city felt their steps and her essence grew. When King Saul went slowly mad, Jerusalem enveloped his suffering and his pain entered her soul. When King David danced before the ark of God, his joy entered her soul. When Uzziah fortified her walls, his strength made her strong. Throughout time, the city has seen the glories of our people and the despairs of our nation.

Jerusalem has been built and destroyed and rebuilt countless times. Jeremiah the prophet writes of the ruin that was Jerusalem; we hear the wolves howling as they roam through the wreckage and this too has fed her soul. We cannot separate ourselves from this ancient place and yet can we truly say we own it?

Jewish philosophers have written about the connection between Jerusalem and the Jewish people; Jewish poets have composed songs depicting this same tie. A modern Israeli songwriter wrote: "Jerusalem of gold ... for all your songs I am the violin." This one sentence tells of our subservience to this great city. We are not the singers, we are not the composers. It is the city itself that creates the tune and sings it to the world. We are but the instruments that accompany her creativity.

In ancient times, the Israelites experienced the loss of this city and we have sat in exile for 2,000 years. Our literature clearly shows that we have always directed our hearts toward Jerusalem, regardless of whether or not we dwelled in Israel. To believe that we could own this city is to deny the fact that Jerusalem owns us. In her gentle way, she has woven her soul into ours and she has become the master.

A few weeks ago, I attended a festival of song performed by Jewish school students in the Toronto area. I sat through the afternoon listening to young children sing about the city of Jerusalem. The theme of the entire performance was "Jerusalem" and the children serenaded the audience with songs of praise and longing for this ancient city. I wondered if these young people could truly understand the history of their words; could they grasp that the voices of children such as themselves have been directed to this city for thousands of years?

In the audience sat parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles. As the children filed into the room, there were many waves of hello and smiles of pride. All the hours of rehearsing and the inconvenience of practices were finally seeing a successful outcome. One by one the groups stood to sing their songs. The first song rang out and the children began to unfold a portrait of Jerusalem for all the adults in the room.

The hall became strangely silent as we listened to these sweet voices evoke the soul of Jerusalem — and it filled our hearts. Some of the lyrics were biblical and we knew that for centuries we have had this bond. I felt these emotions stirring in me and I glanced at the stranger seated to my left. I heard her swallow back the beginnings of a tear. At that moment I knew that Jerusalem owned everyone in that room.

The children could not have understood the power of their voices; they could not have understood the hidden tear in this woman's eyes. They do not understand the soul of Jerusalem — but I know, beyond any doubt, one day they will.

"I am a stone,
Like all the stones of Jerusalem."
(Y. Carni)

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Passover holidays always a journalist's delight

By JANICE ROSEN

April 6, 1936 — We were busy cleaning for Passover ... April 7 — Today we took in all the Passover dishes and took away the chometz ... April 8 — Well, it's Passover already. (Rebecca Dresher, 17 years old, Hoffer, Sask.)

I had hoped to depict a women's perspective on Passover as gleaned from the Canadian Jewish Congress Archives. However, the women's diaries and notes I discovered said very little about the season. Far more references are found in the (usually male-authored) articles in the Jewish press.

The earliest Jewish newspaper in Canada began printing before locally-made Passover products were available. In 1898, the *Jewish Times* of Montreal carried an advertisement by Fraser, Viger & Co. on St. James Street, listing several Passover products (most of them imported from New York), including kosher tea, matzot, "patent meal," macaroons, smoked breasts of beef, Gouda cheese and "Hat Zucker" brandy. All carried rabbinical certificates, and the store had appointed a shomer, Mr. Mittenthal, to ensure the quality.

In 1901, the newspaper advertised *Aunt Babette's Cookbook*, a 560-page resource containing "33 special Pesach dishes," including "Chrimel, Matzo Kloesse, Matzo Kugel, Matzo Schalet, Potato Pudding and Ueberschlagene."

One of Yiddish writer Isaac Yampolsky's many early 20th-century Passover stories (originally published in the *Keneder Adler*, or *Eagle)*, describes the traditional making of matzot, in the form of a dialogue between two Jews in the New World. (The translation is by David Rome.)

"... Here in America the matter of matzot is simple: 'and they ate.' They buy matzot and they eat them as they buy herring, potatoes ... But simply to buy and to eat is nothing. There is no taste to it at all. I do not question you. I only tell you that we have no path. we have lost our way."

Passover food aside, however, this holiday season has always provided Jewish journalists with an opportunity to editorialize about the current physical and moral state of the community they serve.

The *Jewish Times* of 1899 quotes from the Passover sermon of Rabbi Bernard Kaplan, of Montreal's Shaar Hashomayim Congregation: "Israel is still suffering from intolerance at the hands of the enemies of progress and individual freedom. Only the other day, a Roman priest in this city insulted most cruelly the entire Jewish community by declaring in the pulpit and in the press that the Hebrews walk in darkness."

On the eve of the Great Depression, Passover articles in the Anglo-Jewish press emphasized the loss of traditional values. Reform Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman wrote in the *Canadian Jewish Review* in April 1929:

"From the Union Haggadah, prepared by the Central Conference of American Rabbis, all references to the 10 plagues with which tradition indicates a wrathful deity plagued the overbearing Egyptians have been omitted. We believe the omission to be a wise one. The Haggadah is meant primarily for children. To tell them that certain supernatural occurrence were true, which the adult knows to have been impossible, is bad pedagogy. To link religion with the historicity of miracles is bad religion."

On the same day, the paper's editor opined, albeit with regret: "In the more distinctively Jewish sections one fails to observe the stir and hustle of the preparations for the festival ... And in the Jewish homes, the festival will play a small part. It will be a scarcely perceptible bit of atmosphere."

In more troubled times, Jews seem far more likely to emphasize the precept that one should read the Passover story as if one had come oneself out of Egypt. Nowhere is this more vividly illustrated in the Jewish press than during World War II and its aftermath.

The poetic voice of ghost-writer A. M. Klein is discernible in Canadian Jewish Congress president Samuel Bronfman's Passover message of 1942, printed in the *Jewish Standard*:

"History repeats itself. As we survey the ebb and flow of the struggle in which the whole world is encompassed, we cannot fail to note how the conflict between the would-be pharaohs and the people whom they would enslave is being re-enacted once again, only this time upon a much larger scale, with far more savage weapons and against a much greater number of victims. Once more the arrogant tyrant in all the occupied countries of Europe is flinging into the waters of destruction the first-born of the conquered peoples, their intellectual and spiritual leaders; and once more is heard the agonized groan of great masses slaving beneath the whip of their taskmaster. Old cities are again being destroyed to satisfy the destructive zeal of the foe; and new cities — the factories of Pithom, the arsenals of Rameses — are being built by the sweat of disarmed peoples to forge the very chains of their slavery."

And where do we fit into the pattern this Passover of 1996? Are we comfortable Canadian Jews lamenting a more colorful past, or (in Quebec, at least) do we see ourselves as beleaguered Hebrews wishing to flee a disintegrating Canada?

Janice Rosen is the archives director at Canadian Jewish Congress in Montreal.

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Passover Greetings

Women credited for revival of Rosh Chodesh celebration

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — Rosh Chodesh, a minor Jewish holiday, which for a long time was pretty well ignored except for a prayer once a month, was reclaimed as a festive occasion for women about 20 years ago in an article by Jewish feminist Arlene Agus.

But it is being celebrated more frequently throughout the Jewish world, as women's Rosh Chodesh groups are formed.

Agus, an original member of Ezrat Noshim, the first Jewish feminist organization in the United States, is credited with reviving awareness of the day, according to one of the 18 essays on the subject in a book compiled and edited by Susan Berrin of Victoria and published in February by Jason Aronson Inc. of New Jersey and London.

Berrin, the wife of Rabbi Victor Reinstein of Congregation Emanu-El in Victoria, is a graduate of the universities of California and Boston and became aware of the feminine aspects of Rosh Chodesh when she joined a group in Jerusalem.

The book, *Celebrating the New Moon*, gives in detail the history — or rather *her*story — of the holiday, which is believed to date back to Creation and certainly can be traced to the Exodus.

Celebrating the New Moon not only details Rosh Chodesh ceremonies and celebrations, it also carries a wide selection of appropriate music with the words, and a number of poems, prayers and meditations. There is scientific information about the moon, a glossary of Hebrew terminology, a bibliography of resources on the holiday and a fascinating section on how various women's organizations observe it.

Blu Greemberg of New York, who writes and lectures on matters of contemporary Jewish interest, calls the book "a Rosh Chodesh siddur and anthology, all in one." She says it records the history and Halachah of the holiday and is a blueprint on ways to observe it.

In the foreword, Berrin says the cycle of the moon mirrors women's body cycles, and "menstruation" means "moon change."

In the course of one menstrual cycle, which corresponds to the 29½-day revolution of the moon, a woman may experience her own personal waxing and waning of energy and desire, Berrin says. Indeed, one Rosh Chodesh group in Maryland has a special ceremony for a young girl who has had her first period.

Berrin says Rosh Chodesh gives women a chance each month to "contemplate and review our behavior and our relationship with others — and to seek atonement in renewal and renewal in atonement."

Susan Berrin

She links Rosh Chodesh specifically with women, using a commandment given the Israelites as they prepared to leave Egypt (Exodus 12:2): "This renewal of the moon shall be for you (the woman) a beginning of new moons. It shall be for you the first among the months of the year. The renewing moon is a sign that God will renew its people ... The moon is a covenant of hope."

The Talmud says Rosh Chodesh was given to righteous women as a reward for refusing to surrender their jewelry for the golden calf. Berrin says the holiday is "a pivotal force" in Jewish feminism.

Greenberg claims the holiday has not been taken away from men. Rather, she says, "we are enlarging and taking the community into its act of sacred celebration."

Women are not required to work on Rosh Chodesh. Agus says the holiday in some ways is similar to Rosh Hashanah, "for as we pray for the blessings of renewal, we are judged for our sins — we are purified." She adds that "it's a mitzvah to eat in abundance on Rosh Chodesh."

The celebrations described are as varied as the women's groups themselves.

In Vancouver, each woman brings a vegetarian snack to share. The celebration begins with a song, a dance and drumming, followed by an invocation over the candles. There is an exploration of a theme, followed by discussion, poem or midrash writing, song and dance. Prayers and refreshments wind up the evening.

In Winnipeg, the group has "rituals for healing" for members and for women at large, for example after receiving a *ge* or other life transitions. Art, candle lighting and movement are included in the "renewal of creativity rite."

In Montreal, Norma Joseph, president of the International Coalition for Agunah Rights, says, "We daven a traditional service, using a siddur we created ourselves. We have access to a Torah and include a Torah reading."

In Victoria, the women daven Shacharit and then begin with a matrilineal welcome. They include Hallel (Psalms praising God) and a Torah reading. Women are encouraged to try their new davening skills aloud. Refreshments are served.

In Jerusalem, 10 to 12 women meet to discuss different topics each month, such as "growth," for Shvat "light" for Kislev or "grief" for Av. Women can bring some creative writing to share. One woman may teach a song, another leads a discussion. "There is lots of food, soda, juice and hot drinks."

In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Jewish women's spirituality is explored through healing meditation. Adult women are prepared for bat mitzvah. There is emphasis on interreligious meetings.

Rabbi Tracy Guren Klein conducts a ceremony on the beach at Carmel, Calif. She focuses on restoring the Shechinah (God's feminine attributes) to contemporary Jewish practice. A biographical sketch about the rabbi says she includes the otters, seals and dolphins in her davening.

Celebrating the New Moon retails at $35 (US). You can order a copy by calling 1-800-782-0015. Although this is a U.S. 800 number, Canadian calls are accepted.

Copp Clarke in Mississauga is the Canadian distributor and the book can be bought at Israel's or Negev Importing in Toronto.

The book was launched Feb. 29 at a reception at Congregation Emanu-El.

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Passover Greetings

Adoption in the Jewish community...

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

Special Report

Each month for 10 years, Debra Nefsky tried to get pregnant. Each month, she and her husband, Lee, failed.

In addition to trying naturally, the Toronto couple consulted no fewer than six doctors and at one point, were spending $8,000 a month on in vitro fertilization, artificial insemination or hormone therapy, with only a small portion of that covered by Ontario's health plan. Debra's arms resembled pin cushions from the nine hormone shots she received daily.

Surrounded by family and other couples who were having babies, the Nefskys grew increasingly frustrated and resentful. Their marriage became strained. But they were not unique.

A happy mispachah: Lee and Debra Nefsky, with Joey, aged three, are pleased about having adopted through a Jewish agency. They are now on a waiting list for a second.

According to several studies, roughly one in five Jewish couples in North America is struggling with infertility. When Debra was finally told in 1992 that she would never get pregnant, "it was like a weight off my shoulders."

While the inability to bear children is heartbreaking for almost any couple, it poses a special burden for Jews, who are reminded constantly of the importance of children. The family is the centrepiece of Jewish holiday celebrations, synagogue and communal life. The burden is made heavier when placed under the weight of rising intermarriage, assimilation and a shrinking birthrate.

In fact, some feel infertility may be emotionally more difficult for Jews than for the general population. According to Rabbi Michael Gold, author of the watershed 1988 book *And Hannah Wept: Infertility, Adoption and the Jewish Couple*, Jews tend to marry later than others and put off having children longer. Women in their mid-30s are less fertile than in their 20s, and may experience difficulty conceiving by the time they decide to start a family.

The upshot? More and more Jewish couples are turning to adoption to fulfil the commandment, "Be fruitful and multiply." And they may take comfort in Talmudic teachings that the "real" parents of a child are those who nurture and teach him.

The Nefskys considered adoption as early as 1984. Two years later, they became number 50 on the waiting list at Toronto's Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS). They had inquired at the Catholic agency and the Children's Aid Society of Metro Toronto, but were told that because they are both Jewish, they had to go to a Jewish agency. And there they stayed for the next seven years.

Following the required home study, the Nefskys were informed in 1993 that JF&CS had two children ready: A four-year-old and a four-month-old. In her giddiness, Debra, now 42, said she would take them both, but finally decided on the baby. She was given six hours to come get her son.

Here, the story takes a turn. For the baby, as with many children placed by public agencies, had major health problems. For one, it was born addicted to crack cocaine.

The baby's biological mother, who was Jewish, was a cocaine addict. She did not know who the father was.

The baby, recall the Nefskys, was severely underweight. His brain was thought to be expanding faster than his skull. He was lethargic and not given much of a chance to live.

"His head was completely flat in the back," Lee, a 40-year-old businessman, told *The CJN* in a recent interview. "We were told he wouldn't walk properly, could be blind, have poor motor skills and have a learning disability."

The baby went through painful withdrawal for a month. At 3½ months, he weighed 12 pounds.

But the connection with his new parents was instanteous, almost miraculous. It's a cliche, perhaps, but the Nefskys' love was like a balm. Today, Joey, as he's called, is a rambunctious, outgoing three-year-old who recited the alphabet at 20 months. The only health issue that lingers is the need to test him for AIDS once a year.

Despite their long wait and the bureaucratic maze they had to navigate, the Nefskys are happy with JF&CS. To couples considering adoption through a publicly-funded agency, they counsel perserverence, patience and honesty. It worked out so well for them that they're on the waiting list again for a second child.

The Nefskys and dozens of other childless Jewish couples in and around Metro Toronto chose to adopt with a public agency. Others, however, turn to accredited private practitioners, although the rules on private adoption vary from province to province. Still others opt to go to the United States or overseas for an international adoption, a more costly and generally faster route, but one which can bring its own problems of culture and acceptance. Each method has its merits and shortcomings.

Those who turn to adoption learn quickly that the process is often frustrating, sometimes expensive, but always fulfilling. And those who have adopted are likely to agree with author Judith Wine, when she advises in her book, *The Canadian Adoption Guide*, "Learn and work until you are successful. It is worth it. I promise."

Scarcity of babies

What is adoption? Essentially, it's a legal process that gives a child a new family. Note the order of words: *A child a new family.* Not the other way around. The focus of the law is on the child's rights and interests. Not long ago, adoption was thought to be a good idea only for babies. Today, there are far fewer babies to adopt and children of all ages are being adopted, some with special needs and some who have had disturbing experiences in their short lives.

Experts agree the scarcity of babies can be chalked up to better and more readily available birth control, the decreasing stigma of unmarried women raising children (one recent study found that 95 percent of single women in the United States who give birth keep their babies), and a sharp rise in abortions. One recent survey found that in Metro Toronto, the abortion rate for teenagers is 65 percent, one-third higher than 20 years ago.

Who adopts? According to the Vanier Institute of the Family in Ottawa, the "typical" adoptive applicant in Canada is white, Protestant, between 31 and 35 years old, infertile, and with at least a high school education. Except for the reference to religion, the definition pretty well holds true for Jews. Experts say infertility is the number one reason Jewish couples turn to adoption.

Support groups across North America note that many people struggling with infertility may feel angry and hurt — even abandoned by God. For them, there will be no pregnancy and childbirth, but rather, loss of self-esteem, both personal and sexual. Their genetic bloodline has been terminated, and for many Jewish couples, the most profound loss is that of generational continuity. An American psychologist, Aline Zoldbrod, has even written two prayers for Jews to help them cope with psychological wounds. One is for those who choose to remain childless, while the other is for those considering adoption.

They may resort to prayer, but today's adoptive parents must be flexible, honest and have Job-like patience. In some cases, to put it bluntly, they must also be ready to spend some money.

Public vs. private

Many young couples may be put off by the notion of private adoption, believing it involves cash passed to shady go-betweens and ultimately, to mothers who sell babies. There is no national law on adoption; it falls within provincial guidelines. But in most provinces, private adoption is tightly regulated and its practitioners — lawyers, social workers and counsellors who may charge fees — are fully licensed and accredited by the province. If they break the law, they are prosecuted.

In British Columbia, private adoptions have been unregulated. That will soon end. The province recently passed, but has yet to proclaim, its new Adoption Act, which is being hailed by experts as one of the most progressive in the world. Apart from regulating private practitioners, it will give birth parents greater access to information on would-be adoptive couples, and even remove barriers to adoption by common-law and same-sex couples.

In Quebec, there are no private adoptions. According to Linda Saks of Batshaw Youth and Family Services in Montreal, local adoptions are handled by public, religiously-defined agencies, which "contract out" international adoptions to licensed organizations. Those in turn are controlled by the Secrétariat à l'adoption internationale du Québec, an arm of the provincial government.

Ontario's Child and Family Services Act states that only Children's Aid societies (like JF&CS), agencies or individuals licensed by the province may place children for adoption.

Adoptions of children overseas are similarly regulated, with provincial rules combining with federal immigration laws and regulations in the host country, which may or may not be lax. Documents, home studies and legal papers must be in order before visas are issued and provinces give green lights.

So where to turn? It depends on the individual.

What makes public agencies attractive is that they charge no fees and offer extensive pre- and post-adoption support. But they also have far fewer available children than the number of couples who want them. It's not uncommon to be on a waiting list for five, six, even seven years, whether it's for an infant or a special needs child.

On average, Toronto's JF&CS places just eight children a year, three-quarters of whom are Jewish, according to Susan Brandes, the agency's adoption coordinator.

And where private practitioners are paid to find healthy babies — which they do in far greater numbers than the agencies — it falls to public institutions like JF&CS and Montreal's Jewish Family Services of the Baron de Hirsch Institute to find families for older children who may be Crown wards and in foster care. Public agencies also place the not so healthy: developmentally, learning or physically disabled children, and the physically sick — so-called special needs kids.

At JF&CS, the special needs category includes children who are over one year old. Of the eight children the agency placed last year, seven were special needs.

In other words, a healthy newborn, every couple's greatest desire, is a rare find at a public agency.

[Cont'd on Page B-13]

Passover Greetings

...the joys, frustration and fulfilment

[Cont'd from Page B-12]

Saks says waiting lists at Montreal's Batshaw agency can also be years long, and many local Jewish couples are turning to "hot" overseas markets like China, Russia and Georgia. The agency placed "about a dozen" children for adoption last year, Saks noted.

Special Report

'Buyer beware'

Brandes of JF&CS says it's "buyer beware," even when it comes to adoption.

"A person who is in the process of adopting a child is a consumer. I don't mean to be crass, but just like any consumer item, you have to educate yourself. It's really up to the consumer to make himself knowledgeable."

Like other experts in the field, Brandes counsels would-be adoptive parents to explore other avenues. "The important thing in adoption now is spreading your net as widely as possible and using this agency as one option." An applicant, she points out, can be on a public and private waiting list at the same time.

And never underestimate the importance of networking. Brandes and others say couples should not be afraid to ask questions of those who have adopted successfully, tell everyone they know that they want to adopt, and even engage in what she calls "aggressive, ingenious behavior" — advertising, getting a 1-800 telephone line or sending letters to doctors stating their intent.

Contacting doctors is commonplace. One Metro family physician told *The CJN* that he used to file the dozens of letters he received from childless couples asking for introductions to unmarried, pregnant girls and women. But now, he said, he throws them away because there are too many of them, and besides, most of the unmarried pregnant girls he sees get abortions.

When it comes to adoption, demand far outstrips supply.

According to the National Adoption Study by University of Guelph professors Michael Sobel and Kerry Daly, over 12,000 Canadians pursued public adoption in 1990. In that year, 1,700 children under a year old were adopted publicly.

Ontario's Ministry of Community and Social Services reports that last year, the province approved 257 private adoptions and recommended approvals for some 600 international adoptions. There were 501 children adopted through Children's Aid societies.

Pat Fenton of the Adoption Council of Ontario says there can be seven applicants for every child available through a public agency, and three hopefuls for every child in the private domain.

The waiting game: Ted and Debbie Waters, frustrated, are considering adopting in China.

The scarcity of babies is the biggest single obstacle facing adoptive couples, says Michaele-Sue Goldblatt, a leading authority on private adoption. "A great many families are hoping to adopt a healthy, newborn white infant," she says flatly. "And why shouldn't they?"

Jewish children are even more scarce. Goldblatt, who now heads the Vancouver-based Child and Family Adoption Services Society, placed just two children born to Jewish mothers in her 11 years of private adoption practice in Ontario.

Couples going through public agencies may become "discouraged" when they discover that the children available often have been removed from their homes because of abuse or drugs and alcohol. In many instances, they are seriously troubled and have been given up, Goldblatt notes.

With proper counselling and support, some new parents can handle that. For others, it's too daunting.

And in private adoptions, it's not the go-between who decides which couple gets the baby. The birth parents decide.

In her practice, Goldblatt would meet the mother in the latter months of her pregnancy. Later, a selection of anonymous applicants would be presented to her.

By the time a meeting was set up, all parties were highly motivated and first names were exchanged. Rarely did a bad meeting happen. Sometimes, at later get-togethers, even the baby was present.

Open adoptions

That's another big difference between public and private adoptions: the growing acceptance in the private domain of fully open adoptions — adoptive and birth parents knowing each others' identities, exchanging letters and photographs, even keeping up direct contact. That's in stark contrast to public adoptions, where adoptive parents usually don't want to know about the birth parents, unless it's for a medical reason. (In Ontario and other provinces, the law prescribes only that birth parents are entitled to "non-identifying" information about the adopted family.)

Goldblatt unabashedly encourages open adoptions.

"It's becoming more and more the practice. Many adoptive parents are terrified at the prospect. They start out by saying no. But we say to them, 'This isn't joint custody. You're not a baby sitter or foster parent. It takes nothing away from you.'

"It's a gift where the benefits are fantastic. I've seen it work to an astonishing degree. The child grows up knowing who everybody is."

Although there have been no long-term studies on open adoption, Goldblatt says there's significant anecdotal evidence to suggest that knowing his or her birth parents lessens an adopted child's likelihood of an identity crisis later in life, and thus the need to launch difficult and emotional searches for a birth parent.

Open adoption may be fine for mailing baby pictures now and then and perhaps getting together for birthday parties, but what happens when there's a clash of cultures or values between the adoptive and birth parents?

"I'm not saying Jewish families should celebrate Christmas," Goldblatt explains. "I'm saying you can incorporate in a positive way the fact that the birth family is of a different heritage."

Goldblatt has also found that often, the birth parents' interest in the child wanes after the first few years. Some experts say that for an adopted child, that could result in feelings of being abandoned twice.

Public, private or international, all adoptions require a home study done by a qualified social worker. These are detailed snapshots of a couple's physical surroundings, finances, family and employment histories, medical records, parenting attitudes and many other variables.

Also standard in Ontario is the birth parents' right to withdraw their consent within 21 days of signing adoption papers. After that, a birth parent can go to court to regain custody, but this is rare.

The cost of a private adoption is normally in the $5,000 to $7,000 range, with fees going to process court documents, the home study, lawyers and foster care, if needed.

Goldblatt says red lights should go off if fees for a local adoption climb over $10,000, noting all provincial laws are clear that no one shall give or receive any payment or reward in connection with a child's adoption. It's a criminal offence to buy or sell a baby or profit from adoption, even under international rules, although the cost of adopting internationally can reach $30,000.

Patience 'running out'

An overseas adoption is something Ted and Debbie Waters are considering, partly because their patience is running out.

Ted, a 40-year-old Toronto store owner, and Debbie, 39, a program director, have been married for 17 years and have come to terms with their infertility. They joined JF&CS's list seven years ago and have been at the top of the list for an infant for two years. Now, they say they'll take whatever the agency has to offer.

"My patience has not run out with JF&CS," says Ted, with more than a hint of bitterness in his voice. "My patience with our society ran out a long time ago. My patience ran out with 15-year-old mothers who are encouraged to keep their children. My patience ran out when I took a night class at a local high school and there was a day care centre there. There's no excuse for that.

"We make it too easy for babies to keep babies and I've had enough of it."

The Waters have stuck by JF&CS partly because they've been put off by "horror stories" of baby-buying, of children with AIDS, and of birth mothers regaining custody months after an adoption is sealed.

The couple has explored foreign and private routes, but say they were quickly dropped when adoption officials discovered they didn't have enough money.

Ted says he got "quotes" of between $20,000 and $30,000 (US) for an American adoption. "If we had the money, we would have done it a long time ago," he says. But Debbie's view is tempered by the story of a couple in their support group who adopted a baby in Louisiana for $22,000 (US) and was handed the child through the door of a hotel room.

Now, like hundreds of other Canadians, the Waters are considering China, where baby girls especially are available for fees ranging from $12,000 to $16,000. That includes plane tickets, documents, the home study, legal fees and a hefty "donation" to a Chinese orphanage.

"I like my odds better," says Ted of finding a child in China.

In the meantime, the Waters wait for the phone to ring. "We figured since our home study was done [two years ago], we could get a call anytime," Debbie sighs. "And that's the frustration."

Next Week:
Conversions, foreign adoptions and what Halachah says

Passover Greetings

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Russian Jewish woman's a doctor in the Arctic

By NETTA ZUKERMAN
Special to The CJN

The following story, The Eskimo who spoke Russian, *describes an incident experienced by a Jewish Russian immigrant to Canada who had been a practising doctor for over 40 years.*

When they came to Vancouver, Pauline Krivetskaia and her two sons, Alex and Gregori, became enthusiastic and active volunteers for the local Jewish Family Services Agency. "We want to help people," she said.

Jews throughout the centuries have been shunted around the world. The following story sketches Krivetskaia's first medical assignment in the Russian Arctic.

Stories related by recent immigrants are frequently both painful and sad. However, this account is quite different!

At the age of 24, Paulina Krivetskaia graduated as a doctor in Russia. Living in the former Soviet Union in the early '50s meant that all directives were issued by the government.

Krivetskaia was summoned before the medical board and given her first assignment — in Russian Alaska.

On Aug. 12, 1951, Krivetskaia, together with her nurse Sonya, left her native Kiev and arrived at Tanurar, a small village some 300 kilometres from Vladivostok. The tiny hospital boasted five beds and an Eskimo orderly named Ootic.

Krivetskaia, who was practical but high-spirited, relished the challenge of the Arctic. And in spite of the prevailing harsh conditions, she entered her new life with great enthusiasm.

One very cold day, an Eskimo named Katelo arrived at the hospital in a sled pulled by six dogs. He was immediately taken to her.

Could the doctor come quickly, he asked. His wife was expecting her first child shortly.

Visitors to Tanurar were a rarity and within minutes, the whole small community crowded around the hospital door. Hospitality was immediately forthcoming, but, anxious to return home to reassure his wife, Katelo thanked everyone and left.

Fortunately, at the time, there were no pressing cases in the hospital. Kala and Howmik, the two capable Eskimo women who had been trained as practical nurses by the doctor, were left in charge.

Under the guidance of Ootic, supplies were packed for the excursion. Medication, instruments and drugs were placed in one bundle; food for humans and dogs in another. Then, a small oil lamp and oil, a large enamel basin, caribou hides, blankets and fur covers.

It was her first home visit outside the village, but her calm exterior did not betray Krivetskaia's excitement. She loved the exuberance and vitality of the big husky dogs and the intelligence of their sapphire blue eyes.

It was a fine day; the sky was blue and the sun shone. Snuggled beneath the fur wraps, she and Sonia found the extreme coldness of the air invigoriating.

After they had driven 50 kilometres, Krivetskaia noticed small whirls of snow eddying upwards from the frozen ground. Before they could realize it, a strong wind had sprung up and within minutes, a full blizzard was raging. Everything was blotted out and the two women were unable to see even one another. They were left in total darkness. Ootic called a halt, though Krivetskaia insisted that they proceed.

But the Eskimo, in his halting Russian, said that if they continued further, they would all die. Reluctantly, she sanctioned the halt.

Ootic quickly commenced packing giant handfuls of snow and fashioning them into large bricks. Krivetskaia and Sonya watched, fascinated, while, within about half an hour, he built a snow igloo.

Krivetskaia then realized the value of the caribou skins. They were used to line the inside of the shelter, with furs placed over them on the ground.

The two women were ushered inside. The sled and supplies, together with the 10 dogs and Ootic followed. Once inside they were snug and warm.

For three days, the blizzard howled outside. Well, what of sanitation, washing, bathing? They did not wash. The enamel bowl was used for other purposes than that for which it had been destined. The dogs relieved themselves in their corner of the hut.

On the fourth day, the wind ceased and Ootic cautiously left the igloo to inspect the outside world. His face wreathed in smiles, he pronounced it safe to journey forth.

Olga thought that she now knew how it must have felt to have been able to leave Noah's Ark! With an air of jubilation, hastily, but methodically, everything was again bundled up.

The sky was imperturbably blue as they mounted the sled. It was 150 kilometres to Katelo's village. Krivetskaia and Sonya commenced singing Russian songs and the dogs bounded along with great exuberance. An air of festivity prevailed.

They entered the small village at a fast clip, Krivetskaia preparing herself mentally for her patient. Ootic quickly located the igloo.

As Krivetskaia pulled back her fur cover, the faint, thin wail of a newborn baby filled the air.

"Walk about Zion, and explore her;
Make note of her towers,
Mark well her ramparts,
Traverse her palaces;
That you may tell of Jerusalem
to all the generations that follow."

(Psalms 48)

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Passover Greetings

Peace descends on Sarajevo

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) will be helping Jews around the world celebrate Passover.

For the first time in four years, the Jews of Sarajevo will not hear the sound of shelling or sniper fire as they gather around the seder table. They will hold in their hands a special edition of the Haggadah, translated into Serbo-Croatian with commentary and explanations by their own Rabbi Ranko Jajcanin. This new translation was published by the JDC with the aid of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

The Haggadah states *kol dichfin yeteh v'yechol* (all who are hungry, let them come and eat). In this spirit, the elderly are the focus of this year's JDC Pesach programs in Kiev. Many of the seniors have not taken part in a seder since their childhood over 60 years ago.

Seders for them are being organized in over 30 communities, many of them former *shtetls*. The program is being carried out by JDC and Hesed Avot, the regional Jewish community welfare program for the northern Ukraine.

The seders will be arranged according to the *bayit chaim* (warm home) model. In Kiev, there are now 16 "warm homes" to which six or seven seniors come twice a week for a hot meal and to enjoy each others' company, in order to bring people out of their isolation.

In Kiev, 50 "warm homes" will be holding Pesach seders, each hosting 10 to 12 people.

JDC, Hillel and the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation have created a project mobilizing students to enrich local holiday celebrations in the former Soviet Union. Seventeen teams of Jewish students currently involved in Hillels will conduct communal seders and other holiday programs.

At training sessions, the three-person teams learn the background of the Pesach holiday, Pesach songs and dances, community activities and community building skills. They also learn about welfare issues. The teams will arrive in the local areas on the day before Pesach and stay through the holiday week. In addition to conducting seders, they will meet with a variety of local groups to discuss the traditions of the Pesach holiday and its contemporary message for post-Soviet Jews.

JDC-sponsored Pesach activities are also under way in Slovakia. Two traditional seder evenings for all age groups will be held at a local hotel. The Youth Club has scheduled a demonstration of matzah preparation and a talk describing the necessary preparations for Pesach. The Jewish community of Bratislava is planning a Pesach dinner for the elderly at their local kosher kitchen.

For the holiday in India, JDC staff will assist in public seders in Bombay, Alibag, Pune and Ahmadabad. A Haggadah translated into Marathi is being mailed out to Jewish families throughout India and JDC is bringing kosher matzah from Israel for the public seders.

In Morocco, Pesach packs are being distributed to 350 families.

"What's the big deal about searching for Chometz? We do it every day of our lives!"

"This is a city never indifferent to the sky. The evenings often feel like Kol Nidre nights. Unheard music, transfiguring thoughts. Prayers are vibrant. The Sabbath finds it hard to go away."
Israel: an echo of eternity, A. J. Heschel

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Spirit of Miriam, women of Judaism imbue Haggadah

By NECHAMA TAMLER
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

In the spirit of full disclosure, I'd like to state up front my predilection toward the newly revised *Dancing with Miriam Haggadah: A Jewish Women's Celebration of Passover* (Rikudei Miriam, $9.95 US).

For those of us who place Judaism and feminism at the core of our identities, what could be more engaging? I'm glad to report this Haggadah doesn't disappoint. Written by local feminists Elaine Moise and Rebecca Schwartz, the book was first published in 1995 and re-issued this year.

The introductory section, *Why Dancing With Miriam?* is as good an eight-page introduction to the Jewish feminist movement as one can find. Responding to how Jewish women can "fully participate in the glorious heritage of Judaism when the tradition has denied them access for so many centuries," the authors say Jewish feminism attempted to create a "mode of religious expression that celebrates" both Judaism and womanhood together.

"Rather than struggle with the dichotomy of Judaism versus feminism, why not create a Jewish feminism that validates the authenticity of each without forcing an impossible choice?"

Assessing this blended ideology, the authors conclude: "All things must grow and change in order to live. As women recreate Judaism, they add a new energy to the substance of the tradition in which Judaism and feminism are joined together as one dynamic and powerful whole ..."

The Haggadah has several other prefaces discussing the Pesach 1994 event in Palo Alto that gave birth to this volume. It also contains a section outlining the thinking behind new feminist blessings, using such phrases as *Ruach ha-olam* (Life's breath of the universe) rather than *Melech ha-olam* (King of the universe). Finally, the introductory sections conclude with instructions on preparing for the seder oneself.

The Haggadah is well organized and easy to follow. Moise and Schwartz engaged the talents of illustrator Sherrie Smith to add graphics and perform *hiddur mitzvah* (enhancing the performance of a commandment by making the ritual objects used as beautiful as possible).

The Haggadah also provides the voices of Jewish women from history, each bringing forth her own message. We hear from Emma Lazarus, Emma Goldman, Anne Frank and Beruriah of the Talmud, together with biblical personalities such as Deborah, Hannah, Esther and Naomi.

The authors also add opportunities for less structured Pesach discussions, dealing with open-ended Exodus questions, such as "What do we wish to leave behind with our tears in Egypt?" and "What shall we take with us on our journey into the Wilderness?"

Other topics focus on both feminist and spiritual concerns, asking questions that will provoke substantive discussions.

Along with the three seder plate symbols traditionally discussed at Pesach – the lamb shank, the matzah and the maror (bitter herb), the authors share their observations on the egg, "an obvious choice for a spring symbol." They ask: "Why is the egg ignored? Was its meaning so obvious that it didn't need mentioning?"

One would expect a feminist Haggadah to pay special attention to the women in the Pesach story itself – to Miriam, to Yocheved (the mother of Moses), to Shifrah and Pu'ah (the midwives), and to Pharoah's daughter, who becomes Moses' adoptive mother.

Moise and Schwartz have not disappointed us. Instead of inviting in Elijah at the appropriate time, this Haggadah instructs us to welcome in Miriam and fill the cup of Miriam with water from everyone's glasses.

We learn that "the well of Miriam followed the children of Israel throughout their journey in the wilderness, and sustained them with water."

The prayer is that the cup of Miriam will always be overflowing with water, which is likened to wisdom.

"On the holy mount stands the city he founded,
The Lord loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwelling places of Jacob.
Glorious things are spoken of you,
O City of God..."

(Psalm 87:1)

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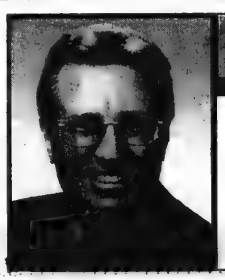
its ability to speak
If I do not remember
you,
If I do not set
Jerusalem
Above my highest
joys."

(Psalm 137:5-6)



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Passover Greetings

Playful new Haggadah still takes Passover seriously

By SHERWOOD WEINGARTEN
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

It dares ask – on its dustjacket, yet – the burning question, "Why is this haggadah different from all other haggadahs?"

Then, with leavened humor aimed at smart kids, *The Doodled Family Haggadah* (Atara Publishing) dares to offer some answers:

• It's not boring like the ones without pictures.

• It isn't as dry as matzah.

• Every page is like a comic book – colorful and real interesting.

• It has games, facts and other cool stuff for the days after the seder night.

• It's so authentic, you'll feel as if you too had gone through the slavery and Exodus from Egypt.

• It doubles as a remote spy transmitter that you can use to communicate with secret agents around the world (this doesn't always work).

In this Haggadah, noted artist Reudor, a seventh-generation Israeli, uses his full-color Doodled Family cartoon characters to add light touches to the ever-serious Passover story. At the same time, he delivers a comprehensive version of the Exodus.

For Hebrew readers, there's a traditional text (although no transliteration is offered for the less-than-fluent). For other readers, Reudor provides a modern English translation.

But be forewarned: Some readers might find a spoof or two in this Haggadah downright offensive.

For instance under the heading *Guide for the Perplexed (and the Somewhat Confused)*, one cartoon depicts a youngster in scuba-diving garb telling his classmates, "Today I will demonstrate how the Israelites were able to safely cross the Red Sea while fleeing the Egyptians. See, the key was that HaShem outfitted the Jewish people with state-of-the-art equipment thousands of years ahead of its time."

Readers may also dislike the fact that Reudor occasionally strains too hard at cleverness, and that he seems to feel he must cram something into every last smidgen of space. He loops spiritual ideas around drawings, mingles erudition with trivia and juxtaposes ritual directions with definitions.

Yet for all these potential faults, the Haggadah is a melange that will please many.

According to Reudor, before the invention of the printing press, "most people could not afford a handwritten Haggadah and had to memorize [the Pesach story]."

In the category called Matzah Facts, he notes that "sometimes the three matzot are referred to as Kohen, Levi and Israel, after the three types of Jews. Others say [they] represent our three patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

His text tells us that "on the evening before the holiday we inspect the house one last time. To make the search more exciting, we place 10 pieces of chametz throughout the house."

Chametz, he continues, "symbolizes the *yetzer hara*, the evil inclination. [It also] reminds us how difficult it is to overcome and get rid of our own bad habits."

Toward the end of the volume, there are descriptions of holiday games, Passover versions of charades, tug of war (representing "the great struggle of wills between Moses and Pharaoh") and nut-tossing (which combines children's desires to throw food and to win games).

A final two-page section titled *The Passover Encyclopedia* informs us that "in Ashkenazi communities the seder leader wears a white robe, embroidered with gold and silver, known as a *kittel*, [to remind] us of the white clothes the High Priest wore in the Temple."

In contrast, "the rugged mountain Jews of [the] Caucasus listen to their Elder read the Haggadah while dressed in their best clothing and armed with their finest weapons."

Anyone armed with *The Doodled Family Haggadah*, meanwhile, will have a cache of Pesach information at his or her fingertips – not to mention a unique, fun-packed book that just might keep the toddlers awake.

And if it does, readers then might consider showing them the cartoon that Reudor links to the song *Chad Gadya*. Its inscription reads: "And a heavenly voice said, 'Nu, enough already with all this chaos!' "

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Tragedies should lead to understanding priorities

By MAURY KELMAN

This was supposed to be a light article, but Feb. 25 at 6:45 a.m. changed that. Yet life went on until the next Sunday morning when I was awakened by a radio broadcast reporting that Bus #18 had been blown up.

"Why," I asked myself, "were they repeating last week's news?"

And then, my eyes slowly opening and brain suddenly coming to life, the full horror overwhelmed me. I lay frozen in bed, hypnotized by the shaken reports describing the carnage and relating the mounting numbers of confirmed dead. My eyes were open, my ears heard the tragic sounds, and yet I could not comprehend that this feeling of deja vue was in fact reality.

One of the victims of the Feb. 25 bombings in Jerusalem was a 19-year-old French girl who had spent a peaceful Shabbat at her cousins' home off Jaffa Street across from Zion Square. Calyne Zagury was on her way back to Bar-Ilan University where she had just begun studying after making aliyah in the summer. Her parents in Paris were summoned to Israel after the bombing and upon arrival had to wait for several hours at the Forensics Institute before their daughter's body was positively identified. When I heard of this specific tragedy, I felt that I had to visit the family, even though I had never met Calyne.

I had made my decision to visit before the second bombing, one week later on March 3, and now, as I neared the apartment, I tried to imagine the family's reaction to the latest tragedy. Their apartment was literally one block away from the second bomb site. Can any of us imagine what they must have felt, when they heard the second blast, having just buried their eldest child four days ago? I imagined they would be broken and angry, anxious to leave this city which for them was a place of so much sorrow and fear.

After entering the apartment, I was taken into the den where family members were huddled around the television watching reports of the grisly scene, which with sickening irony they could have seen from their own building. I thought how strange it was that people so far away in Canada, physically removed from this dreadful reality, were watching the same scenes as this family who should have been in Paris also watching the tragedy from the safety of their home. Instead, they were wrenched from their comfortable residence into this misery, their lives cruelly altered forever.

And yet, I found that the Zagury family was not angry or bitter. They spoke of their daughter lovingly and of her love of Israel. It was both of these loves, they told me, which had strengthened their determination to return to Israel permanently in the near future.

With my broken French and the father's broken English, I was sure that I had misunderstood. Surely he meant that this tragedy had convinced them not to live in Israel. But then he said it again and I was dumbfounded. Calyne's brother, aged 16, was anxious to come and the parents wanted to be close to their daughter, now eternally linked to the land of Israel.

I was awed by the parents' remarkable display of control and by their determination to vicariously live their daughter's dream. After I told the father that I was from Toronto, he perked up, declaring that he had lived in Toronto for one year and his parents had lived there for two. He excitedly called his father over, and thus began the age-old tradition of Jewish geography or *mishpachology*, as my uncle coined it, began.

They asked if I knew their relatives still living in Toronto. "Yes, the name sounds familiar, but even though I don't know him, I'm sure my father does," I responded, as I often do when people ask me if I know one of Toronto's 160,000 Jews.

So there we sat in Jerusalem, a group of Jews from Paris and Toronto discussing Bathurst Street and the Jewish Community Centre, while a surreal sense of death and tragedy pervaded the room. For the Zagurys, momentarily escaping the horror of the present, it was a chance to talk with a stranger about a simpler past in a peaceful land far away from depraved suicide murderers. And yet, even though I was a stranger and had just met the family, I felt a certain closeness to them, that amorphous, yet real attachment that should bind all Jews together regardless of background or language.

They were appreciative of my coming, and kept offering me something to drink or eat. "Why are they serving me?", I thought. "It should be the other way around." We spoke some more about Israel, about Calyne, about their commitment to Israel and Judaism, and then it was time to go. I felt guilty leaving the apartment, as if it wasn't right to continue my daily existence while the Zagurys' lives were changed forever.

The Zagurys are back in France now, and like the almost 60 other families who lost loved ones in these inexplicable calamities, must now go on with their lives. Ultimately, after the shivah visits and the calls to "just see how you're coping," we too must resume our own lives. We cannot understand these tragedies, nor can we really learn from them, except perhaps to understand our priorities better, perhaps to take more time to care for our fellow human beings, perhaps to better appreciate our loved ones, perhaps to pray more, perhaps to act more. Perhaps ...

"Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her."
(Isaiah 66:10)

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Passover Greetings

The Dead's seder mythology dies along with the band

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

The Grateful Dead may be gone as a musical group since the death last year of its leader Jerry Garcia, but Jewish-related mythology about the much-beloved band lives on.

The Dead's large Jewish following has long speculated about the religious practices of Mickey Hart, the only Jewish member of the Dead and the band's drummer.

He is rumored to have been the guiding force behind the annual Passover seder that the Dead held backstage each spring when they played in New York City. It was a 45-minute gig between the sound check and the opening of the show.

The band's publicist, Dennis McNally, said the abbreviated seder was enjoyed by about 20 members of the Dead entourage, including sound guys and roadies, but that Hart would show up only for about five minutes of the ritual.

The seder participants were provided with special yarmulkes made of purple suede and stamped in gold with the Dead's signature "Steal Your Face" logo.

The Haggadot bore the same logo, and became a hot collectible among Jewish Dead fans, said Deadhead Myles Share.

One of the yarmulke-and-Haggadah sets was sold at a synagogue auction in Marin County, Calif., for $500, he said.

Many of the Dead's Jewish fans claimed that the band scheduled shows in New York around Passover and Yom Kippur each year so that Hart could be with his mother for the holidays.

Grateful Dead spokesperson Dennis McNally denied that report, calling it "a folk tale."

Hart was unavailable for comment, busy in the studio in the final stages of mixing his latest solo album.

But his personal assistant, Howard Cohen, set the record straight about Hart's Passover seder style.

"In the seven years I've known him, he's never had a seder," said Cohen. "He's not really what you'd call a practising Jew."

McNally, the Dead's publicist, agreed. "Mickey is a drummer," he said. "He worships the beat. His religion is percussion."

DOUBLE MAROR

This is a special seder plate from mid 19th century Czechoslovakia in which maror (bitter herbs) is mentioned twice: *l'vracha*, for the blessing, and *l'cricha*, for the sandwich. [Fred Weinberg photo]

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A Happy & Healthy Passover

A time for Israelis to see the country

By CARL ALPERT

The observance of Pesach in Israel is not limited to the seder night (only one for Israelis). In the days following the seder, tens of thousands of Israelis will take to the road, visiting and even camping out in Eilat, around the Dead Sea, at the Kinneret and at every available camping and picnic site.

Conspicuous among these internal tourists will be religious families. Not free to travel on Shabbat, they eagerly grasp at the opportunity to get about the country during chol hamo'ed, the intervening days of Passover. Even the yeshivot are closed during this week.

Experience of previous years has shown that the effects of the holiday can be felt some time before the actual seder. The traditional thorough housecleaning expresses itself in the discarding of vast amounts of junk. The city sanitation department in Jerusalem reports that in recent days their collections have averaged about 1,500 tons a day, as against an average of 700 tons at other times.

Hospital emergency wards and clinics, relying on past experience, have for some days been on special alert to take care of the victims of home accidents, chief among them falls from ladders or unsteady chairs.

Surveys indicate that about 70 percent of the Jewish population will observe the kashrut laws and refrain from introducing chametz into their homes. While the usual markets and groceries will have only matzah on sale, some Israelis will seek out Arab outlets where bread (pita) will be available. A local Haifa paper provides a list of such stores. Ironically, one such source of pita is located on Eliyahu Hanavi Street.

As in the past, canine pets will be able to consume dog food strictly kosher for Passover, especially marketed for families who do not want to have non-kosher food in their homes during the holiday.

The big zoo in Jerusalem will presumably, like last year, also be kosher for Passover, and the animals will be fed a diet meeting the strictest requirements, so as not to violate esthetically the feelings of the large numbers of religious Jews who visit during the week.

In prisons and all army camps, the kitchens have been scrubbed clean and only foods with proper certification will be served. Packages sent to soldiers from home will not be released from the army mails until after the holiday.

Weight watchers have already been warned that one piece of matzah contains 160 calories, equivalent to two slices of bread. Two kneidlach contain 150 calories.

As in previous years, Jerusalem's water supply will be drawn from Yarkon springs, rather than from the national water carrier which receives its water from the Kinneret. Religious sources have in the past complained that water in the lake becomes chametz because of the bread bait used by fishermen. Rabbi Ovadia Yosef has dismissed this fear, but religious perfectionists want to take no chances.

The collective ritual "sale" to an Arab of all chametz owned by the government will be watched carefully this year after it was revealed that Ahmed Mugrabi, who in the past had been the purchaser, was actually the son of a Jewish mother.

To tens of thousands of employees of major institutions, Passover is the time when their company gives them valuable gifts or pays them special bonuses which often mount up to appreciable sums.

The day after Passover, Israelis of North African descent will set out their festive tables loaded with delicacies in celebration of their traditional Mimouna holiday, which has become a national folk festival.

But not all Israelis will be at home. This festival marks the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, and many of the modern Israelis take the "exodus" literally, by going on trips abroad during the long holiday. Indications are that in excess of 50,000 Israelis will be away from the country during this period. Every available plane and flight has been booked, and it is expected that on the eve of the holiday, all records for departure will be broken at Ben-Gurion Airport, with a plane departing every five or six minutes.

The most popular destination is London, but there is hardly a corner of the world where Israelis will not be found. Many young people heading for exotic destinations in the Far East expect to take part in special seders arranged by the Chabad movement. Last year no less than 500 Israeli backpackers munched matzah and asked the four questions at a seder in Bangkok, Thailand. The Israeli seder in Katmandu, Nepal, is already a tradition of some years standing.

Wherever you are, celebrate the feast — and watch those calories.

"This is the city of David, of the prophets of Israel — not of Titus, the Roman Emperor; or of Godfrey of Bouillon, the Crusader; or of Saladin. The descendents of Titus, of Godfrey, of Saladin never fasted, never mourned for her. Jerusalem was not a part of their soul, of the grief, not an answer to their suffering."
Israel: an echo of eternity, A. J. Heschel

Passover Greetings

Ethiopian Jews are a real modern miracle for Pesach

By BARBARA RIBAKOVE GORDON

Each year at the Passover seder we are told to think of the Exodus from Egypt as if it happened to us in our own time. It did happen in our time, when almost 15,000 Ethiopian Jews crossed the Red Sea and came home to Israel. This great miracle of the 20th century was not the first effort at aliyah by Ethiopian Jews. The following is a story that you may want to include in your Passover seder:

It came to pass in the reign of Emperor Thedorus (king of Ethiopia from 1855-1868), when the Jews of Ethiopia were led by the wise Aba Mahari, that much anguish came upon the Jewish community. Missionaries were active in their villages, troubling the spirits of the Jewish people. Then a decree went out from the emperor that the Jews must come to his court and debate the missionaries.

Now, Aba Mahari was a man of 60 years. Some say he himself led the great debate in the emperor's court. Others say he sent his wisest counselors. But all agree the Jews were the victors, and the missionaries became enraged, threatening force against them. And the people were afraid.

Now, Aba Mahari had a dream that the Jews would go to Jerusalem. He dressed in his long white robes, took his staff in his hand, and went to Emperor Theodorus. The emperor received him kindly, for Aba Mahari had foretold that he would be king while he was yet unborn. The emperor said to Aba Mahari, "You are like my father," if you will change your religion you shall be head of the Ethiopian church but Aba Mahari said, "I cannot do as you ask. Therefore, I ask you to send me to Jerusalem with my people. Let me take them home."

And Emperor Theodorus consented, and issued a decree that no one should hinder the Jews.

And so word went out to the Jewish villages in Gondar, Dembia, Tigrei, Quara and everywhere in Ethiopia – all those who wished to remain Jews should follow Aba Mahari. And so thousands of Jews walked in the footsteps of Aba Mahari, toward the shores of the Red Sea.

But the long road was filled with obstacles, rivers and mountains. The rainy season came and many Jews perished of cold and hunger. In the village of Madvay there is to this day a great memorial to the Jews buried there. And the good people of Madvay sought to comfort the Jews by holding a tazkar (memorial service) for the dead. Some of the Jews were indeed comforted and turned back saying, "It is as if we have reached Jerusalem. Why? We have heard all your singing, all your praying, all your beating of drums, and we have rejoiced."

But many did not turn back, and went on till they came to the shores of the Red Sea. Then Aba Mahari took his staff, like Moses, and struck the sea so it would open. But the sea did not open. Then those who remembered the story of Nahson at the time of the Exodus from Egypt – for Nahson walked boldly into the waters, and they parted – they leaped into the sea and began to swim.

Still the waters did not part, and they returned to shore, saying, "Even if we swim to the other sides how can the women and children cross, and those who can't swim?" So they sought a rich woman who lived nearby, to hire her boats, but her boats were not strong enough.

Then the people lost heart, and turned away from Jerusalem to go home. And the journey south was more arduous than the journey north, for plague broke out and many died. To this day none can tell how long the Jews underwent the vicissitudes, the sufferings and the deaths of their companions, before they reached their homes, or settled where they fell. And Aba Mahari, it is said, spent the rest of his life wandering from place to place, to comfort his people and to defend Judaism in Ethiopia.

And so ended the first great exodus of the Jews of Ethiopia. Some might say that the vicissitudes, the sufferings, and the deaths were in vain, for the Jews did not cross the Red Sea. But to this day, their descendants tell the story, and remember not only the pain their ancestors suffered, but the kindness they met along the way, and the courage of Aba Mahari who walked before them in his old age and did not leave them defenceless.

And today, their descendants who are indeed in the Land of Israel and the City of Jerusalem –who crossed the Red Sea in our time, not on land but in the air, borne on the wings of eagles – they say, "Aba Mahari had a vision, and the vision was true. But what he saw was not for his time but for the future. They did not arrive, they were not privileged to reach their goal.

"But because of their courage and their virtue — we, their children, have arrived."

Now, there are 56,000 Ethiopian Jews living in Israel. In Ethiopia, 3,400 impoverished Ethiopian Jews, who have spent five years in the slums of Addis Ababa, celebrate the Passover holiday while awaiting their turn to leave for Israel.

For more information contact: Andrew Goldman 202-362-1946 For background on Ethiopian Jewry on the Web: http://www.cais.com/nacoej.

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Barbara Ribakove Gordon, is executive director of the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry.

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Passover Greetings

Conflicting memories struggle for supremacy in Haggadah

By IRVING GREENBERG
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Two types of memory struggle for supremacy in the Passover seder. The memory of degradation and slavery clashes with the memory of liberation and freedom.

Which memory will primarily shape the retelling?

The seder story begins with poverty and hunger – matzah, "the bread of affliction." It descends into slavery – "we were slaves unto Pharaoh in Egypt." Then it sinks into genocide – "the drowning of the children."

To remember slavery and genocide evokes deep feelings – feelings of rage and victimization. Our ancestors – Jacob and his children – brought blessings to Egypt. Yet in the end, the Egyptians mercilessly repressed us, enslaved us, killed us.

Slavery defines the people as exploited; they must have a master at all times. When Moses is gone for a few days too long, the people create a golden calf to worship. When there is no water – or no meat – they wish they were back in slavery.

There is a truth behind this approach. The experience of slavery defined the Jewish people. In struggling with the oppression, the Israelites proliferated.

Still, in the final analysis, when the memory of slavery is dominant, it drags the people down to servility, to internalized degradation. Such a memory breeds victimization psychology.

When we go wrong, we blame those who distorted our culture and destroyed our lives. We define ourselves in conflict with enemies who still seek to destroy us.

There is an alternative approach. The Jewish people was born in slavery, but it was born again in the process of liberation. "I ... take you out from under the afflictions of Egypt ... [and] I take you to be My people." (Exodus 6:6-7)

From the first remembrance instruction – "Remember this day that you went out of Egypt from the house of bondage" (Exodus 13:3) – to the last – "You shall not subvert the rights of the stranger or the orphan" because "you shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt and the Lord God redeemed you from there" (Deuteronomy 24: 17-18, 20-22), the Torah came down decisively on the side of liberation, not slavery.

The Haggadah also puts the emphasis on freedom. The core of the seder is that "in every generation a person must see him/herself as though he/she personally came out of Egypt." Responsibility, not rage, is the dominant message.

This even leaves room for forgiveness. Consider the commandment: "Do not abhor an Egyptian, for you were a stranger in his land."(Deuteronomy 23:8)

This resolution shaped Judaism into a religion of life. As a result, Passover turned into the most influential holiday of all time. Each generation and each people must resolve this issue again.

After the Shoah, the Jewish people had to decide whether the focus would be on Jewish victimization or the affirmation of the renewed lives of survivors. Jews had to choose between staying powerless or proclaiming a state. They could develop a policy of self-pity and rage toward all gentiles or take power and act responsibly toward gentile and Jew alike.

Choosing life, power and responsibility has been the remarkable achievement of this generation.

Now Jews must decide whether to cling to a self-definition dependent on gentile rejection or to take up the challenge of freedom. The proper response to acceptance is to develop a liberating, life-affirming Jewish experiential way of life.

To cling to the victim's role, to define ourselves by the nonacceptance of others spells internalization of inferiority and dissolution into assimilation.

To focus on freedom, beginning with celebrating Passover, is the path to life. The revitalization of Jewish life through learning and Jewish growth is the sign that we are free at last.

Irving Greenberg is president of CLAL – The National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership and the author of The Jewish Way.

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מִי בְּרָמָה וּמִי בְּקוֹל תְּפִלָּה חֲרִישִׁי.
הֵן מֵאָז יְמֵי דָוִד הָרַעֲנָנִים
אָתְּ עַל הַבָּמָה, בְּמֶרְכָּז הָעִנְיָנִים,
אֲפֵשָׁר לוֹמַר "עִם הָרֹאשׁ בָּעֲנָנִים"
כְּשֶׁמִּסְבִיבֵךְ מִשְׁתַּנֶּה רַק הַתַּפְאוֹרָה,
שֶׁהַפַּעַם זוֹ אָנוּ, סִתָּם נְקוּדָה אֲפוֹרָה
עַל קַו זְמַנֵּךְ הַפְּתַלְתֹּל הַנִּצְחִי,
עוֹד קְהִילָה (בְּגוֹלָה) מִן הַשׁוּרָה
הַנִּגּוּעָה בְּהוֹד מִשְׁחָקֵךְ הַמְּלָאכִי,
וְעִמָּנוּ כְּלָאֻחֲרוֹת לַהֲבָתֵךְ שְׁמוּרָה.
אָנוּ לָךְ פּוֹעֲלֵי-בָּמָה, אוֹ תְּרָצִי, נִצָּבִים
בַּהֲפָקַת הַדּוֹר רַבַּת מִקְצָבִים.

אֲהֻבְנוּ אוֹתָךְ אֵיךְ אוֹמְרִים,
"אֲהֻבָה מִמַּבָּט רִאשׁוֹן"
וְגַם הַבַּמַאי בֵּין שְׁאָר מְחַזְּרִים
קָבַע כִּי בֵּיתוֹ בְּתוֹכֵךְ יִשְׁכּוֹן.
הוֹ מָה יָפִית בְּחוֹמַת מִגְדָּלַיִךְ,
מִקְדָּשֵׁךְ-צָנְארֵךְ וְחֻכְמַת נְבִיאַיִךְ,
שֶׁטֶבַע בָּנוּ כֹּה עָמוֹק מְסוּרִים
בִּימוֹת שִׂמְחָה כְּמוֹ בְּעֵת יְסוּרִים.

שִׁמֵּךְ לֹא נִמְחַק עַת הָפְכְתְּ לַ"מִּזְרָח",
כְּשֶׁהֵם שִׁנּוּ אוֹתוֹ, בְּתַקָּנָה שֶׁנִּשְׁכַּח,
לְאִילְיָה עַל שֵׁם אֵלִיאוּס
אוֹ כְּשֶׁשָּׁרַפּוּךְ בְּאֵשׁ פְּרוֹמֶתְאוּס.
נַהֲפוֹךְ, יָקָרְתְּ אַף-כִּי גִּילַךְ מֻפְלָג בַּשָּׁנִים,
גַּם יָפִית, לְלֹא צוֹרֶךְ בְּמִתְיַחַת-אֲבָנִים.
כָּךְ מִתְנוֹסֵס הַסֵּמֶל, בְּנָאוֹן בְּלֹא מוֹרָא
נְטוּיַת-קֶנִים לְעֵדוּת-שִׂבְעָה, זוֹ הַמְּנוֹרָה.
וּבוֹעֶרֶת בָּהּ אֵשׁ-לַבָּתוֹ שֶׁל מֹשֶׁה,
שֶׁהוּצְתָה מֵהָאוֹר שֶׁנָּגַהּ בְּיַעֲקֹב בְּגִיד הַנָּשֶׁה.
דּוֹרוֹת הָיִית, כְּמוֹ הַיּוֹם, לֵב הָאוּמָה,
וְעוֹד אוֹמְרִים שֶׁלְּאֶבֶן אֵין נְשָׁמָה.

כָּל-כָּךְ יָפִית שֶׁחָשְׁקוּ בָּךְ פִּתְאֹם הַשְּׁכֵנִים
שְׁכֵנֵי-שְׁכֵנֵיהֶם, מִקָּרֹב וֶאֱדֹם וְגַם הַנִּינִים
שֶׁרוֹצִים לִקְרוֹעַ אוֹתָךְ לִשְׁנַיִם, אוּלַי יוֹתֵר,
אֲבָל מִי מְשׁוּגָּע כָּךְ עָלַיִךְ לְוַתֵּר?

הַמְשִׁיכִי לְכַבֵּד עֲבוּרֵינוּ בַּמֶּרְכָּז, לֹא בַּשָּׁלַיִם,
כִּי לֹא נִהְיֶה מַה שֶּׁאֲנַחְנוּ, בִּלְתֵּךְ יְרוּשָׁלַיִם.
גּוֹנְגוּ הִנֵּה עוֹד מְעַט קָט, הַס בָּאֲפִים!
הַפָּסָךְ עוֹלֶה עַל הַצָּנַת "הַשְּׁלוֹשֶׁת-אֲלָפִים".

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Passover Greetings

THE WESTERN WALL 80 YEARS AGO

This photo captures the scene at the Western Wall on Tisha b'Av, 1915. It poignantly captures the keening, the sadness, and the sorrowful feelings felt by these women of Jerusalem, mourning over what was lost 1,845 years earlier. [Photo by J. Ben-Dov, reproduced from Ariel ,1975]

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(Which makes it a lot like our new Lawrence Plaza store.)

We're sorry for the delay in moving to our new second storey location at Lawrence Plaza. We promise it's going to open soon. And when it does it's going to be a lot bigger with a lot more of what you love about Winners. More women's wear, men's wear, kids' wear, accessories, as well as giftware and houseware. But until then we've made sure that our original Lawrence Plaza location is stocked twice a day with a vast selection of current brand name designer Spring fashions. And all for 20 to 60% less than what you'd find in a department store. So don't worry if it doesn't feel like Spring yet when you go outside. With all the wonderful designer Spring fashions waiting for you inside any one of our 17 Toronto locations, you'll have no doubt that Spring is truly here.

Great Spring fashion is still arriving twice a day at our original store.

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Lawrence Plaza

STORE HOURS: MON.-FRI. 9:30-9:00, SAT. 9:30-6:00, SUN. 11:00-5:00. JUST CALL 1-800-646-WINN FOR THE WINNERS STORE NEAREST YOU.

Tel Aviv University
Happy Passover to all!

What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
DONOR CARDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS
Please call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, April 8, is deadline for April 25 issue. Thursday, April 18 is deadline for May 2. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Sunday, April 7

CABARET VARIETY SHOW

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue music committee presents a Cabaret Variety Show, chol hamo'ed Pesach, 8 p.m. at the synagogue, with song, dance, music and food. $18 per person, $10 students. 633-3838.

And What Else Is New...

STORIES IN BRAILLE

A new series of Braille children/adults short stories selected form Agudath Israel, Artscroll, Chabad, Feldheim, Hebrew Publishing, Torah Umesorah, is available free of charge to visually impaired persons. For an updated list, contact The Jewish Heritage for the Blind, 1655 East 24th St., Brooklyn, N.Y., 11229. Phone 718-338-200, fax 718-338-0653.

ETHICS OF THE FATHERS

Ethics of the Fathers, Beth Tzedec Congregation's Academics' Series, focuses on the five chapters of Pirkei Avot, Tuesdays at 8 p.m.: Chapter 1, April 16, **Tirzah Meacham**, associate professor, University of Toronto; Chapter 2, April 23, **Rabbi Joel Hecker**, PhD candidate in Jewish mysticism; Chapter 3, April 30, **Edward Breuer**, University of Pennsylvania Research Foundation; Chapter 4, May 7, **Rachel Turkienicz**, rabbinics teacher at CHAT; Chapter 5, May 14, **Prof. Martin Lockshin**, York University, Jack Jacob Brody Memorial Lecture.

BIBLE CLASS

The weekly Bible class, Thursdays at 9:10 a.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, resumes April 18. Group will study the Book of Daniel, led by **Aaron Nussbaum**. 633-8097.

WOMEN'S WELLNESS DAY

National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, presents a hands-on Wellness Day for Women, 9:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Sunday, April 14, Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. Morning panel discussion led by **Colleen Walsh**, medical reporter, Global TV, deals with Women, Work and Stress; Celebrating Anger; Humor and Wellness. Afternoon workshops include Personal Safety for Women and Healthy Eating, Also, bone density and body fat measured at health check booths. Register, 633-5100.

YIDDISH AT U OF T

Register now for full-time credit Yiddish courses at the University of Toronto — beginners, written and spoken; intermediate, reinforcing reading comprehension, writing skills, conversation; introduction to Yiddish literature; advanced, language, literature and culture. New students who do not have number must be fully registered at the unversity by June 1. **Sharon Green**, coordinator of Yiddish Studies, 978-3186.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan services at Bloor JCC: Shabbat services, Saturday, April 6, 10 a.m.; Yizkor services for end of Passover, Wednesday, April 10, 7 p.m.; Shabbat service, Friday, April 12, 7:15 p.m. **Hilary** 928-1784.

DAY CARE PROVIDERS

Project Sarah Training Program, a new training program for private in-home day care providers, is holding an information and orientation session for this new employment opportunity, Wednesday, April 17, 7 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. For information/reservations, call project hotline, 636-1880, ext. 282.

THEATRE OUTINGS

Tickets are available for Kinnereth Club of Na'amat theatre outings — *The Music Man*, Stratford, Monday, May 13; *Chorus Line*, ArtPark, Tuesday, Aug. 13; *Amadeus*, a drama, Stratford, Thursday, Sept. 26. Buses depart 9:30 a.m., return by 7 p.m. Tax receipts. **Rita Tobias** 783-1656 or **Norma Zeldin** 633-8276.

LE BAL MASQUE

Le Bal Masque, an evening of fun, food, charity casino, laser show, dancers, silent auction, with proceeds going to Israel Cancer Research Fund, Saturday, April 20, 8 p.m., Arcadian Court, Simpson Tower. Event features funky black and white dress, black tie optional. Co-chairs are **Sharon Liss, Andrea Obront** and **Annette Wine**. $50 in advance, $60 at door. 487-5246.

HEBREW ULPAN

Conversational Hebrew for all ages in a fun environment, three levels, daytime or evening, once or twice a week. Requirement is basic reading skills. Spring session starts the week of April 15. Teacher **Yael Lev** 225-6151.

STREET SEDER

Using giant puppets, Tzedek, the Jewish Campaign for Economic Justice, links the telling of the Passover story with the theme Why Is

[Cont'd. on page 35]

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Sandy and Kitchie Hofstedter
GUESTS OF HONOUR

Ner Israel Yeshiva is privileged to bestow this well deserved tribute on Sandy and Kitchie for their respective roles as founders and officers of the Yeshiva and Women's Auxiliary.

This evening coincides with Sandy and Kitchie's 50th Wedding Anniversary and they have chosen to mark this occasion with the establishment of The Torah Endowment Fund that will help the Yeshiva carry on its holy and beneficial work in higher Jewish Education.

The Hofstedter's noble personalities, dynamic efforts and philanthropic endeavours have indeed enriched Toronto as well as Jewish communities throughout the world.

HaRav Yaakov Perlow, שליט"א
GUEST SPEAKER

The Novominsker Rebbe, is the Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshivas Kol Yehuda of Brooklyn, New York. Rav Perlow, a renowned orator and prominent Torah personality, is the author of "Adas Yaakov", a classic work on various topics of Talmud. He serves as a presidium member of the prestigious Council of Torah Sages of Agudas Yisroel of America.

בס"ד

You are cordially invited to attend the

36th Annual Dinner
of the
Ner Israel Yeshiva of Toronto
in honour of

Sandy and Kitchie Hofstedter

Keynote Speaker,
HARAV YAAKOV PERLOW, שליט"א
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Thursday, April 18th, 1996
א'דר"ח אייר תשנ"ו

Regal Constellation Hotel
Galaxy Ballroom
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Cocktails: 6:00 p.m. Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Subscription per couple $180 $120 for Alumni

For reservations and further information please call the Yeshiva office: 905-731-1224

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 34]

This Government Different From All Other Governments?, Sunday, April 7, noon, at Bathurst Jewish Centre, and Tuesday, April 9, noon, Queen's Park. 516-0819.

SUMMER OF DANCE

Koffler Centre School of Dance summer classes include ballet, jazz, tap, ballroom, Latin and folk-dance, all levels, beginners to advanced. Information/brochure 636-1880, ext.359 or 273.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Yorkhill Elementary School is seeking volunteers to serve on its new school council. Interested parents/guardians of Yorkhill students, willing to participate in a minimum of four meetings per year, may obtain application forms and information at main office. Application deadline Tuesday, April 23. **Ron Mintz** or **Dianne Leggatt** 905-764-5292.

DINNER DRAW

Dinner Draw, co-chaired by **Dave Anisman, Jack Schwartz** and **Henry Zieleniec**, Thursday, April 25, at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation. Proceeds go to Jerusalem College of Technology and Bet-El Educational Centre. In addition, event provides a $1-million note through State of Israel Bonds. Grand prize is $5,000 (donated by Dave Anisman), second prize is a trip for two to Israel. Tickets $150. **Noreen Azoulay** 787-7565.

KLEZKANADA

Klezkanada, a three-day celebration of Yiddish/Jewish folkculture and language organized by the Committee on Yiddish, Quebec region, Aug. 22-25, at Camp B'nai Brith, Lanter, Que. (Laurentians). For details or to be placed on mailing list, write to Committee on Yiddish, Quebec region, Jewish Education Council, 5151 Cote St. Catherine Rd., Suite 200, Montreal, Quebec, H3W 1M6.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Living With Teen, begins May 2; Parenting the Young Child, April 22; Single Parent Challenge, May 1; Successful Step-Parenting, May 6. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

BBYO ADVISORS

BBYO, the teen program at Bathurst Jewish Centre, is looking for volunteer advisors. **Stephanie** 635-9411.

ARTS PLUS '96

Arts Plus '96, a program of the Koffler Centre of the Arts, for ages 8-13, focuses on dance, visual art, music or drama, and finishes with a public performance at the Leah Posluns Theatre at the end of each four-week session. Information/ registration 636-1880, ext. 269 or 359.

SWIMMING VOLUNTEERS

Do you enjoy swimming and at the the same time helping the elderly? Baycrest Centre's Physiotherapy Department offers a 10-week arthritis course, on land and in water. Volunteers are needed (good strong swimmers). Course begins April 15, Monday and Wednesday, 1-3 p.m. Volunteer Department 785-2850.

at the JCC/BJC

BJC Youth Roller Hockey League for ages 10-14 spring session starts April 14. Sign up now! **Grant** 636-1880, ext. 374.

Centre Camp at BJC has limited spaces in arts, sports and regular camp program for the 1996 season. For brochure, 636-1880, ext. 378.

At Bloor JCC, Scrabble Night for ages 35 and up, non-competitive, all levels, Thursday, April 18, 7-10 p.m. Non-members $5. 924-6211.

For Seniors

Wagman Centre eight-week session of 60 & Holding Nutrition Counselling and Weight Reduction Program begins Wednesday, April 17, 10-11:30 a.m. $40. 785-2500, ext. 2267

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Catskills Homowack Hotel, Aug. 4-11; *Chorus Line*, ArtPark, Aug. 1; *The Music Man*, Stratford, Sept. 24; day cruises being planned. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Next meeting April 18. 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday night dances in the clubhouse, April 13, 20, 27; Sunday dances to live band, April 14, 28; movie *A Song to Remember*, Wednesday, April 17, 2 p.m.; musical *A Little Night Music*, Wednesday, April 17, St. Lawrence Centre. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip, nine days at Raleigh Hotel, 10 days at Pines Hotel. **Helen** 635-6343.

Sunrise Group: Washington, D.C., April 12-16, $475; Catskills Pines Hotel, visit to New York City, May 27-31, $595; Catskills Scott's Resort, June 16-19, $495; Pineland Resort near Orillia, four days in June, $495. **Esther** 223-9165 or **Helen** 905-669-5848.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Talking Together: A Dialogue Between Generations, Wednesday, April 24, 8:45 a.m. to noon. Keynote speaker **Gordon Cressy**, facilitators **Rheta Rosen, Rachel Schlessinger, Ben Schlesinger** and **Blanche Wiseman**. Sponsored by North York Board of Education, Bernard Betel Centre, Newtonbrook Secondary School. Register. Members $2, non-members $3.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Next meeting is April 17. Yom Ha'atzmaut party is April 24. **Anna**.

When a Man Loves a Woman, Sunday, April 7, 2:30 p.m.

About People

Syrelle Bernstein

DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEERS

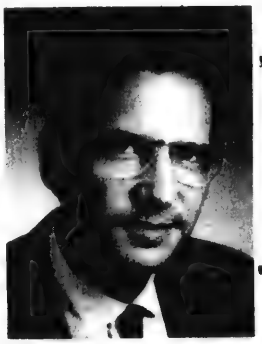
Syrelle Bernstein is the new director of Volunteer Services at Baycrest Centre. Bernstein comes to Baycrest from the Volunteer Centre of Metropolitan Toronto, where she was a senior manager for eight years. Prior to this, she managed child care programs of the YWCA of Metropolitan Toronto. An active volunteer, Bernstein has served as president of Orah chapter, Hadassah-WIZO, and as a member of the board of directors and executive of Senior Care.

TO BE HONORED

Ner Israel Yeshiva of Toronto will bestow a well-deserved tribute upon **Sandy and Kitchie Hofstedter** at the 36th Anniversary Dinner Thursday, April 18, at the Regal Constellation Hotel. Sandy Hofstedter has been actively involved in numerous educational and charitable projects since coming to Canada 50 years ago, particularly Ner Israel Yeshiva, where he serves as president. Guest speaker will be **HaRav Yaakov Perlow**, the Novominsker Rebbe and rosh hayeshivah of Yeshivas Kol Yehuda of Brooklyn, N.Y. For the Hofstedters, the upcoming dinner is a double simchah. It is the date of their 50th wedding anniversry. For information, Yeshiva office 905-731-1224.

APPOINTMENT

Barry Campbell, MP (St. Paul's), has been named Parliamentary Secretary to **Finance Minister Paul Martin**. His responsibilities include assisting Martin in all his parliamentary duties and advising him on caucus relations, the work of the Finance Committee of the House of Commons, and the views of stakeholder groups with whom he (Campbell) may meet on the minister's behalf. Also, in the minister's absence, Campbell may respond for the government in Question Period in the House of Commons.



Barry Campbell

WOMEN FOR WOMEN BREAKFAST

Pictured at Toronto Hadassah-WIZO's Women for Women Breakfast featuring keynote speaker Priscilla de Villiers, founder of CAVEAT, held recently at the Chimo Hotel, (from left) Gillian Glazer, vice-chair; Sylvia Bornstein, vice-chair; Priscilla de Villiers; Vivien Sharon, president; Fran Lubersky, WIZO Services chair.

From coast to coast

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David & Luba Smuschkowitz
on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

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Winnipegger marks 100 years

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — About 80 family members, friends and shul goers were at the Chavurat Tefilah Synagogue recently to celebrate the birthday of the north Winnipeg synagogue's oldest member. Sarah Weisman (née Hamovich) turned 100 on March 14.

The oldest of six children, Weisman came to Canada with her family in 1908. From 1916 to 1967, she and her husband, the late Jack Weisman, operated Weisman Confectionery on Main Street.

From her earliest adult years, Sarah Weisman has been active in the Jewish community. She was a charter member of her synagogue's sisterhood, which evolved into a welfare organization that provided matzah and other foods for the needy.

When the Jewish Welfare Fund was formed and the sisterhood program was incorporated into it, she continued to work through the new community organization.

She volunteered for the Jewish Child and Family Services (of which she is a life member) delivering *ma'ot chittin* every year. (Her daughter, Ros Silver, notes that Weisman was one of the first Jewish women in Winnipeg to drive a car.)

100-year-old Sarah Weisman flanked by son Dr. Harvey Weisman and daughter Ros Silver.

She was also been a member of B'nai Brith Women (Jewish Women International).

Weisman and her daughter and son-in-law, Ros and Meyer Silver, were among the earliest members of the Chavurat Tefilah (which is almost 25 years old) and she attended services regularly into her early 90s. She currently resides in the Sharon Home.

"Over the past five years," Ros Silver notes, "my mother has knitted 80 afghans, enough for every member of the family and great-grandchildren still to be born. She learned to knit and sew as a girl. She used to sew all our clothes."

In commemoration of her birthday, the Silvers presented the Chavurat Tefilah with a new cover for the table on which the Torah is read. It matches the cover for the Aron Kodesh that commemorates her 90th birthday and the new cover for one of the sifrai Torah that marks her 95th birthday.

Weisman had a birthday party at the Sharon Home and another party at the Rosh Pina Gardens. Other family members are son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Harvey and Sondra Weisman, and son-in-law Louis Slutchuk. Her daughter, Faye Slutchuk, died 12 years ago. She also has seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

CO-ED SOFT BALL
M.T.S. presents its 7th anunnal three pitch softball season. Have fun, meet people and play softball. Last year we were sold out. Registration deadline May 1. 416-222-7111.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 980 members. Averaging an engagement every 7 1/2 wks. 416-398-7068.

MADE IN HEAVEN Husband and Wife matchmakers can assist you in finding the right mate. For a free in-home consultation call Duane or Ronda, 416-512-2994.

Mark & Ari invite you to the Disco Inferno, Fri., Apr. 5, 1996, 9 p.m. at Samuel P. Tasker's, 2 Rosehill Ave. (S. of St. Clair, E. of Yonge). Disco music all night long! Door prizes. Tickets $12. Call TicketMaster for advance tickets. 416-870-8000. Advance ticket holders DO NOT WAIT IN LINE. (Age range 23-33) Ari Huber Mark Brodkin hotline 416-733-1419. Kosher for Passover wine will be served.

New Image 50+ Singles is having a Mix and Mingle, Sun., Apr. 7, 7:30 p.m. Tapes by Murray Jacobs. Passover refreshments. Members $2, guests $3. Trip to Granit, Sun. Aug. 4 - Aug. 12. P.S. Members dinner, Sun. May 26. Please bring money.

Hamilton Negev Dinner to honor Arthur Weisz

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — The Hamilton Jewish National Fund (JNF) has named Arthur Weisz as the 1996 Negev Tribute Dinner honoree.

The guest speaker at the June 17 event will be Nobel Peace Prize winner, Elie Wiesel.

Proceeds from the dinner will go to support Yad Layeled, a children's Holocaust museum located in Kibbutz Lohamei Haghetaot in the Western Galilee.

Weisz, founder and chair of Effort Trust, a real estate company and asset management and financial services conglomerate, was born in Hungary.

He married his childhood sweetheart, the former Margaret Stadler, in 1944, but they were separated by the Holocaust immediately after the wedding. Both survived concentration camps.

In 1951, the couple arrived in Hamilton with their first child, penniless and without knowing any English. Weisz first found work as a bricklayer's helper and a tailor. Two years later, he became a real estate salesman before forming his own company.

He has been the driving force behind many charitable and educational projects, including the JNF and State of Israel Bonds and programs at Temple Anshe Sholom and McMaster University.

Weisz was also instrumental in the foundation of Shalom Village residence and Shalom Village Nursing Home and continues to be a member of the board of directors.

The Weisz' two children, Thomas and Dr. Janet Weisz Asa, will serve as dinner chairs. The couple have five grandchildren.

From coast to coast

Goldblatt remembered as mentor for journalists

By PAUL McKEAGUE
CJN Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Murray Goldblatt was much more than a teacher. He was a friend, a mentor and an inspiration to hundreds of journalists across the country.

A veteran newspaperman with a crusty manner and a twinkly eye, Goldblatt left a lasting mark on the news business as a professor at Carleton University's School of Journalism for 18 years.

There was a sense of loss in newsrooms from coast to coast when Goldblatt died recently of a stroke, at the age of 73.

Speaking at the funeral service at the Jewish Community Memorial Chapel, journalist Anthony Westell said Goldblatt made three major contributions to Canadian journalism.

The first was as a pioneer in establishing the Newspaper Guild . After joining the *Ottawa Citizen* in 1948, Goldblatt became a founding member and then president of the guild's Ottawa local.

Goldblatt stood up to employers to receive better wages and working conditions for journalists and this "made it easier to attract the right people into it," said Westell.

Goldblatt's second big contribution was as an editor. With his "vast general knowledge" and his knack for pushing reporters to do better, he was "superlatively good" as the *Globe and Mail*'s national editor in the 1960s, Westell said.

Before then he had worked for papers ranging from the *Hamilton Spectator* and the *Oshawa Times-Gazette* to the *Toronto Star*.

Goldblatt's third contribution, after becoming a full-time professor in 1973, was as a teacher who developed a special relationship with many of his students, Westell said. Goldblatt would coach them, help them get started in the business and keep in touch for years afterward, as he enthusiastically followed their careers.

Students were drawn to him not only by his experience but also by his warmth, loyalty and puckish sense of humor.

One former student, CBC broadcaster Matt Maychak, noted that Goldblatt "had a sense of mischief about him that many of us lose as we grow up."

A Hamilton native, Goldblatt was a devoted fan of the Canadian Football League's Tiger Cats. He followed their play "as closely as the team's coaches," recalled CBC broadcaster Don Newman, who worked under Goldblatt when he was Ottawa bureau chief of the *Globe and Mail*.

After he retired from Carleton University in 1991, Goldblatt worked as a desk editor for the *Hill Times*, Parliament Hill's weekly newspaper.

Newspapers were his passion. "One seldom saw him without a bundle of newspapers under his arm," Westell recalled at the funeral service which was filled with Goldblatt's former students. "I like to think that wherever he is now he's finding time to read those newspapers."

Goldblatt is survived by his wife Sylvia and his children Lynn in Vancouver, Mark in Ottawa and Ann in Edmonton.

JEWISH MARRIAGE CEREMONY

United Synagogue Bayview campus students prepared a unit on the Jewish marriage ceremony complete with full wedding and simcha following. Students prepared the canopy, music, the ketubah and the wedding party that followed the ceremony.

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59A VICEROY ROAD CONCORD, ONTARIO

Jewish Agency criticized for ending Yiddish journal

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — At its annual conference, the Winnipeg Committee for Yiddish and Yiddish Culture focused on critical issues locally and abroad.

The first resolution, read aloud by committee member Itzy Victor, deplored the actions of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem for closing its monthly journal *People and Zion*, withdrawing its annual $10,000 donation for Yiddish to the World Congress of Yiddish and Yiddish Culture, evicting the Congress from the Jewish Agency building in Tel Aviv and discouraging the teaching of Yiddish in Jewish schools the agency subsidizes in Russia, Ukraine and other countries.

The second conference resolution was a demand that the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (WBJE) re-establish Yiddish as an integral part of the curriculum of the WBJE's north Winnipeg Talmud Torah-Peretz School. Keynote speaker Matt Bellan, editor of the weekly *Jewish Post and News*, spoke on the issue.

The teaching of Yiddish was discontinued two years ago when the school's longtime Yiddish teacher, Aviva Katz, retired. According to Bellan, the WBJE claimed a survey showed that parents didn't want Yiddish taught in the school any more. The survey, however, only asked parents if they would support an after-school Yiddish program.

"All the parents I have spoken to want Yiddish taught as part of the curriculum," Bellan said.

The WBJE has advertised for a part-time Yiddish teacher — so far without success. The Committee for Yiddish has scholarship money available for individuals interested in attending seminars for Yiddish teachers in New York and Israel.

Noach Witman, the committee's executive secretary, reports that the conference attracted over 50 people.

"We have had a successful year," he says. "We have put on two Yiddish concerts. We have a group that meets every third Thursday of the month at the Gwen Sector Creative Living Centre. There has also been a younger group formed at the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue."

Witman, 92, continues to write a weekly Yiddish column in the *Jewish Post and News* and host a weekly radio show and a regular television show on cable.

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WARM WELCOME
Jewish Agency chair Avraham Burg (right) greets Edmond Lipsitz, former exective director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, (left) at the World Jewish Congress 10th Global Assembly, held recently in Jerusalem. Eldred Tabachnik (middle) is the president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

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Schneider adds quickness to Leafs defence

'Brings an abundance of offensive skills'

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Well, he's done it.

A few games after coming over from the New York Islanders in a mega-trade orchestrated by Toronto Maple Leaf wheeler-dealer Cliff Fletcher, defenceman Mathieu Schneider has scored his first goal for the Maple Buds.

Have they forgotten about Kenny whatshisname yet?

For Schneider, arguably *the* key figure in the trade that sent Kenny Jonsson, Sean Haggerty, Darby Hendrickson and a 1997 No. 1 draft pick to the Island for him and Wendel Clark, coming to Toronto is a lot like going back to Montreal.

There's tremendous pressure to perform in both cities, said the 26-year-old native of New York. "It's just like Montreal. There's a lot of great hockey tradition in the city. The focus of the city is on hockey ... It's a similar atmosphere here, except I understand everything that's written about me."

Before he was dealt, Schneider had heard trade rumors and he had an inkling a deal was brewing that would bring him to Toronto.

A personable, soft-spoken young man in an interview, Schneider is aggressive and focused on the ice, blending solid, if unspectacular, work in his own zone with the ability and temperament to move the puck quickly and join the rush.

In 70 games this season, Schneider has bulged the twine for 11 goals and added 38 assists, placing him fourth in scoring among Leafs, ahead of wingers Mike Gartner, Wendel Clark, Dave Gagner and ex-Leaf Dave Andreychuk.

Although he's minus 18 in the plus/minus column (accumulated with a weak Islanders team), assistant GM Bill Watters suggests Schneider rates among the top 15 defencemen in the National Hockey League.

"I don't think there's any question he's in the top 15. You only have to look at his stats to see it," Watters said during a recent Leaf practice.

Schneider "brings an abundance of offensive skills" to the team. "There's some feistiness about him and he's quick as anyone on the defence."

Besides, Watters pointed out, Schneider has Cup experience, having been a member of the Canadiens' Stanley Cup winning team in 1993.

Despite the glowing review, Schneider has also attracted his share of criticism. In Montreal, there were stories that he and goalie Patrick Roy didn't get along. Roy, apparently, was unhappy Schneider didn't play hurt during the Habs' '93 Cup run. (A knee injury limited Schneider to 11 games that playoff season.)

Watters dismisses those suggestions out of hand. "At best it's hocus pocus," he said. "At worst, it a terrible insult to a fine young man."

Mathieu Schneider

Since his acquisition, Schneider has done everything the coaches have asked of him. On some nights, he's been the best Leaf rearguard. On others, the third or fourth best, Watters added.

No doubt Schneider is still getting acclimatized to his Leafs teammates, but he clearly possesses the quickness and mobility so conspicuously absent from the rest of the Leafs rearguards.

Like many Canadian kids, Schneider grew up in a hockey environment. His mother came from a large French-Canadian family and his father, Sam, "thought all my cousins would be playing hockey, so he got me started young."

Mathieu attended Mount St. Charles Academy in Rhode Island for the hockey program and later transferred to Cornwall to play major junior hockey.

The five-foot-11, 189-pounder was the Habs's fourth choice, 44th overall in the 1987 entry draft.

He played some minor pro hockey in Sherbrooke before joining the Habs for good. His best season, statistically, was 1993-94 when he scored 20 goals and added 32 helpers in 70 games.

Last year, he was part of the late season purge that saw the Canadiens shuffle their lineup in a desparate bid to make the playoffs. He, Kirk Muller and Craig Darby were traded to New York for Pierre Turgeon and Vladimir Malakhov, but the move didn't help the Habs. They still didn't make the playoffs.

With the Leafs, he's a key figure in the team's bid for post-season play. Regardless of how the Leafs fare this season, Schneider said he's willing to sacrifice part of the summer to play on the American team at the upcoming World Cup (formerly the Canada Cup). *The Hockey News* has him rated among the best U.S. defencemen and a likely candidate to make the team.

Usually he hangs up his skates and spends most of his summer with his wife Yvonne, a native of Calgary whom he met on a blind date, and now, with their 13-month-old son, Jordan.

Back in Montreal during the lockout last season, Schneider participated in various philanthropic endeavors, helping raise money and equipment for the Israeli hockey program and dropping the puck at a Jewish hockey league game.

He's participated in charity golf tournaments and he organized a tournament of his own to benefit the Make a Wish Foundation. He also collaborated with ex-Habs winger John Leclair to organize a charity hockey game with proceeds going to a drug awareness program.

Although his stay in New York was a short one, he was invited by a Long Island Jewish community centre to help light a huge menorah last Chanukah, he said.

"I'm proud to be one of the few Jewish athletes in professional hockey. It's been a great reception for me wherever I've been."

Hockey, hoops marriage 'inevitable'

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Toronto's pro hockey and basketball clubs are destined to enter a marriage of convenience, Raptors' president John Bitove Jr. recently told an audience of basketball fans.

"I think it's inevitable when you're spending $200 million [for a new stadium]."

Bitove was the featured speaker at an evening with the Toronto Raptors sponsored by the Young Business Network and Young Construction Network of United Jewish Appeal.

In the last seven years, 20 new stadiums have been built in major North American cities because "the old buildings are economically obsolete," Bitove said.

The Maple Leafs need a new arena, and rather than spend millions, it would be economically advantageous for them to use the Air Canada Centre, the new $200-million basketball stadium soon to be built by the Raptors, he said.

"The two [clubs] can coexist. Philadelphia, Boston and New York [basketball and hockey clubs] all coexist under one roof," he said.

The Raptors' long-term goal is to win a championship, but that

John Bitove Jr.

takes time, Bitove said. "You want to be the best, but you can't just expect it quickly. You have to try to nurture it like a little baby."

The team's average age of 24 is about four years younger than that on most NBA teams, he said. "In two or three years we'll be tough to mess with."

A lot of players want to play in Toronto. "The Blue Jays blazed the trail for American free agents," Bitove said.

The basketball team has already achieved one of its goals — "to become a success in the community," he said. "It far exceeded my dream ... The community has rallied around the team ... We're third in the league in attendance ... Success in the community means success for the organization."

Jonathan Brod, manager of concumer products for NBA Canada, told the meeting the league has grown in popularity since the United States launched the dream team in the 1992 Olympics.

As a result, there has been a rise in demand for licenced NBA merchandise. The Raptors are ranked fifth in the league just behind the Chicago Bulls in the sale of licenced products, Bitove noted.

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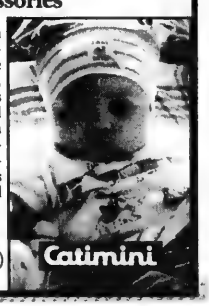


Steven (E.T.) Spielberg...

With this issue,* The CJN *inaugurates Kids news, a monthly feature in which we hope to provide stories and features for children about modern-day role models and other entertaining delights.

By LINDA ANDER
Special to The CJN

When Steven Spielberg was young, he once woke up in the middle of the night in his home in Phoenix, Ariz. His father took him outside to watch a meteor shower and the boy gazed in awe at the beautiful points of light above him.

Spielberg was star struck. His desire to know more about the lights in the sky would one day lead him to make movies such as *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *E.T.: The Extra Terrestrial.*

As a child, he was afraid of many things — the tree outside his window, a stuffed toy clown or anything underneath his bed.

His family moved around a lot, because his father worked on some of the first computers.

Both these things made it hard for Spielberg to make friends and he spent a lot of time in his room with his pet parakeets and an imaginary friend from outer space.

He watched a lot of television, too, and loved Disney movies. So he was thrilled when his father gave him his own eight-millimetre camera.

When he was 12 years old, Spielberg began making movies. In his stories, he wasn't afraid any more. His imagination let him do anything or go anywhere.

Spielberg's first film lasted four minutes. He used his family and classmates in the movie. The class bully became his friend when Spielberg gave him the star role as a war hero.

His first long movie, *Firelight*, was about a scientist investigating lights in the sky. His father rented a real theatre to show the film and Spielberg sold tickets.

After that, his family moved from Phoenix to California. Spielberg first went to Universal Studios on a tour when he was 17. When he went back the next day, a guard mistook him for a famous director's son. He was then able to spend his whole summer around directors and writers.

Spielberg started university, but was more interested in making movies than in going to school.

He borrowed $10,000 from a friend and made a movie called *Amblin.* (Amblin later became the name of his film company.)

He got someone at Universal Studios to look at his film. They liked it so much they hired him. He left without finishing university and at age 21 he started working. It was his big chance.

Spielberg went on to produce and direct many wonderful, successful movies.

Jaws made more money in three months than any other movie before it. *Jurassic Park* cost $100 million to make and it earned over $500 million back!

But it wasn't all easy. Spielberg worked 20 hours a day.

He married actress Amy Irving and they have a son Max, but they were divorced in 1985.

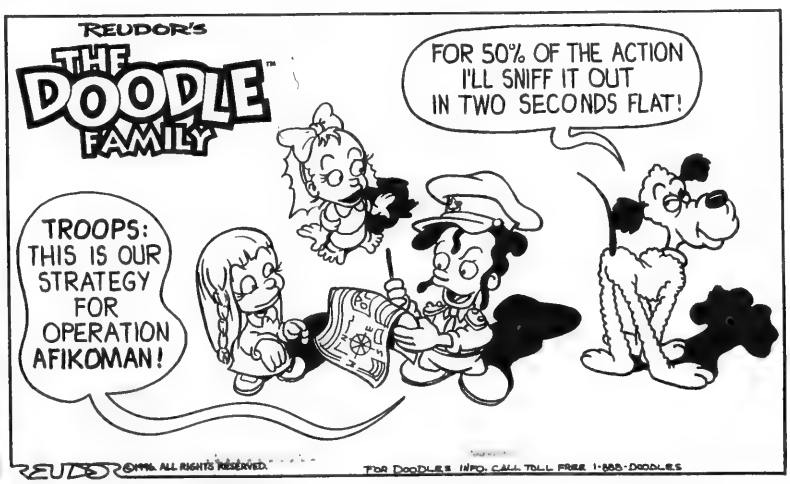
He is now married to Kate Capshaw, who started in *Temple of Doom*, and they have a child.

As part of the Jewish community, Spielberg learned about the Holocaust as a teenager. His family invited their friends to sing songs around the piano and Spielberg noticed that several people had tattoos on their arms.

He learned that the Nazis had put those tattoos on the arms of Jewish men, women and children in the concentration camps.

That experience drove him to make the movie *Schindler's List* about a man who saved many Jews from death during World War II.

[Cont'd on page 41]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Kids news

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[Cont'd from page 40]

The story was so important to Spielberg that he used his own money to make the movie, which was a huge success.

It took five months to make the film in Poland, where Spielberg and the others experienced anti-Semitism during the filming.

Spielberg met survivors who shared their stories with him and he decided there was still something important he still had to do.

Pencil sketches by:
SIMON KIRSHENBLAT /96

He raised $12 million to videotape survivors of the Holocaust. Most of the work is done by volunteers and they have taped 10,000 people already. He plans to use the videos to teach children not to hate people because of their religion or color. He wants to tape survivors all around the world.

Spielberg loved the Disney character Jiminy Cricket, who said, "When you wish upon a star, makes no difference who you are. Anything your heart desires will come to you."

He says that as long as he cares about fairy dust and dreams, he will continue to make movies.

Important Dates

- Dec. 18, 1947 — Steven Spielberg is born in Cincinnati, Ohio, the oldest son of Arnold and Leah Posner Spielberg.
- 1959 — He makes his first film at age 12.
- 1963 — He produces and directs *Firelight*.
- 1968 — *Amblin* gets him a seven-year contract with Universal Studios.
- 1975 — He directs *Jaws* and begins *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*.
- 1977 — *Star Wars* comes out.
- 1980 — He makes *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.
- 1982 — *E.T.: The Extra Terrestrial* and *Poltergeist* are made.
- 1984 — *Indiana Jones, The Temple of Doom* and *Gremlins* are released.
- 1985 — He produces *The Goonies*, *Back to the Future* and *The Color Purple*.
- 1993 — *Jurassic Park* makes more money than *E.T.*
- 1994 — He wins an Academy award for *Schindler's List*.
- 1996 — Spielberg continues to video Holocaust survivors.

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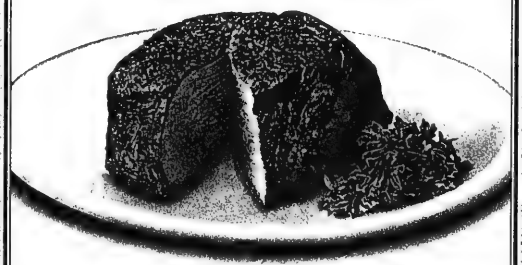
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Assassin unrepentant as he receives life sentence

By RAINE MARCUS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

TEL AVIV – An unrepentant Yigal Amir was convicted of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin by the Tel Aviv District Court last week.

Judges Edmond Levy, Oded Mudrich and Saviona Rotlevy handed down a life sentence for the murder, plus a consecutive six-year sentence for aggravated assault on Rabin's bodyguard Yoram Rubin, who was wounded in the shoulder by a bullet fired by Amir.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres said he hoped the punishment would deter other people from "making themselves into a high judge or God.

"The punishment pales in my eyes compared to the crime, although I have no recommendation on how to stiffen this punishment. In my eyes, this murder is a violation of all of our people's values from the Ten Commandments to the laws of the people and the state," he told Israel Radio.

Unlike at previous hearings, Amir did not smile in court, except for when his family entered and left the courtroom.

"I was forced to commit this deed," Amir said when Levy gave him a short time to make a statement. "The damage to the nation would have been worse if I hadn't done what I did. The Israeli people would have paid the price. I did what I did for God and the Israeli people. For three years I tried to do something to stop Rabin's path."

Before he was cut off by Levy for delivering a political speech, Amir criticized the court for failing to allow him to express his motives.

"God will help you," a stony-faced Amir told Levy following the verdict.

In convicting Amir, Levy stressed that the court had done everything possible to conduct a fair trial, especially since the defence had initially been conducted in a haphazard fashion. He also emphasized that it was the court which suggested thorough psychiatric evaluations, which showed that although there are narcissistic and schizoid elements in Amir's personality and he sees the world in "black and white," he not only understands the charges and is fit to stand trial, he also devised and planned the murder over a long period of time.

Levy also mentioned the consistent testimony of eyewitnesses, including General Security Service and police officers. Amir, he said, reiterated that under police interrogation, he had made all his statements of his own free will. He had freely admitted the murder to several police officers, said Levy, and his intent "to finish Rabin off."

Amir was calm and composed throughout the reading of the verdict.

After a short break, prosecutor Penina Guy and defence lawyer Shmuel Fleishman presented their arguments on sentencing.

Guy had requested life and a consecutive six-year sentence, emphasizing several times the mental damage caused to Rubin. Fleishman asked for the sentences to be served concurrently, arguing his client did not mean to wound Rubin.

He also argued that since the president is unlikely to commute his sentence, the sentences should be concurrent.

After a two-hour break, the judges pronounced sentence. Levy quoted poets Chaim Nachman Bialik, Lea Goldberg and Natan Yonatan, as well as the Torah.

Levy described the crime as the worst in Israeli history. Amir's arguments that he only intended to paralyze Rabin and stop the peace process were ridiculous, said Levy.

He told of his disgust when Amir not only failed to express regret for the murder, but also said he was prepared to pay the price.

"Anyone who commits such a murder, in cold blood and with calm and serenity, without remorse, does not deserve any compassion for losing all semblance of humanity," Levy said.

He also suggested that Israeli society and its educational system examine themselves for the decline in values which led to Amir's murderous act, ostensibly for ideological reasons, instead of expressing them verbally as may be done in a democracy.

Following sentencing, Amir cried, "This is a monster state." His lawyers said they may appeal to the Supreme Court after they study the verdict and sentence.

A FATHER'S GRIEF

Shlomo Amir, the father of Yigal Amir, sits behind a police barrier inside the court building shortly after his son was convicted of the premeditated murder of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin [RNS photo]

Conspiracy rejected

By BILL HUTMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The Shamgar Commission Report categorically rejected the "conspiracy theories" surrounding the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, saying it had looked into many of them and found them baseless.

The report's discussion of General Security Service (GSS) informer Avishai Raviv, a central figure in many of those theories, is classified, a factor which is likely to keep many theorists guessing.

The published report only dealt indirectly and briefly with the use of informers by the GSS, in the final section outlining recommendations for improving the operations of the service. The recommendations appeared to reflect directly on the Raviv case.

"The body that operates an informer must keep tight control of him, not to allow him to initiate actions at his will ... and to prevent the carrying out of provocations, that in the end may have a boomerang effect," the report stated.

Many of the theories alleged that Raviv, who headed the Kach splinter group Eyal, goaded Amir into assassinating Rabin. Amir himself has denied this, and the GSS has downplayed Raviv's importance as an informer.

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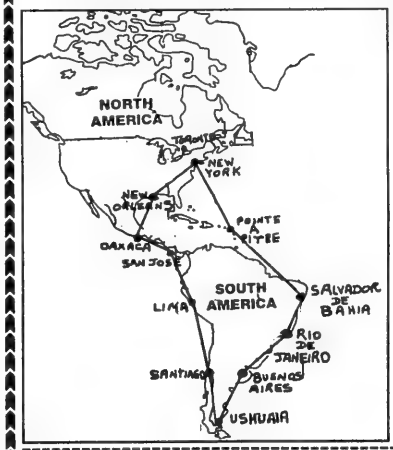

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Turkey staves off Islamic government

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

On March 3, exactly a day before an Islamic Jihad suicide bomber detonated explosives that killed 13 people in the centre of Tel Aviv, Turkey's rival conservative political parties finally cobbled together a coalition government and thereby blocked the formation of an Islamic-based regime.

Apart from defusing a major crisis, the union of Mesmut Yilmaz's Motherland party and Tansu Ciller's True Path party came as a relief to Turkey's friends (including Israel) and to the vast majority of Turks who had cast their ballots for secular parties.

Turkey was plunged into a state of uncertainty when the Welfare party, which is dedicated to reshaping Turkey into an Islamic republic, attracted a plurality of the votes in last December's general election. The Islamists won 21.4 percent of the vote compared to slightly more than 19 percent each for the right-of-centre Motherland and True Path parties.

Turks committed to the principle of secularism gasped when President Suleyman Demirel asked Necmettin Erbakan, the Welfare party leader, to form what would have been Turkey's first Islamic government in more than 70 years.

When Erbakan — a 69-year-old German-trained engineer who claimed that his party was neither fundamentalist nor anti-Western — was unable to establish a government, Demirel turned to Yilmaz and Ciller (the outgoing prime minister). In the interests of keeping the Welfare party out of power, they set aside bitter personal feuds and signed an agreement, centred on a rotating premiership, that is supposed to last until the end of this century.

Turkey, a country of some strategic importance, should therefore enjoy a period of stability for the next few years. But with its plethora of economic and social problems still unresolved, Turkey remains vulnerable to the allure of the Welfare party, which has won an impressive number of local elections in recent years. Indeed, more than 400 towns and cities, notably Istanbul and Ankara, are controlled by mayors affiliated with Erbakan's party.

A land bridge between Europe and the Middle East, the modern state of Turkey emerged from the ruins of the Ottoman Empire in 1923. Its first and greatest president, Mustafa Kemal, or Ataturk as he was popularly known until his death in 1938, westernized and secularized Turkey, whose population of 60 million is almost entirely Muslim.

Ataturk disestablished Islam, abolishing the caliphate, closing Islamic schools, dissolving Sufi orders, banning the fez and replacing Islamic law and Arabic with a civil code and a Latin alphabet.

In a fundamental sense, Turkey was transformed. Yet, in much of the countryside, Islam still held sway. With the 1979 Islamic revolution in neighboring Iran, Islamic piety in Turkey grew, bolstered by the perception that corruption and incompetence were integral to Turkish governments on the municipal and national levels.

Like Hamas in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Welfare party appealed to a disaffected electorate fed up with high unemployment and rampant inflation. The Welfare party exploited these grievances by sponsoring a network of educational and social welfare institutions and promising to alleviate poverty.

During the election campaign, Erbakan blamed Turkey's ailments on "world imperialism . . . Zionism, as well as Israel." Calling for closer relations with the Islamic world and a withdrawal from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Erbakan praised Iran's revolution. He also dined with Louis Farrakhan, the American Nation of Islam leader who was on a swing through the region.

Apart from alarming the Turkish elite, Erbakan's rhetoric triggered apprehension in Israel (and caused flutters of fear in the venerable Jewish community).

Having been burned by the new Islamic order in Iran, Israel was particularly worried that its vital relationship with Turkey — Israel's first with a Muslim nation — would be irretrievably jeopardized by an Erbakan government.

Israel and Turkey — which share an aversion to Islamic fundamentalist terrorism — have significantly upgraded their ties in the past two years.

In February 1994, Ezer Weizman was the first Israeli head of state to be invited to Turkey. Last month, his visit was reciprocated by Turkey's president, who signed four bilateral economic accords while in Jerusalem.

In November 1994, Ciller became the first Turkish prime minister to set foot on Israeli soil. Less than a year later, Israel Aircraft Industries received a five-year, $600 million contract to modernize Turkey's aging fleet of F-4 Phantom jets. Most recently, Israel and Turkey signed a military cooperation agreement.

Clearly, this is a golden moment in Israel-Turkish relations. But it could be shattered if Turks elect an Islamic government in the future.

The Week in Israel

March 25

• *Yediot Aharonot* reported that Israel's ambassador in Washington, Itamar Rabinovitch, stated, "Israel is ready to resume peace talks with Syria without any preconditions."

March 26

• *Yediot Aharonot* reported that Foreign Minister Ehud Barak will visit Tunis next month to participate in the opening of Israel's Tunisian Interest Office. The two countries' respective Interest Offices will be located initially inside the local Belgian embassies.

March 27

• *Kol Yisrael* reported that a subsidiary company of the Royal Jordanian Airlines will begin flights between Tel Aviv and Amman on April 7. The cost of a round-tip fare is $120 (US).

March 28

• The IDF's redeployment from Hebron, initially scheduled for this day, was postponed. No new date for the redeployment was announced, but Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said it would depend on the efforts by the Palestinian Authority to curb terrorism.

March 29

• *Ha'aretz* reported Israel is suggesting that relations with the United States be upgraded to the level of a strategic pact. "According to the Israeli proposal, Peres and Clinton will announce their intention to complete by September the agreement deepening strategic ties between Israel and the United States."

• The results of the Friday newspaper election polls:

Maariv/Gallup
For Prime Minister:
Peres – 48 percent; Netanyahu – 40; undecided – 12.
For Knesset:
Labor – 45 seats; Likud/Tsomet/Gesher – 39; Meretz – 6; NRP – 5; Shas – 4.

Yediot Aharonot/Dahaf
For Prime Minister:
Peres –51 percent; Netanyahu – 45; undecided – 4.
For Knesset:
Labor – 43 seats; Likud/Tsomet/Gesher – 43; Meretz – 7; NRP – 6; Shas – 4.

Judge expresses revulsion, disgust at Amir's crime

Following are excerpts from the sentence imposed by Judge Edmund A. Levy on Yigal Amir for the murder of Yitzhak Rabin:

The current indictment is one of the severest that has (ever) been submitted to an Israeli court. The decision to murder the prime minister, which was made with cold consideration and clear thinking, is not another "ordinary" crime which also must not be dealt with lightly – but was perpetrated, at least according to the accused's version, against a political background. Up until now, we innocently believed that this was the inheritance of others, not our inheritance.

We deeply regret that a man was killed, the leader of a nation and a people, who had borne the yoke of public service for many years, first as a soldier, and afterwards as a statesman. Many dangers lay in wait for him along the way, and he had succeeded in evading them all, until at the apex of his career, bullets – fired from an unexpected direction, not by a stranger or an enemy, but by one of our own – found him.

The heart grieves and the eye weeps, because we – as a people – also have taken a chilling slap on an exposed cheek when it became clear that criminal behavior had also reached our political life, as apparently ideological motives cut down the life of a man. And since history teaches that in any ideology which sanctifies murder as an end, murder (in its own right) becomes the entire ideology. And again we are confronted with proof that the decline in values among us has become a plague, even such that the importance and sanctity of life – which had been a lofty and indisputable value – is again, no longer as it was yesterday or the day before, even in those among us whose hearts have become unfeeling.

When thought was given to the possibility of an attempt being made on the life of an Israeli leader, we dismissed it as unlikely, since we innocently believed that in this area, we were not like other peoples. And suddenly, the illusion came to an end, and the picture of the late prime minister collapsing after the assassin's bullets had found him, has not disappeared from before our eyes. Those same bullets wounded the humanity of an entire nation and many millions who – for a long time – sought to believe that this was a nightmare and not reality, but who, every time they opened their eyes, again saw that awful horror. The time which has since passed has not lessened the great pain.

Every murder is an abominable act, but the act before us is sevenfold more abominable, because not only has the accused not expressed regret or sorrow, but he also seeks to show that he is at peace with himself over the act that he perpetrated. He who so calmly cuts short another's life, only proves the depth of wretchedness to which (his) values have fallen, and thus he does not merit any regard whatsoever, except pity, because he has lost his humanity.

The fact that such a wild growth could sprout from within our midst requires us to examine which parts of Israel's educational system failed in not successfully imparting and establishing the foundations of democracy into elements of the younger generation. The accused's actions are not only a personal failing, and it is not with him alone that we are coming to terms today. It is with everyone who, directly or indirectly, specifically or in general, gave him to understand that it was permissible to cut down a person's life on the basis of any ideology whatsoever.

The debate going on among us is difficult and pointed, because it deals with basic and existential issues for the State of Israel, not only for our generation, but mainly for future generations. We all agree on a common denominator – a genuine and sincere concern for the peace of the country on the one hand, and peace with our neighbors on the other.

As is customary in a democratic state, this discussion must be conducted firmly, yet with mutual respect and tolerance, with the latter being of particular importance especially when unpopular opinions are voiced by a minority. Furthermore, the split in the nation will neither disappear nor heal by words alone, but rather by deeds, first and foremost, the deeds of the public's leaders – from the entire political spectrum – who are commanded to teach themselves, day and night:

"Wise men, be careful of your words. Revenge is not a factor in rendering the sentence and, heaven forbid, that it should be a consideration in weighing the sentence. Therefore, when a court of law metes out its sentence, it must be calm and rational and remove anger from its heart lest a feeling of revenge cause it to stray from the right and just." (Rabbi Shlomo Ben-Aderet, 1235-1310)

However, when a court comes to render a verdict against a criminal who has committed such an unspeakable offence as is before us, it cannot ignore consideration of the suitability of the punishment to the offence. This is not an act of revenge, but rather an expression of revulsion and disgust against this crime which, due to its severity, undermines the very existence of civilized society.

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Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Hezbollah Kaytushas rain down on the Galilee

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Residents of towns and villages along the northern border emerged last Sunday morning from bomb shelters and security rooms, where they had spent the night, following three salvoes of Hezbollah Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee late Saturday night.

There were no serious casualties. Only one resident of Kiryat Shmona was very lightly hurt, and she did not require hospitalization.

Hezbollah warned Sunday the Katyusha attacks were not its final word in retaliation for the killing of two Lebanese civilians by IDF shelling earlier that day.

Hezbollah's fighting arm, the Islamic Resistance, said the 28 rockets fired in three salvoes at western and central Galilee and the Panhandle were only a taste of reprisals to come.

The Resistance, in a statement broadcast on Lebanese radio, said it reserves the right to retaliate in its own time and manner, and warned the "Zionist enemy not to carry out any stupid acts."

Several apartments in the town were damaged by a Katyusha which glanced off the roof of the building and exploded on the ground.

Windows in several of the apartments in the three-story building were shattered. Amidar, the government housing company, decided to provide alternative accommodation for a woman whose home was badly damaged.

Rafi Even-Tzur has lived in Kiryat Shmona for 41 of his 50 years and has no desire to live anywhere else. Like the rest of the town's 20,000 residents, however, he says he would like some "peace and quiet and the opportunity to lead a normal life for ourselves and our families.

"I'm not talking for myself so much as for the children who feel the strain more and also suffer more emotionally. This kind of situation is not good for anybody, especially not for them.

"The alert is sounded. You wait and then you hear the rockets, but you don't know where they are going to fall, on what address."

Even-Tzur, who works at Kiryat Shmona's fledgling airport, said that life in the town came to a standstill from the time the alert was sounded on Saturday evening.

Residents in all towns and villages along the border were told to stay in shelters and security rooms.

"We had intended to go out and do some shopping for Pesach. Instead, we were stuck at home, and everything was closed, the shops, the cafes, businesses, factories, and the airport," Even-Tzur said.

A tense quiet prevailed along the northern border and in south Lebanon Sunday following the attacks and IDF shelling of suspected terrorist targets north of the zone.

Reports from Lebanon said Israel Air Force (IAF) warplanes staged mock bombing raids Sunday, especially in the south.

President Ezer Weizman visited Kiryat Shmona Sunday afternoon and later met with Western Galilee council heads in Nahariya. In both places he heard criticism about what was described as the lack of a harsh response to Hezbollah and complaints that the government is not doing enough to help the region in view of the security situation.

At the conclusion of his visit to Kiryat Shmona, Weizman said the situation in south Lebanon could not continue in its present form. He called on residents to be patient and let the IDF handle the matter.

"When, where, and how is not for us to discuss today. I can only tell you that I predict – that I know – that the matter will be dealt with," Weizman told residents.

Hezbollah's Katyusha attacks followed an incident Saturday afternoon, when IDF troops spotted what they thought was an armed gang moving on the outskirts of Yatar village, north of the security zone, and opened fire at them, killing two and wounding at least one other. It later became known that they were residents of Yatar who for the past two weeks had been building a water tank in the village.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres subsequently admitted they had been killed by mistake and said Israel regretted the incident. This message was relayed to the United States, reportedly with a warning that Israel would respond harshly if Hezbollah retaliated as it has in the past with Katyusha attacks on the Galilee.

The message was then passed on to the Syrians with an urgent request to them to curb Hezbollah and prevent an escalation, but Hezbollah responded with the three Katyusha salvoes.

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371 Palestinians arrested

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Israeli security forces rounded up 371 Palestinians in villages north of Ramallah last week for questioning about suspected links with Islamic militants.

The pre-dawn sweep was the largest since the IDF began to share control over most Arab villages in Judea and Samaria with the Palestinian Police. The army said it was aimed at netting suspected terrorists and students from the Gaza Strip, whose presence in the West Bank was declared illegal following the recent suicide bombings.

The arrests nearly doubled the number of Palestinians Israeli forces have taken in since the beginning of the month.

The raids were the last action under the command of Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran, who is ending his two-year stint as OC Central Command and retiring from military service.

"The war against terror is not measured in quantity, but the quality of intelligence and getting the perpetrator, capturing him and interrogating him," Biran told reporters.

Under cover of darkness, security forces, including paratroopers, undercover units and policemen, swept through the town of Bir Zeit and the villages of Abu Kash and Shakheida, banging on doors and hauling suspects outside. They were taken to large compounds erected on the football field in Bir Zeit.

The main goal of the operation was to round up Gazans studying in colleges in the Ramallah area in defiance of Biran's order to return home.

Biran said they targeted the Gazans because most of the Hamas activists linked to the bombers were students from Gaza, many of whom attend Bir Zeit University.

Since the IDF had coordinated the operation with the Palestinians, the Palestinian Police did not try to interfere. Military sources said the IDF waited until the last moment to notify the Palestinians, in order to keep the raid a secret.

Jewish assets said greater than Swiss bankers admit

By CYNTHIA MANN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – The value of Jewish assets held in Swiss bank accounts since World War II appears to far exceed what Swiss bankers have acknowledged, according to declassified U.S. military documents.

The first of thousands of pages of the documents recently unearthed at the National Archives record assets held in 182 accounts in one Swiss Bank, Société Général de Surveillance, SA, in Geneva.

Adjusting for inflation, the Congressional Research Service has determined that the assets in the one bank total $29 million (US), said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress (WJA), which provided the documents to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The WJC and the Jewish Agency for Israel are waging a campaign to reclaim assets lost by Jews in Europe during and after World War II.

Dated July 12, 1945, the documents list names and assets of account-holders from nine countries: Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Croatia, Moravia, Slovakia, France, Holland and Denmark, and the breakdown of assets by currency.

The funds are "owned principally by Jewish persons," the documents state.

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Election notebook

Meretz Party's Primary

JERUSALEM – Knesset incumbents won the top 10 spots in the Meretz bloc's primaries.

The results of the voting were released March 25, a day after Meretz members went to the polls to choose their list of candidates for the Knesset elections.

Meimad Opts Out of Elections

JERUSALEM – The Meimad executive recently ended months of speculation, deliberation and negotiation and decided not to run in the Knesset elections.

Meimad spokesperson Yisrael Cohen said the executive voted overwhelmingly both against running as a separate list, and against running with another party.

One Meimad official said the decision not to run was made after the executive realized the party would not get enough votes for one Knesset seat. Meimad head Rabbi Yehuda Amital said weeks ago that he was opposed to Meimad running separately, and favored some kind of merger with the NRP.

Meimad has already called on its supporters to vote for Shimon Peres.

Netanyahu: Vote For Party Leadership

JERUSALEM – Likud chair Benjamin Netanyahu recently exhorted party members to vote for "the entire Likud leadership and ignore all deals and preferred lists" in the March 26 primaries.

Netanyahu thereby unequivocally dissociated himself from lists said to be circulating in the party branches from which various key figures are conspicuously absent. On one such list, MKs Dan Meridor and Ariel Sharon were not included; on another MK Ze'ev Benjamin Begin.

Labor's Knesset Slate

JERUSALEM – Sixteen new faces appear on Labor's list for the next Knesset, which was presented after the national and regional lists elected in recent primaries were combined.

Senior Labor figures expressed satisfaction with the young new leadership concentrated at the top of the list, including Ehud Barak (slot three in the final list), Benjamin Ben-Eliezer (slot four), Ephraim Sneh (eight), and Ori Orr (10).

Tourism Minister Uzi Baram, who shot ahead of previous poll favorites Barak and Haim Ramon (slot five) to reach first place in the primaries, said he would consider running for prime minister in the future.

Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli (seven), who presented the list, noted it includes six women, three of them first-time Knesset candidates; six candidates under age 40; and 19 candidates of Sephardi origin.

TV: Begin, Meridor Top Likud List

JERUSALEM – Whatever deals were rumored to have been hatched in the Likud, they did not keep MKs Ze'ev Begin and Dan Meridor from the top slots in the recent primaries, according to projections by TV pollsters on both Channel 1 and Channel 2. Right next to them is Ariel Sharon, who masterminded the joint ticket with Tsomet and Gesher, and the most lustrous Likud acquisition of the season, Maj.-Gen.(res.)Yitzha Mordechai. The projections were welcomed by Likud chair Benjamin Netanyahu, who congratulated his party on choosing an excellent team — which was immediately derided by Labor.

Labor's Machine Well Oiled

JERUSALEM – The Labor party machine is alive and well. The results of the Labor vote illustrate better than anything the continuing power of the backstage manipulators.

The list produced in the Labor primaries is one which would have gladdened the heart of any Labor appointments committee of yesteryear.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has every reason to feel gratified. He would not have put a different list together himself.

The dark horse appearance of Tourism Minister Uzi Baram in the second slot is just the sort of thing Peres himself did in the past with such candidates as Shoshana Arbelli-Almoslino. Like her, Baram is no real challenge to Peres and no leading contender to succeed him.

He is harmless, non-threatening and comfortable to have around. In the great prestige battle between Foreign Minister Ehud Barak and Interior Minister Haim Ramon, Peres was known to have unequivocally backed Barak.

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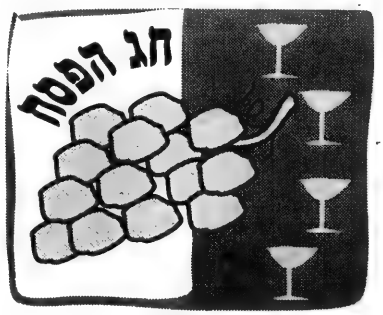

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Yom Ha'atzmaut Teen Cartoon Festival

We are asking all teenagers to turn on their creative juices and submit to us cartoons dealing with the subject of Israel. In particular, we are looking for cartoons which have both artistic and intellectual merit. They may be funny, serious, satiric or cute. We are looking for cartoons which poignantly and tastefully convey one of the many truths about life in Israel.

Who can enter: All teenagers are eligible except the children of *CJN* employees.

How to enter: You may submit as many entries as you like.

The judges will choose cartoons which are well-illustrated, clever and tasteful.

Six cartoons will be selected as winners: three cartoons from contestants 15 years of age and younger, and three cartoons from contestants 16 to 19 years of age inclusive.

The cartoons must be drawn in black and white. This will ensure that the cartoon reproduces as well as possible.

Please write your name, age, address and phone number on the back of your submission.

You may mail or deliver your submission to: CJN Community Contests, The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont., M3C 3A1. If you want us to return the cartoon, please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Otherwise, we will be unable to do so.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on April 15, 1996.

Prizes: The "winning" cartoons will be published in *The CJN* Yom Ha'atzmaut issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a $50.00 cheque.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only six will be chosen for publication. The judges' decisions will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: The contestants whose cartoons are chosen will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, April 19, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning submissions will be published in *The CJN* of April 25, 1996.

We hope the contest generates original, witty, imaginative and possibly even inspiring thought. We look forward to receiving your entries.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Likud outlines security stance

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – If Likud wins the election, it will take measures that will impinge upon Palestinian control of the territories without prior consultation, including strengthening settlements and launching pre-emptive raids into Palestinian cities to root out terrorists, MK Ariel Sharon is reported to have told a Western diplomat recently.

Another diplomat warned that if Sharon's plan is adopted, it would have dire consequences, bringing about the "downfall of the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the collapse of the Israeli-Palestinian peace track."

Sharon's reported remarks are being taken seriously because of his strong second place finish in the Likud primaries last week.

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu has said that "security will remain in Israeli hands," and that Israel will "maintain the freedom of action" to go anywhere for this purpose. However, Netanyahu has, for the most part, avoided specifics, and Sharon's statements mark the first known Likud elaboration of its security principles.

When contacted for a response last night, an aide to Netanyahu said all the principles enumerated by Sharon "sound right, including strengthening settlements."

He also noted that regardless of military actions, "neither Netanyahu nor Sharon want to reconquer Jenin, Nablus or Gaza. We are dedicated not just to fighting terrorism, but also pursuing peace."

Sharon reportedly told the foreign diplomat that the Likud would be guided by the following principles:

A Likud government would set up two parallel "security belts" in the territories – running parallel along the Jordan River and along the West Bank side of the Green Line – which would both be run by Israel.

It remained unclear how the unilateral establishment of such security zones would impact upon some existing designated rural areas, known as Area B under the Oslo accords, where the Palestinians are supposed to have some control.

In the past, Sharon has been the champion of the "cantons plan," which favors IDF control over islands of Palestinian autonomous areas centred in the Palestinian cities.

The IDF under Likud will feel free to stage pre-emptive raids into Palestinian cities (Area A) to root out terrorists, without prior consultation with the PA. In contrast, the Peres government has studiously avoided raids into the cities, instead focusing on Area B and the other 70 percent of the West Bank, Area C, which remains under Israeli control.

If Palestinians continue to refuse to extradite suspects, Israel will reserve the right to take them itself, using force, Sharon reportedly said, and all Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem will be closed. In contrast, Peres pledged to the late Norwegian foreign minister Johan Jorgen Holst that non-PA institutions could remain open.

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Healing the rift among Jews

By MARTIN S. KROSSEL
Special to The CJN

NEW YORK — It's a long way from Toronto's Bathurst Street to Broad Street in the Fleetwood section of Mount Vernon, a community just north of New York City.

But Lisa Schwartz of Toronto has adapted happily to marriage, motherhood and a new home.

Her husband, Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz, is the spiritual leader of the Fleetwood Synagogue, an Orthodox congregation with a membership of some 100 families.

And last summer, she gave birth to twins.

Rabbi Steinmetz credits his wife for organizing Parents, Children and the Holidays, a program run four times a year before major holidays. These informal workshops are designed to have adults and youngsters have fun and learn together.

The children's program is especially important for the synagogue, since it attracts participants that are not affiliated with the shul and outreach is a high priority for the Fleetwood congregation.

Rabbi Steinmetz, a native of Monsey, N.Y., and a Yeshiva University graduate, emphasizes the openness of his synagogue. He says that all are welcome regardless of their levels of Jewish knowledge or observance. This tolerance is also reflected in his community involvement. He has often participated in forums and panels with rabbis from other branches of Judaism.

Frequently the topics are controversial. For instance, he was once asked to present the Orthodox position on patrilineal descent, the notion that the child can be considered Jewish if the father is Jewish and the mother is not.

Most recently, Rabbi Steinmetz has been concerned by the divisiveness in the Jewish Community engendered by the Arab-Israeli peace process. Nearly a month before the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, he launched a drive to have both supporters and opponents of the peace process sign a pledge committing themselves to *ahavat Yisrael.*

The document reads: "I affirm that *ahavat Yisrael,* the love of my fellow Jews, takes precedence over my opinion of the peace process. I in no way relinquish my right to debate the peace process openly and actively. However, as I express my opinion, my words and actions will reflect my love of other Jews. I realize that even though I will disagree with other Jews, it is the disagreement of love, a disagreement of brother and sisters."

The Westchester Board of Rabbis has endorsed the document and included it in a mailing to all of the rabbis in the country. The Westchester Jewish Conference has also endorsed the statement.

Rabbi Stephen Klein, the president of the Board of Rabbis and the spiritual leader of a Reform congregation in Scarsdale, says, "Doing this shows the unity that's possible between Reform, Conservative and Orthodox rabbis and lay leaders."

Schwartz' father has shown the statement to his rabbi, Wayne Allen, of Toronto's Beth Tikvah Congregation, in the hope that it will soon be distributed throughout the congregation.

"I don't know if I can supply all the steps that are necessary to heal the rift in Klal Yisrael," Rabbi Steinmetz, " but at least I can suggest one step that might help."

Martin S. Krossel, a former Torontonian, is a writer who now lives in New Jersey.

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Helicopter crashes

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – An Israel Air Force Yasur 2000 transport helicopter crashed during a training mission in the Judean Desert last Sunday, plummeting from less than 100 feet and killing seven of the nine people aboard.

OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger said it was too early to tell if the accident was a result of a technical malfunction or human error and ordered an investigation.

Israel's Prime Minister and Defence Minister Shimon Peres expressed sorrow at the loss of life and sent condolences to the bereaved.

It was the first crash in six years involving a Yasur, an upgraded U.S.-made Sikorsky CH-53, considered a relatively sturdy craft.

The helicopter was taking part in a routine exercise dropping off soldiers and had just put down a squad and taken off when it apparently lost power and crashed, burst into flames and was destroyed.

The pilot, Maj. Eyal Gelb, 32, of Ramat Gan; co-pilot, Capt. Ofer Schwartz, 25, of Rishon Lezion; flight technician, St.-Sgt.-Maj. David Weizman, 40; and three soldiers – Cpl. Guy Shafir, 20, of Kiryat Ono; Cpl. Liat Fildo, 20, of Karmiel; and Cpl. Doron Ezra, 20, of Rishon Lezion – were killed instantly, Bodinger said.

Cpl. Inbal Tavisi, 20, of Petach Tikva, who was apparently videotaping the exercise, died of her injuries in the hospital, he said.

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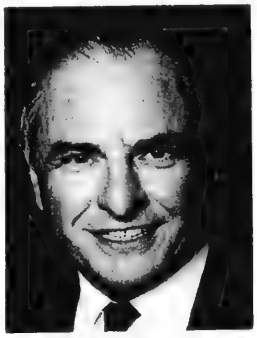
By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN



Myer Levine

TORONTO — Myer Levine was one of the many people who could not speak in public — not even at his own wedding.

Over the years, he has worked hard to overcome his fear of speaking in public. In the process, he took the Dale Carnegie course and has been a Dale Carnegie instructor for more than 25 years.

After 36 years, he left his corporate/commercial law practice to establish a new business venture, Dynamic Presentations Inc., which trains individuals and small groups in the skills needed for effective communication.

"Today, the economy has shrunk, competition is keen and global, and everyone is in the communications business," says Levine. "More than at any other time, being able to present effectively has taken on more importance."

The business world has changed, he says. In the past, in many businesses, the senior staff did the contact and created the networking for the firm. "Now, with greater competition and as more seniors are retiring, it is important for everyone to attract new business, juniors as well as those who are highly technical. They are called upon to talk about products or services and they can no longer make dull, boring presentations.

"The old loyalties are gone. Companies go shopping for quotes and often the winning bid is based on impressions that the presentation leaves, not so much the content, which is often similar. What comes across is enthusiasm, persuasiveness and energy, whether it is for business, personal, voluntary or social endeavors."

Research, he says, has shown that 55 percent of an effective talk is in the body language — dress, facial expression, confidence and animation. The use of voice is credited for 38 percent — how one changes pitch, pauses and modulates the voice. Only 7 percent of the effectiveness of the speech is attributed to the content.

"Fear of presenting is holding many people back," Levine says.

To overcome fear and enhance one's speaking ability, he says he prefers to work one-on-one, as this provides confidentiality and he is able to focus on the individual needs of the client.

But his wife, Sybil, who has worked as an executive officer in the corporate world, joined Dynamic Presentations as a coach/trainer and does work with small groups.

All sessions begin with personal interviews, an assessment and coaching, which includes videotaping presentations and reviewing them with the client.

"When people are more at ease in making presentations, they gain an inner self confidence. They see themselves in a more positive way and are able to relate in a more meaningful and satisfying way with others," he says.

The Levines have had a positive response from individuals, firms and companies. "Our instincts have proven to be right," says Levine. "There is a huge need and want for these skills — for individuals who have to market their ideas, products and services, and for people who serve on boards and committees but are afraid to speak up or accept greater responsibility."

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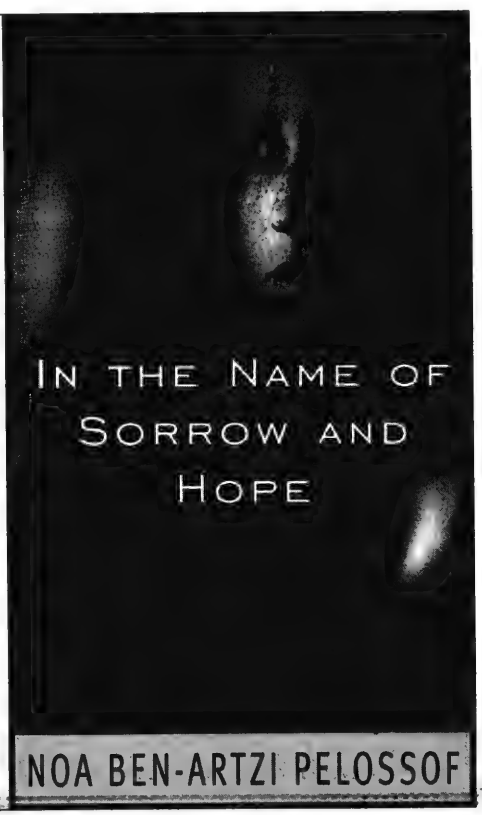

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Uncanny resemblance to Seinfeld opens doors for aspiring actor

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — At Howard and Carole Tanenbaum's Passover seder, the most commonly asked question isn't "Why is this night different from all other nights?" Rather, it's "What makes our son Dan different from Jerry Seinfeld?"

Dan Tanenbaum, 24, is an art director and copy writer from Toronto who bears a startling resemblance to the NBC sitcom star.

Tanenbaum's career as a celebrity look-alike began when he was spotted in a Toronto bar by an aspiring writer whose story about the similarity was published in *People* magazine.

Since then, Tanenbaum has made television appearances on *Inside Edition*, *The Dini Petty Show*, *Extra*, *Camille Scott* and *CBC Evening News*. He has performed at the Golden Globe Awards in Los Angeles. The Ron Smith celebrity look-alike agency has predicted he could make $50,000 to $100,000 (US) working part time; and the William Morris agency is currently negotiating a deal with Seinfeld's people that will see Tanenbaum in a future Thursday night episode.

But years before his rise to celebrity status, Tanenbaum was honing his skills as a comedian before a tough audience: his family. "Friday night dinners were my open-mike nights," Tanenbaum says.

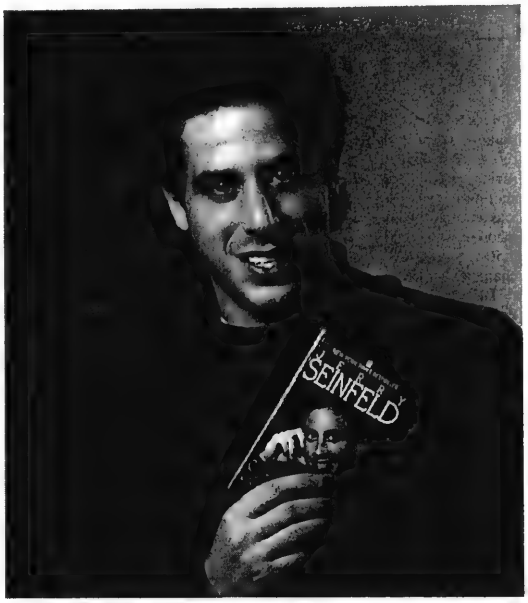
After the days of Shabbat *shtick* and working the bar mitzvah circuit as a magician, Tanenbaum went to university, where he wrote comedy for a televised college sitcom while earning a degree in advertising.

Currently, Tanenbaum is residing in Los Angeles, pursuing his dream of becoming an actor/comedian by capitalizing on his resemblance to Seinfeld. In Los Angeles, the production crew of *Extra* had Tanenbaum drive up to the gates of the Seinfeld studios and tell the guard he had lost his access card. Without a second glance, the guard ushered him in.

But Tanenbaum is currently researching some 12,000 celebrity-agencies to find the one that will help him to develop his own skills and popularity as a performer. Between lunch dates, he participates in celebrity look-alike events.

Even Seinfeld himself, upon meeting Tanenbaum in Detroit's Fox Theatre, coldly agreed: "Yah, I guess he kinda looks like me."

Tanenbaum continues to *schlep* his way to becoming a star in his own right. Punctuating his words with rapid gestures that could only be Seinfeld's, he says, "One day I'd love someone to finally say 'Hey, aren't you Dan Tanenbaum?'" Maybe next year in Jerusalem.



Dan Tanenbaum capitalizes on his Seinfeld-like look.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

***Shtetl*, the Documentary:** Born nearly 60 years ago in Warsaw, Chicago-based documentary filmmaker Marian Marzynski has returned to Poland eight times in recent years. While there, he has shot more than 70 hours of tape in and around the village of Bransk, whose wartime population of about 2,500 Jews mostly died in the gas chambers of Treblinka.

Besides focusing on a young Polish Catholic engaged in retrieving Jewish artifacts from the town's past, Marzynski filmed a 70-year-old Chicago Jew, Nathan Kaplan, who comes to Bransk in search of the house in which he was born.

Raised as a 'hidden child'

His camera confronts Polish partisans, Poles who hid Jews in their barns, Poles who allegedly turned Jews over to the Nazi authorities, and many townsfolk who speak openly of atrocities they witnessed half a century before.

The result is *Shtetl*, a three-hour documentary that is due to be aired in its entirety on the American PBS network (including WNED-TV in Buffalo) on April 17 at 8 p.m. and again on April 18 at noon. Many astonishing stories are told in the course of this rivetting documentary, including Marzynski's own. He was raised in a Catholic orphanage as a "hidden child" after his parents passed him out of the Warsaw ghetto.

* * *

A Story of Survival: Playwright-performer Susan Miller brings her critically acclaimed production *My Left Breast* to Toronto for three performances only in April, in support of the Alliance of Breast Cancer Survivors.

My Left Breast is about the loss of a breast through cancer. It is also about the loss of love, the loss of a sense of security, the loss of children who grow up and leave home, the loss of a partner, the loss of self-image and the loss of definition when traditional definitions no longer fit.

Based in New York City, Susan Miller is a breast cancer survivor. She describes herself as "a one-breasted, menopausal, Jewish, bisexual lesbian Mom." Her most recent play, *My Left Breast* won an Obie award, as did several earlier plays. She has also written short stories and episodes of *Thirtysomething* and *L.A. Law* for television. Last fall, she organized 20 women to portage canoes through the streets of downtown Toronto to raise money for the Alliance of Breast Cancer Survivors.

April 19 and 20 at 8 p.m., April 21 at 2.30 p.m., at Tallulah's Cabaret, 12 Alexander St., Toronto. 416-975-8555.

* * *

In Brief: The 1996 Toronto Jewish Film Festival gets underway May2- May 9. An assorted lineup of 30 films are scheduled to be shown. Tickets can be purchased now by calling the hotline at 416-324-8600.

Stomp, the lively and invigorating percussion group that uses brooms, garbage pails and other everyday objects to produce fascinating rhythms, opens in Toronto May 14 for a limited engagement at the Elgin Theatre.

Three years ago, Stomp's three-week run here completely sold out after just four performances. For tickets, call 416-872-5555.

British beef banned

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Both Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) last Tuesday announced a ban on imports of British beef, after the U.K. government's disclosure last week that 10 people who contracted an incurable brain wasting disease probably got it from eating tainted British beef.

Israel imports frozen meat from 12 nations, two of which have reported incidences of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), known as mad cow disease, which is thought to be transferred to humans in the form of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

France and Ireland have reported isolated cases of BSE, compared to 15,000 cases per year in the U.K.

According to guidelines set by Israel's Veterinarians Association, frozen cattle livers, bones, hearts and tongues should not be imported.

The PA released an anxiety-quelling message, saying it intends to carefully inspect all meat imports.

In 1989, Britain banned the use of sheep organs, cattle brains and other animal parts in the meat processing industry after studies showed that the parts contained BSE.

Britain has said that the spread of Creutzfeldt-Jakob is unlikely because of the measures taken since 1989.

Israel and the PA are among more than 20 countries who have banned imports of British beef.

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TAB news

Film memoir captures Kosinski's ambiguity

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Jerzy Kosinski, the celebrated American novelist, committed suicide in 1991, suffocating himself by pulling a plastic bag over his head. The motive will always elude us, just as the true self of this human chameleon will always lie beyond our grasp.

Jack Kuper, in his film memoir of this extraordinarily complex and strange man (*Who Was Jerzy Kosinski?*), reaches no definitive conclusions with regard to this question. But Kuper's 52-minute documentary, to be screened on Vision TV on April 9 at 8 p.m., is never less than intriguing.

Kuper and Kosinski, both Polish Jews, were contemporaries who seem to have had parallel experiences during the Holocaust. Later, they enshrined them in best-selling books published in the same year, *Child of the Holocaust* and *The Painted Bird*.

In the late 1960s, Kuper — a Torontonian — found himself in Manhattan, and phoned Kosinski. Although Kuper was a total stranger, Kosinski invited him to his home, treating him like a long-lost brother. From this unlikely encounter emerged a sporadic but fascinating friendship, which Kosinski eventually severed.

Based on an article Kuper wrote for *Toronto Life*, a monthly magazine, *Who Was Jerzy Kosinski?* unfolds through the medium of

Jerzy Kosinski

pungent reminiscences by Kuper and others who had the fortune of knowing this gifted, multi-layered individual.

On the basis of their judgments, Kosinski comes across as moody, paranoic, egotistical, wordly and brilliant.

But, of course, there is much more to the story. Obsessed by sex and success, Kosinski was plagued by a profound identity crisis. In *The Painted Bird*, a classic of Holocaust literature, he left the impression that he was a gypsy. When Kuper asked him to clarify the matter, Kosinski was deliberately vague, claiming he was Jewish and his parents were Christians.

So what was Kosinski? According to one wag, he was "a Jew pretending to be a Christian pretending to be a Jew."

Fervid imagination

Kuper raises further troubling issues. Is *The Painted Bird* composed of fragments from Kosinski's turbulent life, or is it a figment of his fervid imagination? The answer may surprise you.

More ominously, Kuper revisits a controversy which turns on accusations that Kosinski was a plagiarist.

Kuper suggests, somewhat delicately, that the soft-cover edition of *The Painted Bird* contains a passage brazenly lifted from *Child of the Holocaust*.

And a photograph of Kosinski and his mother, which appeared in *New York* magazine after his untimely death, was really that of Kuper and *his* mother.

Regrettably, then, Kosinski was a plagiarist and an imposter. But he was also an amazing person who was constantly reinventing himself — a work in progress, if you will. Kuper's film successfully encapsulates the ambiguity which defined him from beginning to end.

Interest rates remain stable

JERUSALEM – Interest rates this month will remain at their current level, the Bank of Israel said in its announcement of the monetary program for April.

The central bank's short-term rate was set at 14 percent last month, when it was raised by 30 basis points.

The decision follows two higher-than-expected monthly climbs in the Cost of Living Index, each by 90 basis points, which led some analysts to expect another tightening move by Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel.

The bank said the economic impact of the closure on traffic between Israel and territories controlled by the Palestinian Authority has yet to express itself in the macro-economic indicators.

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Business Profile

Yael Varsano-Barzilay

Economic consul bullish on business in Israel

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The desk in Yael Varsano-Barzilay's downtown office is covered with 10 neatly stacked piles of paper — files in progress and material to be read — that hint at the vast scope of her position as Israel's economic consul to Canada.

Despite recent crises in Israel — the November assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and a spate of deadly suicide bombings — Varsano-Barzilay is optimistic about Israel's economic future. In fact, she appears as calm and confident as her orderly desk would suggest.

"Israel has certainly taken a beating," she concedes. "But it seems that the strength of the Israeli economy is very evident. Investors coming from outside have not lost faith."

The post-bombing performance of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (TASE) lends credence to her words. Despite feared drops of five to 10 percent, the TASE was only one percent lower when trading resumed March 6 after a day off for Purim, according to a recent Jersalem Telegraphic Agency report.

"We had seven years of intifada. The economy is doing wonderfully," said Varsano-Barzilay. Not one person has called her to express second thoughts about doing business with Israel.

"Anyone looking into Israel in the long term will find it very beneficial," she added, offering back-up statistics:

- Israel's economy has grown on average 5.8 percent over the last five years.
- Its 1995 GDP was $86 billion (US).
- Its GDP grew at an annual rate of seven percent in 1995.
- Its unemployment rate is down to 6.8 percent, despite an influx of new immigrants.
- In 1984, inflation topped 400 percent, but by 1995 it was down to 8.2 percent.

Varsano-Barzilay has had an excellent vantage point from which to examine recent changes in the Israeli economy, despite her relative youth.

At 32, she is the first woman to hold her position in North America. Two other Israeli women serve as trade commissioners out of about 30 worldwide, a trend that is on the upswing.

A graduate of Tel Aviv University's Business School with a master of science degree in organizational behavior, Varsano-Barzilay has been with Israel's Ministry of Industry and Trade since 1991. Before she arrived in Toronto last September, she was based in Jerusalem as deputy director of the North American division, Foreign Trade Administration. She was part of the Israeli team of negotiators working on the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.

Yael Varsano-Barzilay, 32, is the first woman economic counsel in North America. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

A native of Petach Tikvah, Varsano-Barzilay speaks English with only a hint of an accent. As a teenager, she moved to Switzerland for four years with her family and attended an American school.

Before taking her first government position, Varsano-Barzilay worked in the private sector as a marketing manager for Ynon Technologies Ltd. in Ramat Gan.

The hi-tech industry in which she got her early experience is Israel's fastest growing business sector, she said.

The Israeli work force is very educated (with 135 scientists and technicians per 10,000 workers, more than three times the ratio in Canada), she pointed out.

In addition, the size of the country can be a factor.

"Sometimes in Canada you have small pockets of knowledgeable people. It's a very big country and it can be difficult to collect a high-end technological team. Manpower is more accessible in Israel. Tel Aviv, Ramat Gan, even Haifa are not that far from each other. You would find a lot of people willing to live in Haifa and meet halfway in a plant located in, say, Netanya. It's very manageable."

In the six months she has been here, Varsano-Barzilay has found that Canadians and Israelis know too little about each other from a business standpoint.

She encourages businesspeople to think of Israel not only as a market of 5.5 million people, but as a gateway to the Middle East and Europe.

"The way to survive in Israel as a hi-tech company is not to rely on the local market, which is relatively small, but from day one to start thinking about export."

When it comes to trade between Israel and Canada, there has been steady growth, but the rate is low compared to the potential, she notes.

She expects that will begin to change when the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is implemented.

In 1995, Israel exported $170 million (Cdn) worth of goods to Canada, with diamonds at the top of the list. Canada, in turn, exported $257 million (Cdn) to Israel, a 26 percent increase over the previous year. Machinery, including electronics, was the most significant export (25 percent), then base metals, paper and paper products, and wood and wood products.

Varsano-Barzilay is hopeful that the FTA will be finalized later this year, pending approval of both governments.

When that happens, tariffs on most incoming merchandise will be immediately reduced to zero, she explained.

In recent years, Canada has been at a disadvantage when it comes to exporting to Israel. In the early 1990s, Sweden and the United States were able to sell prefabricated housing to Israel for its new *olim* at a more competitive price, because Israel has trade agreements with both the United States and the European Union.

About 80 percent of Canadian trade currently goes to the United States, Varsano-Barzilay says. That leaves only about 20 percent for other countries.

In recent years, municipal authorities in Israel have begun to encourage foreign investors thinking of opening a plant in Israel, she says.

Varsano-Barzilay's office can supply information about concerns such as the cost of office space in Israel and the availability of government incentives for foreign investors. In some cases, the Israeli government will fund up to 34 percent of the cost of the investment, as a grant.

"I think it makes it very enticing, although of course, that's not the only reason to invest in Israel."

Another benefit of Israel is its proximity to Europe and its FTA with the European Union, she points out.

Israel is the only country in the world to have duty-free FTAs with both the European Union and the United States, she notes. In addition to wrapping up the FTA with Canada, Israel also has negotiations under way with the Czech republic, Hungary and Poland. Negotiations with Turkey were completed last month.

"It makes Israel a very interesting base," Varsano-Barzilay concludes.

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Shaare Zedek to honor Bregmans

TORONTO — Lou and Yetta Bregman are being honored by The Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation with the creation of a fund in their name for the neonatology intensive care unit of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Medical Centre.

"As Shaare Zedek supporters of long standing and as leaders in the city's business and cultural communities, Lou and Yetta are very deserving of this tribute," said Bernard Abrahms, national president of the foundation.

Proceeds from the tribute will be used to purchase neonatal intensive care stations at Shaare Zedek for the treatment of seriously ill newborns. Each station consists of a technologically advanced warmer/incubator, a multi-faceted monitoring system, a respirator, an oxymeter and four electronic pumps.

At a launch reception held in the offices of First Marathon Securities, Prof. Jonathan Halevy, director general of Shaare Zedek, said more than 6,000 babies are born there annually — more than twice the number of any other hospital in Greater Jerusalem.

Shaare Zedek has become the medical centre of choice for high-risk prenatal care and deliveries, he said. Many high-risk pregnant women suffer from such ailments as diabetes or high blood pressure. Patients are also referred to Shaare Zedek from other hospitals in Israel and elsewhere in the Middle East.

Integrated women's unit

High-risk babies are often born prematurely and/or with serious problems requiring the specialized treatment provided by the unit. Upwards of 550 infants are cared for annually there, sometimes at a cost of $1,000 (US) per day per baby for several weeks or months.

Shaare Zedek is currently building an integrated women's and infant centre that will incorporate maternity, neonatology, gynecology, gynecological oncology and in-vitro fertilization.

There will be twice as many maternity beds and neonatology incubators in the new centre as there are currently, providing Shaare Zedek with the capability to treat additional local and referred patients.

As a private, not-for-profit institution, Shaare Zedek receives no government funding for development, new equipment, expansion of services or capital improvements and must rely on local and international friends to maintain its high standards.

Elise and Harvey Kalles are tribute committee co-chairs for the event, with Maxwell Gotlieb and Len Glickman as fundraising co-chairs, Michael Bregman as head of the major gifts committee and Barbara Bregman as chair of the event committee.

For further information, call Sheila Dropkin, national executive director of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation at 416-781-3584 or 1-800-387-3595.

Alternative medical treatments thriving

By TERESA STRASSER
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO – Herbs, acupuncture, amulets, crystals, touch therapy, creative imagery and other alternative treatments are increasingly being used to treat everything from lower back pain to AIDS.

In fact, in 1994, the *New England Journal of Medicine* reported that more Americans seek health care from alternative medicine practitioners than from primary care physicians.

But is alternative medicine sanctioned by Jewish teachings?

Two physicians, a psychiatrist and a rabbi, discussed the question as part of the Seventh Annual International Conference on Jewish Medical Ethics, recently held in Burlingame, Calif. According to physician Fred Rosner, modern alternative treatments reflect ancient Jewish healing practices. For instance, Jews often used amulets filled with herbs, roots and written prayers to ward off evil spirits and disease.

Some Jews, including some of Rosner's patients, wear amulets today.

Jewish teachings indicate than an amulet is proven only after it has cured three people or one person three times," said Rosner, of Queens Hospital Centre in New York City.

As for his own take on alternative treatments, Rosner said that "as a preventive they're OK, but as therapy, they're not so good."

A Jewish approach to alternative medicine should include both prayer and traditional medicine, he said. Talmudic writings warn that faith alone should never usurp traditional medical care as the primary healing tool.

"Patients can't rely on divine intervention. It's a supplement, not a substitution," Rosner said.

In fact, Rosner believes that faith in any therapy can have a "placebo effect."

Dr. Leonard Zegans, professor of psychiatry and director of education at the University of California in San Francisco, also acknowledged that "spiritual and emotional factors effect health."

For that reason, prayer, chanting, charms, crystals and other alternative treatments that address diet, lifestyle and state of mind can have benefits.

"Negative images can be perceived as threats to our security.

"They have a profound effect and can affect the health of humans," Zegans said.

Noting that Maimonides wrote that the mind and body cannot be separated, Zegans quoted the Jewish thinker as saying that "joyful news should be around the sick."

With the current trend toward managed health care, physicians have less time to spend with patients, less time to consider such mind and body factors as spiritual contentment and stress.

According to Zegans, this lack of time, as well as the medical establishment's lack of success with chronic conditions, has set the stage for the new prominence of alternative treatments.

Physician Martin Rossman was trained in traditional Western medicine but has practiced acupuncture for the last 23 years. He is the founder and director of the Collaborative Medicine Centre and co-director of the Academy for Guided Imagery, both in Mill Valley, Calif.

After seeing a film of a man having part of his lung removed with only needles as anesthesia, Rossman became fascinated with the ancient healing method.

Evidence about the usefulness of acupuncture "is anecdotal and more research should be done, but 10 million anecdotes is a lot, especially when they're all pointing in the right direction," Rossman said.

While there was palpable cynicism in the audience of physicians toward alternative treatments in general and their compliance with Jewish law specifically, Rabbi Meir Sendor, of the Young Israel Congregation in Sharon, Mass., told the group that prayer "can have direct somatic impact" and is considered in the Jewish tradition to be therapeutic.

"Illness is solipsistic, self-absorption leading to neurosis," Sendor said.

"Healing involves a shift to The Other, a shift to God, who is more inside us than we are in ourselves."

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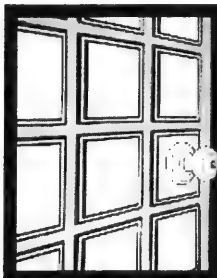

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Now $219,000. Close to shops & trans; reno'd 3+ BRS; 2 full baths; 2 kitchens; deck; front pad pking. M. Lehberg.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
$179,900. Rarely available 2 bedroom 2 bath corner condo; solarium, 5 appliances; westerly view. Frances Deitel.

GLENCAIRN/BATHURST CONDO
Now $166,000. Everything you need: 2 bdrms; 2 full baths, jacuzzi, white kitchen; concierge. Call Judy Goldman.

THORNHILL/RICHMOND HILL

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Set on fabulous lot, elegant Georgian, oversized dining rm; grand LR; family rm; dream kitchen. Nancy Prussky.

QUIET COURT
Splendid 3 bedroom; mn. flr. family rm; fplce in LR; CAC; l-lvl rec. rm; 2 offices + exercise rm. Jerry Caplan.

LESLIE/GREEN LANE
$329,000. Nicely updated; 4+ BRS; mstr + ens + sitting rm; fplce; fin. l-lvl; prof. landscaped. Annalisa Weir.

BATHURST/CLARK — REDUCED
Now $239,000. Excellent value: 3 BRS; 3 baths; family rm; fplce; CAC; premium lot. Approx. 1800 sf. J. Caplan.

THE LANDMARK — 1ST AD
$184,900. Bright corner condo; 2 bedrooms + solarium; 2 baths; 5 appliances; approx. 1300 sf. Jerry Caplan.

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$179,900. In Maple; lovely 3 bedroom with upgrades; CAC; pr. dr; gar. Great for 1st time buyers! Linda Rushlow.

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Lakefront cottage to rent. Balfour Beach (1 hr from Toronto) 4 bedroom, Tennis court, walk to Camp Katonim. Pts. call 905-405-7511 (Mon.-Thurs) 905-476-5015 (Friday-Sun).

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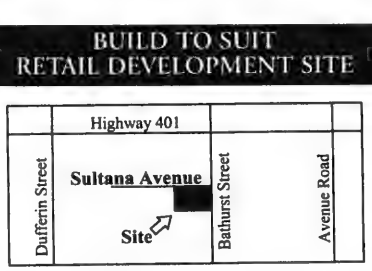

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Experienced Secretary, full-time, required for busy executive. We have a Wordperfect enviroment. Spread-sheet and desk top publishing would be added advantages. Please reply to box #6727. The Canadian Jewish News.

SALES POSITION
40 year old metal furniture fabricator requires an outgoing, energetic salesperson. Must have car, sale experience and lots of chutzpah. Base salary plus commission. Fax resume to 416-741-6918.

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Co-ed Orthodox camp in Pocono Mts. seeks staff for Arts & Crafts director, Athletic director, general male counsellors, woodshop-pioneering, music staff. For details call 917-593-0261 or fax resume, 201-575-4188.

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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

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Cleaning lady, offices, houses, apts, excel. refs. 416-241-8066.

Polish lady will clean your apt. or house. 698-6163.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Companion Wanted
Pleasant older woman looking for woman just to sleep overnights. 638-8888, lv. msg.

Family seeks a loving energetic, creative, live-out nanny/babysitter for our 1 yr old son. Beginning in May full-time. Allen Rd/Eglinton area. 781-4770.

Live-in companion for middle-aged woman, light housekeeping, some cooking, 787-2893.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

Cert. HCA, 12 yrs. exp, enjoys working with seniors, Mon-Fri, refs. 416-246-1713.

HCA available to take of elderly/companion/nanny. Live-out. 4 days/week. Please call Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm. 269-0726

Mum's Caregiving Services RNA's, HCA's, to care for elderly, handicapped, people with dementia. In home services, escorts for appts. 665-7969.

RNA seeks night job w/elderly, priv. duty. Call eves 645-7141.

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Soulmates
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Evelyn 905-709-3868

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Searching for Lost Relative
Her name is Marsha, 56, Jewish. Family was prominent in paper or lumber mill business about 30-40 yrs. ago. Most likely came from Montreal or Nova Scotia areas. Call collect 212-737-8592, ask for Jay.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attractive prof. male, 37, seeks female 633-3863. Attn: Heather 35, you called from Richmond Hill CC, please call again.

JM, 35, looking for a gentle JF soul, who knows what beauty & happiness is and shares it; who is conscious of the world's suffering and tries to repair it. Box 6729 CJN.

LOOKING FOR LOVE (Not Marriage Yet). SJM, almost 32, 5'9", fair complexion, very fit, balding (it's better than it sounds). Active, down-to-earth, outgoing, honest, romantic (but with who?). Seeking fun, d-t-e, very fit, pretty woman, 23-29 (who is in no rush) to explore & enjoy life with. Please send photo. Box 6728 CJN.

Active female, 55-60, intelligent, fit and cultured, sought by an established, youthful 65 yr old male who enjoys sports, theatre & travel, for a permanent relationship. Box 6723 CJN.

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For these ads simply address your mail to:
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285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shenfield-Albaum. Ellie and Peter Shenfield are delighted to announce the engagement of thier daughter **Marion** to **Kevin** son of Pauline and Joel Albaum. Proud Grandparents are Nina and Lou Cass of Montreal, Frank and Sadie Stein and Adele Albaum.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Wedding gown bought in May at $2300, all lace and beads, size 8/9, worn for 2 hours, hoop skirt, veil. Asking $1000. Must sell! Other assorted gowns available, 782-2275.

315 CARS FOR SALE

Affordable luxury cars and others, previously owned. Excellent condition. CERTIFIED. Call Elizabeth 416-255-9594.

330 OBITUARIES

CARRADY, Morris - On March 26, 1996. Will be sadly missed by wife Rochelle & daughters Pamela, Vivien & Monica and son-in-law Doron Eisen. Loving Papa to Jared & Jonah. Contributions with thanks to the Carrady Fund, Reena Foundation, 416-787-0133. Shiva private.

Dear Ella,

I am a 36-year-old man and have never been married. My relationships have been few and most of my dates (especially the blind dates) have been near disasters. About eight months ago, I met a wonderful woman, Sari, and we seem to be moving in a serious direction.

My problem is the Passover seders. Sari would like me to spend one of the seders with her family. She intends also on spending one of the seders with my family.

Here is where the problem comes in. My father passed away four years ago and since that time I have always been the one to conduct the seders. It is one of the only times we all have a chance to get together and it has become customary that I run the seders. I have two younger brothers and a sister, but they have no clue about how to run a seder or even how to read Hebrew properly.

I am really torn about what to do. Since the death of my father, my mother has become very fragile and she will be upset if I am not there for the seders. Sari on the other hand will be hurt as well. We've always been able to compromise and it seems so cut and dried to her that we will spend one seder with her family and one with mine.

Well Ella, what do you think I should do?

Pressured at Passover

Dear Pressured at Passover,

It is time to decide in which direction you want your life to go.

If your relationship is serious, it seems inevitable that this problem is one you will have to face head on sooner or later.

The death of a spouse or a parent is very traumatic and some people take longer to put their lives back on track than others. But the fact remains, that life does move on, and so should you.

Celebrate one seder with your family and one with Sari's. At the same time, try to help your family get through the first year without you there. Teach your brothers how to conduct a seder in English. There are many haggadot that are easy to follow and have instructions of what should be done at every stage of the seder.

This will be a change for your family. A missing relative from the seder table is always difficult, but I'm sure that they don't want to hold you back from starting a new life for yourself.

Go forward and enjoy your seders. Chag Kasher V'Samayach.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

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MATZA APPLE/CINNAMON TREATS

4 dry matza
1/2 stick margarine or butter, softened
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 tsp cinnamon
1 apple, thinly sliced (unpeeled)
2 tblsp honey (for drizzling)

Preheat oven to 450°. Preparation time: 15 mins. Yield: 5 servings. Wrap broiler pan with aluminum foil and set aside. In small bowl, combine cinnamon and sugar and set aside. Take matza and generously butter both sides and generously sprinkle both sides with cinnamon/sugar mixture, making sure to cover entire matza. Place coated matza onto broiler pan and arrange sliced apples on top. Sprinkle tops of matza with some more cinnamon/sugar mixture and then drizzle with honey. Bake in broiler approx. 3-4 mins. ... Enjoy!

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Weiss, Irene on March 21, 1996
Tenne, Jacov on March 21, 1996
Levine, Maria on March 22, 1996
Kleinberg, Irving on March 23, 1996, late of 11 Townsgate Dr. #408
Loeffler, Sara on March 22, 1996, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
Chertok, Semion on March 22, 1996, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
Shatkin, Mary on March 23, 1996
Novik, Grigory on March 24, 1996
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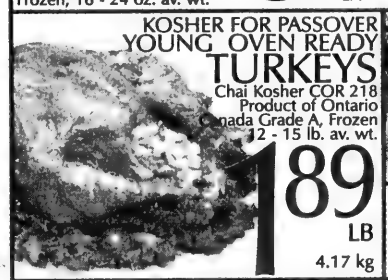

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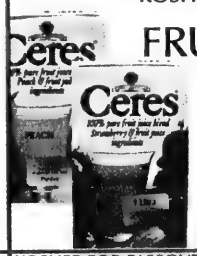

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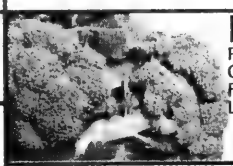

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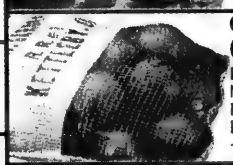

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

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Passover products pulled in Quebec

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q) is asking for a meeting "as soon as possible" with officials from the Office de la Langue Française (OFL) to find out what provoked certain stores into yanking from their shelves New York-imported Passover foods with English-only labels, just as the community was stocking up for Passover.

"We always thought we had an agreement with the office," said David Sultan, CJC-Q's community relations director. "This is the first time in my memory this has happened during Passover."

At least two stores, Maxi's in Pointe Claire, owned by Provigo Inc., and a Metro store in the West end, removed the English-only-labelled Passover goods after receiving a letter from the OFL, which acts as watchdog for Quebec's French-language charter, saying the products contravened the French-language requirement provisions of the law.

Sultan, however, suggested the apparent crackdown may have broken an agreement reached a decade ago with the OFL, exempting the Jewish community from the strict French-language requirements of the charter under certain circumstances, such as during the Passover period.

A 1986 document issued by the OFL advisory board urges the office to tolerate the sale of non-French-labelled products "of a religious type" under certain conditions.

Sultan also said Article 5 (c) of Section 51 of the charter also allows for sale of goods not conforming to French-only requirements, provided that there is "very limited use" of such goods and so long as "equivalent replacement" products with French labelling are not already available.

Sultan said CJC-Q, after hearing of some complaints prior to Passover, had been in contact with officials from the OFL, who, he said, assured Congress that the issue would be resolved after the holiday. But Sultan said the OFL may have broken that promise by sending an inspector to the Maxi's store and intimidating its management into removing the products from the shelves.

Continued on page 18

Foreign adoptions: issues and answers

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

Special Report

It's not that Sheli Braun of Ottawa has it in for Toronto, but she associates the city with one of the more negative experiences in her multi-hued family's life.

While attending a family simchah last year at a Toronto-area Orthodox congregation, Braun's five adopted children, each born in a different country and each a slightly different shade of brown, encountered what their mother bluntly calls "the most obnoxious, revolting experience they ever had."

It seems there was lots of whispering and finger-pointing. The children were stared at and no one was willing to play with or even talk to them.

While this isn't your average Orthodox family, the kids are Jewish, adopted children of an Orthodox rabbi, properly converted and raised in an observant home. But they are different.

In Ottawa, where the family has lived since 1993 after living in Denver for three years and Winnipeg before that, "people sometimes stare, but I don't consider that unusual," Braun says. The family's Toronto trip – a sojourn to the big city gone sour – was "the most appalling situation we ever faced."

The Braun family. Top: Rabbi Ely and Sheli; centre: Yoni and Ranit; bottom: (l-r) Elisheva, David and Naomi.

For Braun and her husband, Rabbi Ely Braun, spiritual leader of Ottawa's Orthodox Congregation Beth Shalom, the disturbing experience served as a microcosmic example of the Jewish community's sometimes open displays of skepticism, ignorance and outright racism when it comes to Jews who aren't white, even if they are *shomer mitzvot* and receive a Jewish education.

Elisheva Braun, 15, was born in Colombia; Ranit, 13, in Chile; Yonatan, 10, in Brazil. Naomi, 9, is of Ethiopian-Jewish heritage; and the biological parents of David, 3, were African-American. Proud Jews, all. They attend local Jewish schools. the boys wear kippot. Dating for the eldest daughter is a long way off.

But Sheli Braun, 45, is not blind to the problems of acceptance her children face, especially when it comes to friendship, dating and marriage within a community that is overwhelmingly white and, to put it mildly, skittish about who its young people marry.

"I think Naomi, because she looks Ethiopian, will be okay," her mother allows. However, David, the African-American, "is going to have trouble as a black male. But I hope that eventually, all the children will find someone accepting of who they are Jewishly, and that the issue of race will be overcome."

But will her children remain Orthodox? Will they even remain Jewish? Braun sighs. "Coming to parenthood later in life, you get to be pragmatic. All you can do is love them and give them a Jewish home. After that, you pray. It's a crapshoot. Listen, it happens in biological families too, where children make choices."

Ultimately, the Brauns are optimistic. "I think the children will be mistreated at various points," says Braun, the principal of the day school at a local Reform temple. "But I think the Jewish world is coming around and that there are enough accepting people out there."

Continued on page 2

INSIDE

The CJN's two-part series on adoption concludes with a look what Halachah says and which agencies to call. See page 16.

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Iranian-trained Jihad terrorist captured — please see page 29

From coast to coast

Foreign adoptions open identity issues

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Special Report

Looking 'Jewish'

"That's funny. You don't look Jewish." Is that a refrain an Oriental or black adoptee of Jewish parents can look forward to? Although Judaism is a religion and not a race, most Canadian Jews have rather fixed ideas about who does and doesn't "look" Jewish, despite the fact that conversions and intermarriages have produced blue-eyed, fair-haired and even dark-skinned Jews. And the "who is a Jew" controversy continues to percolate around the world.

With the extreme shortage of babies and young children to adopt within Canada, both through public and private agencies, and the fact that one in five Jewish marriages struggles with infertility, more and more Jewish couples are turning to foreign countries. Today's "hot" markets are China and Russia, but others include South and Central America and the United States.

Adoption in Canada is regulated by the provinces (see part I of this series, *CJN*, April 3, p. B-12). In most jurisdictions, including Ontario, there are three ways to adopt: public agencies; the private route, using licensed practitioners; and going overseas. In Quebec, foreign adoptions are handled by the Secrétariat à l'adoption internationale du Québec, a government agency.

International adoptions can be complex, confusing and expensive. Provincial laws governing adoption, federal immigration rules and the laws of the child's country of origin must be observed for the adoption to be valid.

And foreign adoptions come with their own set of cultural issues. Most adoption counsellors advise prospective adoptive parents of a non-white child to look at the community in which they live. What is its tolerance threshold? What about schools, friends and family? They're cute as babies, but what happens when that beautiful

'Emotionally white'

Costa Rican or Chinese child grows up? Will their three identities (Canadian, Jewish, Chinese) conflict? Or will that black child one day find himself torn between Jewish anti-black prejudice and black anti-Semitism? Will the Russian child lash out at her adoptive parents for robbing her of her original culture?

And what happens when he or she begins to date, a scenario straight out of *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?* wherein even the most liberal Jews would be tested if their son or daughter brought home a black or Vietnamese friend? You can almost hear it: "But Daddy, he's Jewish!"

"Most Jewish families are Caucasian," observes Michaele-Sue Goldblatt, a leading Vancouver-based expert who had a private adoption practice in Ontario for 11 years, adding that most Jewish families want white babies.

To couples considering a foreign adoption in a non-white country, "I used to suggest they look at their larger environment, not only their family and friends. Will the child be truly accepted by the whole Jewish community? Or when that adorable black baby becomes an adult, will other members of the Jewish community say to their children, 'We don't want you to date him'?"

Goldblatt hopes that Jewish families can "positively incorporate" their adopted child's heritage into its upbringing.

Such social issues will "probably" diminish as inter-racial conversions and adoptions become more prevalent, according to Rabbi Michael Gold, author of the breakthrough 1988 book *And Hannah Wept — Infertility, Adoption and the Jewish Couple*. "Yet the problems," he warns, "should not be dismissed lightly by adoptive parents."

Joyce Cohen, a retired professor of social work at the University of Toronto and now an adoption researcher, agrees. "Parents have to be ready to deal with being different. They have to realize that once they bring in a non-white child, they become a mixed-race family. The first thing they have to deal with is whether they *want* to become a mixed-race family."

Issues surrounding identity within multi-ethnic families are much more prevalent in the United States than Canada. (All five Braun children were adopted while the couple lived in the U.S.) According to the National Adoption Study by University of Guelph professors Michael Sobel and Kerry Daly, there were roughly 2,400 foreign adoptions completed in Canada in 1991, compared to the 1,700 children under a year old who were placed locally through Children's Aid societies like Toronto's Jewish Family & Child Service or Montreal's Batshaw Youth and Family Services.

Adopting a child from a foreign country was virtually unheard of until the post-war period. Canada's first wave consisted primarily of children orphaned by World War II and the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam.

The second wave began in 1975 following changes to immigration laws, and brought adoptees mainly from poor countries, including India, Bangladesh, Central and South America and Haiti, and more recently, Romania and China.

In 1994, Cohen and Prof. Anne Westhues of Wilfred Laurier University issued the results of a landmark study on intercountry adoption in Canada. It examined how 155 non-white young people who had been adopted as infants and small children by white (but not Jewish) parents fared in terms of acculturation and identity. The results surprised many.

In a nutshell, the study found that all the adoptees identified themselves as Canadian and, as Cohen puts it, "as white — emotionally."

That's good news and bad news, she explains. "The fact that they identified themselves as emotionally white means they felt they belonged to these families. They had made an attachment.

"The downside is that somewhere along the line, they still had to do some work on the fact that they *looked* different. It means their identities are not yet complete. It means it takes maturity to absorb

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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Vol. XXXVI, No. 49 (2,795)

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Ross ruling gives Jews extra reason to celebrate

By PAUL McKEAGUE
CJN Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The Supreme Court of Canada gave Jews something extra to celebrate at Passover this year.

On the eve of the religious holiday, it ruled unanimously that teachers who express intolerant views toward Jews and other groups can be banned from the classroom.

The decision, which dealt with Malcolm Ross, an anti-Semitic teacher from New Brunswick, emphasizes the responsibility of school boards to ensure children are educated in an environment unpoisoned by prejudice.

As Jews gathered at the seder table to commemorate their liberation from oppression thousands of years ago, they could give thanks that the highest court in the land ruled that "intolerance will not be tolerated," said Bernie Farber, national director of Canadian Jewish Congress.

The ruling closely follows the Supreme Court of Canada's decision against James Keegstra, the anti-Semitic former school teacher from Alberta.

Congress, which took an active role in the Ross case, believes the decision will have a major impact on the interpretation of human rights legislation throughout Canada.

Karen Mock, national director of the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada who were also intervenors in the case, applauded the Supreme Court decision, saying it "promotes human rights and equal opportunity for all students."

But Ross' lawyer, Doug Christie, said the ruling destroys the freedoms of expression and religion.

"This judgment eliminates freedom of expression for anyone in a position where they could be a role model, and that doesn't just mean teachers," he said. "It could apply to doctors, policemen, certainly judges, lawyers [and] professors."

Christie said all religions are discriminatory" because they claim to be the truth even though their beliefs on questions like the divinity of Christ contradict other religions.

"When you say you cannot preach, hold or express a religious opinion that is discriminatory, you are in effect saying you cannot hold or express a religious opinion at all," Christie maintained.

While teaching in the Moncton area, Ross wrote books, pamphlets and letters to newspapers claiming that Christian civilization was being destroyed by a global Jewish conspiracy.

In 1988, David Attis, a Jew from Moncton, filed a complaint with the Human Rights Commission of New Brunswick.

Attis maintained that the school board was condoning Ross' behavior and violating the Human Rights Act by failing to take appropriate action in response to his racist and bigoted public statements.

A human rights board of inquiry found no evidence that Ross had expressed his anti-Jewish views inside the classroom, but they were well-known in the community.

And the board heard evidence that Jewish students faced intimidation and derogatory name-calling. It was told that other students did the Heil Hitler salute and drew swastikas on their own arms, on the desks of Jewish children and on blackboards.

The human rights board ordered that Ross be barred from the classroom, although it said he could be given a non-teaching position in the school system.

But the matter went to the Supreme Court after the Court of Appeal ruled that the ban violated Ross' rights to freedom of expression and freedom of religion.

The Supreme Court agreed that Ross' rights had been infringed, but it concluded this was justifiable because he was poisoning the school system with intolerance and prejudice.

"Young students are especially vulnerable to the messages conveyed by their teachers," Justice Gerard LaForest wrote.

The ruling will allow Ross to keep his current position as a school librarian, a job that is threatened by downsizing in the New Brunswick school system. Ross can also continue to publish his views.

But Farber served notice that Congress will be watching his statements very closely. If any of them fit the strict definition of hate propaganda, Congress will ask the attorney general of New Brunswick "to lay the proper charges," he said.

JNF launches new Negev development

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Jewish National Fund (JNF), in cooperation with the Jewish Agency and the Ministry of Agriculture, has launched a major development plan in Israel's last frontier, the Negev Desert.

The two-part plan, whose broad objective is to prepare the Negev for the 21st century, is expected to cost about $400 million (US) during the first phase and upward of $150 million (US) in the second, disclosed JNF chair Moishe Rivlin in an interview.

Here recently to address a JNF dinner, Rivlin said the chief aim of Action Plan: Negev, as it is formally known, is to enlarge the agricultural export sector.

"We intend to develop 50,000 to 60,000 acres, and in Israel that's a lot," observed Rivlin, a seventh-generation sabra. "We are champions in the world in dealing with arid and semi-arid zones."

Calling the Negev the "future of Israel," Rivlin said the plan will bring citrus groves, olive plantations, fish ponds and hothouses to Israel's largest land reserve.

And if the plan — which is already a year ahead of schedule — is successful, it could double the number of settlements in the Negev.

Rivlin said that more settlers will be attracted to the hot and dusty Negev once they are persuaded they can earn a good living there.

In the initial phase, 40 percent of the costs are expected to be borne by Jews in the Diaspora, 40 percent by the Israeli government and 20 percent by the settlers themselves.

When that stage is completed in three years from now, Rivlin wants private investors to become involved.

Ultimately, the success of the plan hinges not only on fundraising efforts, but on Israel's ability to extract more water from the Negev through drilling and a system of reservoirs and dams.

Interestingly enough, the plan is vitally dependent on cooperation from Jordan, which signed a peace treaty with Israel in October 1994.

According to Rivlin, Israel and Jordan intend to build three to four dams in the Arava, which extends from the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Eilat.

And in line with an ambitious land reclamation project, Israel plans to use salt-free Jordanian soil on its side of the boundary.

Rivlin said it costs 10 to 20 times more to develop land in the Negev than in the rest of Israel.

He also noted that 40 percent of the JNF's afforestation efforts are concentrated in the Negev. "We plant about three million new trees annually."

Rivlin acknowledged that a disproportionate amount of the Negev is at present utilized by the Israeli armed forces for bases and training purposes. He hopes the military will find a way of giving up some of its reserves to farmers.

Moishe Rivlin

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Pessimistic appraisals painted of peace process

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In what must have been one of the most pessimistic appraisals of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process yet presented in Toronto, two speakers took turns sounding alarm bells about an imminent disaster facing Israel.

Author Rael Jean Isaac and defence analyst Frank Gaffney Jr. pulled no punches, painting a picture of a Labor-led government of Israel rushing headlong to disaster.

The occasion was a program to discuss The Arafat Tapes, recordings of speeches given by the Palestinian leader to Arab audiences in Gaza and the West Bank over the last two years.

Presented at the start of the program, the speeches are replete with inflammatory rhetoric and references to jihad (holy war), struggles and victory. On several occasions, Arafat refers to a tactical alliance made by the prophet Mohammed with the Quresh tribe that he abrogated two years later when the military equation turned in his favor.

Israelis have an inordinate capacity for self delusion and are providing Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat with a territorial base for a "final solution," said Isaac, a public policy commentator and author of two books on Israeli politics.

Arafat has not abandoned his goal of destroying the State of Israel and holds that aim in common with Hamas, the militant Islamic group, she said. It is that common desire that has brought them together in a tactical alliance and subsumed their differences, she said.

The peace process is "a sham" and the PLO retains its 1974 program of destroying Israel in phases, she said.

For the Labor-led government of Israel, withdrawing from the "burden" of occupying Judea, Samaria and Gaza is more important than real peace. The Oslo agreement provides no quid pro quo from the Palestinians, as the PLO "doesn't promise anything. It just agrees to take what Israel gives," Isaac said.

"[Peres] is a man in the grip of a vision," who believes that with the end of the Cold War, war itself has been made obsolete.

"Peres believes he knows where the forces of history are going and they're going to Utopia." He doesn't allow contrary evidence to sway him from his beliefs and he has predicted that by the year 2000, there will be peace in the Mideast including with Hamas and Islamic Jihad, she said with incredulity.

"Peres lives in the world of delusions," she added.

The peace process has harmed Israel greatly, she continued. It has created rifts in Israeli society and demoralized Jews living outside Israel's pre-1967 borders; it has prevented the Israeli government from protecting its citizens from attacks that originate in areas under Palestinian control; it has undermined the state's core values and ties to Jewish history; and by turning over territories to Arafat, "the greatest killer of Jews since Hitler," it has reversed Israel's historic and symbolic opposition to terrorism.

Short of a revival of Israel's Zionist spirit, the "long-term outlook is bleak indeed," she said.

Gaffney, who described himself as a "friend of Israel," agreed that Israel is rushing to disaster. The tapes are full of "coded references" to the PLO's 1974 program of phased destruction of Israel. The Palestinian Authority (PA), headed by Arafat, and Hamas have agreed not to attack each other, but "attacks against Israel are okay" if they're from areas outside the PA's control, he said.

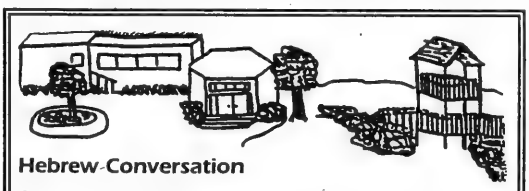
Arafat has visited the mothers of suicide bombers, "a signal, a sign" to the Palestinian people, said Gaffney, director for the Centre for Security Policy in Washington and a former U.S. assistant secretary of defence.

Turning to Hafez al-Assad, Gaffney pointed out that the Syrian leader still harbors many terrorists and is conducting economic warfare on the United States by "the wholesale counterfeiting of American currency."

The Golan Heights remain key to Israel's strategic depth even in the age of guided missiles and he warned against placing U.S. troops on the Heights in lieu of Israelis. The United States has let Israel down before, he said.

There are problems for which there are no easy solutions. If the alternative to the peace process is the intifada, survivors of the Holocaust know there are worse things than that, he concluded.

The program, attended by several hundred people at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, was sponsored by One Israel and the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association in conjunction with Herut-Likud Canada, Mizrachi Organization of Canada, National Conference of Synagogue Youth and Betar/Tagar.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YOUTH HELPING YOUTH

Bialik Hebrew Day School class 6C's project to fund scholarships to send deprived teenages to Na'amat Toronto Vocational High School in Hadera, Israel has paid off. Students Rebecca Hamovitch and J.D. Peikes present a giant cheque to Na'amat Toronto president Esther Rodzynek.

March of Living teens put songs to tape

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's not uncommon for teenage participants in the March of the Living (MOL) to share their experience when they return.

Some take a public speaking role, talking about what they learned and how they felt on joining other Jewish students from a myriad of countries to visit concentration camp sites and march — Israeli flags in hand — from Auschwitz to Birkenau, before finishing the trip in Israel.

Mike Anklewicz, 19, chose to share his experience on the 1994 March in a different way. Now a first-year student in the classical music program at Queen's University, Anklewicz has put together an audio cassette that includes six of his original songs and a seventh written by Robert Gasner. The tape also includes traditional songs like *Ma Tovu*, which were often sung by participants.

Entitled *Back to Life: The 1994 March of the Living*, the tape features Anklewicz and the MOL choir — Anklewicz, Audrey Kaufman, David Phillips, Emma Sevitt, Myles Steiner, Limore Twena and Albina Veltman. Aside from Kaufman, a chaperone on the trip, all choir members are students from the Toronto contingent.

Back to Life is not to be confused with *Songs for the March of the Living 1996*, produced as a teaching tool by program staff for Ontario participants in this year's March.

Anklewicz's tape, released last fall, was privately funded. Profits will be donated to the March of the Living.

A prolific songwriter, Anklewicz wrote *There is Life Here*, the second song on the tape, on his first night in Poland.

To the best of Anklewicz and local March co-ordinators' knowledge, the tape is a unique venture.

"It's just incredible the initiative that one of the participants took in putting this together," said Chaia Berkowitz, 1994 coordinator for the Toronto contingent of the March.

Back to Life is available at Matana Judaica, Negev Book and Gift Store and Israel's in Thornhill, or call Noam Samson at 416-633-8992.

Terrorism's goal to destroy peace process, says Rubin

TORONTO — Terrorism is not a result of the peace process but an attack on the peace process, and its ultimate aim is the destruction of the State of Israel, a leading American peace advocate said recently.

Addressing the annual meeting of Canadian Friends of Peace Now at the Primrose Club, Gary Rubin, CEO and executive director of Americans for Peace Now, told his audience that terrorism began long before the Oslo accords.

Citing statistics, he said that between 1969 and 1985, there were more than 8,000 terrorist attacks, in which over 650 Israelis, mostly civilians, were killed.

Rubin, who led a 20-member delegation to monitor the Palestinian elections in January, just returned from Israel where he attended the funeral of the son of a leading Peace Now supporter in Israel; the young man had been killed in a recent suicide bombing.

"The peace process is integral to combatting terrorism in the long term, and essential to the future well-being of both Israelis and Palestinians," he said.

He placed the onus for combating terrorism on Yasser Arafat and his newly elected Palestinian National Council.

Specifically, he outlined four key demands of the Peace Now movement in Israel.

- The arrest, punishment and detention of all Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorist leaders identified by the Israeli government. (He said seven of the 13 named by Israel had so far been arrested, but this was not good enough.)
- Full disarmament of all independent Palestinian militias wherever they may be. (Forty-one institutions, including mosques, health clinics and the Islamic University in Gaza, have been raided and closed where arms caches have been found, but more should be, he said.)
- Prosecution and punishment of Palestinians who support and assist terrorists.
- Abrogation by May 7 of all the clauses in the PLO Covenant which violate the spirit of the Oslo accords.

Rubin urged continued international funding for Palestinians, in order to allow them to build required economic infrastructure, as well as to take over those health, social and educational services provided by Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

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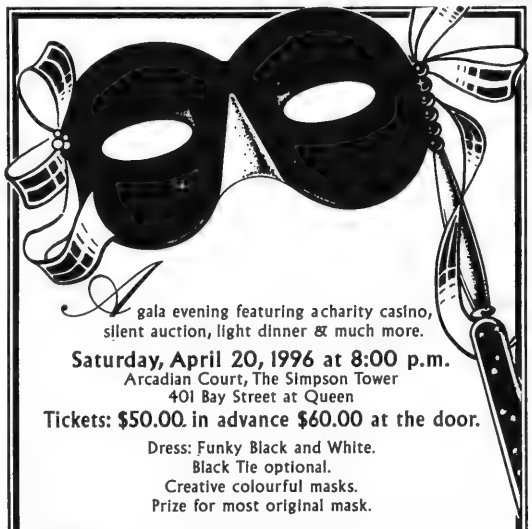

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Educational program brings Jewish, Arab youth together

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Shuli Dichter suggests, only half-jokingly, that even Canada can learn a lesson or two from the innovative educational program he directs in Israel.

Getting them while they're young, the two-year program, compulsory in two dozen Israeli schools, teaches Jewish and Arab teenagers how to live together in a society filled with tension.

The point of Children Teaching Children is that Arab-Jewish coexistence is possible, even as the political ground continues to shift, and even if the entire framework is threatened by suicide bombers.

It began as an experiment in which Jewish and Arab kids taught Hebrew and Arabic to each other (hence its name). That worked for a year, but the results weren't as hoped for.

Undaunted, organizers pressed ahead, committed to the ideal that children are uniquely equipped to engage in a dialogue unencumbered by the suspicion and misinformation their parents may harbor.

The program was approved by Israel's Education Ministry in 1987, and today, Children Teaching Children works in 38 classes in 24 schools, mainly in Israel's northern and central regions.

Some 80 specially-trained teachers instruct over 1,300 students in conflict resolution and life skills, using ice-breakers like art, drama and role-playing. The goal is to use the kids' Israeli citizenship as a common ground for mutual acceptance of both Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel.

For two hours a week, the students, mainly in grades 7, 8 and 9 and in groups of 12 to 15, learn to appreciate what Dichter calls "different approaches to life. The kids learn a basic understanding of the legitimacy of their differences. They get a good sense and grounding of their own identity."

This isn't a cross-cultural experience, stressed Dichter, here recently on a fundraising trip. With few exceptions, Israeli Arabs and Jews live apart in homogeneous communities and almost never meet. University is usually the first place where Jews and Arab. encounter one another and by then, prejudices and stereotypes are often set, he said.

Shuli Dichter

But given that 18 percent of Israel proper's population is Palestinian, living in the Jewish state requires special skills. The two sides, Dichter said, "learn to stop seeing the other as the villains. They deal with their fears."

There are no textbooks and no written rules. The teachers are trained in twice-yearly workshops and work with several field coordinators. Classes from Jewish and Arab schools are paired for the length of the program, with students and teachers meeting each other regularly throughout the school year. The sessions, Dichter said are often "high-voltage." Kids express themselves freely within the safe confines of a classroom.

Children Teaching Children is a project of Givat Haviva, founded in 1949 and today Israel's largest and oldest organization advancing Jewish-Arab rapprochement and pluralistic values. Each year, some 40,000 people take part in Givat Haviva's educational programs.

Dichter, a one-time youth and hechalutz *shaliach* in Toronto, pointed out that Children Teaching Children has been studied by conflict-resolution experts in Northern Ireland, Belgium and Switzerland.

But there's more to the conflict in Israel than the one between Arabs and Jews, he added. The program also encourages dialogue between secular Jewish teens and their counterparts in yeshivot, as well as exchanges between Israeli Arab youth and young West Bank and Gaza Arabs.

The program is apolitical, Dichter stressed. "We don't preach peace or passive non-violence. We think about the future."

BONDS LUNCHEON

Anne Golden (left) will be the featured guest speaker at a sponsor luncheon for State of Israel Bonds' Women's Division on May 1 at noon. To celebrate Jerusalem 3000, the International Bonds Women's Division will be honoring outstanding women in each community who have earned a place in Jewish history. Wendy Eisen, community leader and Soviet Jewry activist, will be honored at a luncheon at Beth Tzedec Congregation.

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Parents urged to discuss sexuality with teens

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Parents and educators should encourage discussions with teens about sex, sexuality and the role they play in Judaism, says Rabbi Mitchell Cohen, director of Camp Ramah.

"To miss the opportunity of sharing what Judaism has to say about these matters is to miss a great opportunity to make Judaism an even more important part of their lives," he said at a recent lecture sponsored by the AIDS committee of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. The lecture was the second of three aimed at various age groups and sectors of the community.

Rabbi Cohen, who has developed a curriculum for teaching Jewish ethics to parents and educators, has initiated a series of lessons at Camp Ramah geared towards staff and 15- and 16-year-old campers. He told the group of adults and teenagers that sexual and social decision-making can be quite stressful.

"There is a dilemma in Judaism. We are working within a halachic system that prohibits sexual relations outside of marriage, but we do know that changes have altered Halachah. The standards for sexual behavior were promulgated at a time when the average age of marriage was 14 or 15 years old.

"The dilemma occurs when we talk to Jewish parents who say they want their kids to get married when their education is complete. What, then, do we tell kids to do with their bodies between the ages of 15 and 23? There is a problem in applying halachic standards to modern sociological conditions."

Within the proper context, says Rabbi Cohen, sex can be wonderful and it is up to adults to talk to teenagers about what is the proper context.

"Jewish philosophy differs from Christianity in that in Judaism our physical drives are not negative. Eating, sex and economics can either be wonderful or lead to sin. The healthy message to communicate is that sex is not bad, dirty or wrong."

Rabbi Cohen's curriculum teaches that sexuality plays a role in the lives of teenagers and that Judaism must be relevant when making sexual decisions.

"If Jewish tradition is important, then Jewish values should be important. It is pointless to say that Judaism is important but not with regards to sexuality.

"Even if one disagrees with the Jewish tradition of having sex only in marriage, Judaism can still be relevant. We should tell these kids that even though they disagree, they can choose levels within which they are comfortable. It is important to learn what Judaism has to say and draw out the lessons we can learn."

People must be responsible when making sexual decisions and never allow the heat of the moment to violate their own standards, he stresses.

"Teens need to speak to others and get the message that the permanence of marital relations makes the concept of sex more legitimate. It is important to teach young people that they have to create standards and stick to them. Society creates pressures on teens but these pressures should be seen as a challenge and decisions should not be made because of pressure."

He says that health and safety are only the first level of responsible sex. "We must also be concerned with respect for partners. It is not enough to teach kids to use condoms. That is important, but it is also important to go beyond that level. We do not want to see people engage in casual sex.

"Ethical behavior means mutual desire and readiness. If one needs to be convinced, that is coercive, which is against Jewish values. If sexuality is important, then we must allow Jewish ethics to influence our decision-making."

When asked how early parents should talk to their teens about sex, Rabbi Cohen said it is important to talk openly at all ages. "Then young people will feel that they can talk to us. Bar mitzvah age is a wonderful time to start discussions about sexuality. I do not believe that talking about sex encourages young people to take part in it at an earlier age."

SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT

United Synagogue Bayview campus grade 8 student Lee-Ann Shulman demonstrates her science fair project on crystals prepared for the annual grade 7 and 8 science fair which focuses on experimental science. Exhibitors present their experiments to the school during the day and in the evening invite family and friends to take part.

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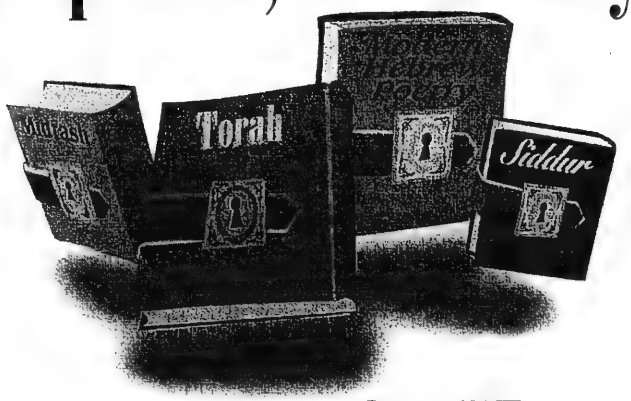

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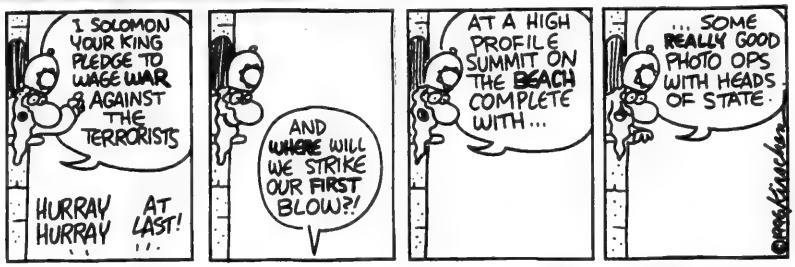
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Yom Hashoah

The 27th day of Nisan this year falls on April 16.

Yom Hashoah v'Hagvurah is commemorated on that day because it is considered to be the day when the resistance in the Warsaw ghetto, led by a small courageous group, mostly youngsters, spread into a general uprising.

In truth however, the Shoah, the Holocaust, is a word without meaning. It is a wound left agape in the Jewish soul for all time. It cannot be "understood;" it cannot be closed and it can never be healed. The dimension of the evil perpetrated upon the Jewish people and upon all of humankind exceeds human comprehension in the manner that the oceans exceed a brook or the mountains exceed a hilltop.

The single human being cannot truly comprehend and register death, let alone torture, cruelty and barbarity, on a macro level. We were not intended to. Otherwise how are we to understand the rabbinic decree that even a single life is an entire universe of love and goodness and unique possibility all its own?

But, how can we — single human beings, part of the Jewish people, and part of the community of decent, civilized humanity — not comprehend the full horror of what was done and what was lost in the Shoah? In the faces of our parents, the survivors, we can only glimpse at what it was. But in the faces of our children we can see it with the clarity of full truth.

When the night-time darkness is at its fullest depth, and we look heavenward far into the black eternity, we are overcome with numbing grief and heartbreaking sadness to realize that even the stars that we can count in the vast sky are fewer than the number of children that were murdered by the Nazis.

V'hagvurah

The Nazis entered the Warsaw ghetto in an armored column on Passover eve 5703, April 19, 1943. They met with resistance, were beaten back and retreated with heavy casualties. They struck again and again and again. But after each attack they were beaten back. Eventually, they destroyed and razed to the ground every building in the ghetto.

The battle in the Warsaw ghetto lasted officially for more than six weeks. At the end of May 1943, the Nazi commander in charge of the *"aktion"* declared success. But as Yehuda Bauer, the eminent Israeli historian has noted, "fighting continued in the ruins of the ghetto. We have testimonies which speak of shooting in the ghetto area even as late as October, and very reliable evidence for such occurrence in September. In any case it is clear that the fighting went on for many weeks. We do not even know who did the fighting ..."

It is not likely that there were more than 750 Jewish fighters in the ghetto. As Bauer writes: "This was a great uprising ... the few against the many ... the war fought by these people was conducted for the sake of vengeance on the mass murderers, for the defence of Jewish national honor and for the future. This was an important factor in the whole battle: to let the Jewish people know that Jews had been there, that Jews knew and that Jews fought ..."

The last testimony of Mordechai Anielewicz, the young leader who perished in the uprising, is eloquent proof of Bauer's observation. "The dream of my life has become true. Jewish self-defence in the Warsaw ghetto has become a fact. Jewish armed resistance and revenge have become a reality."

When the night-time darkness is at its fullest depth, and we look heavenward far into the black eternity, trying to comprehend the meaning of the Shoah, overcome with grief and sadness, we must seek and find our courage in the *g'vurah*, the heroism of the few, who, in every generation of Jewish history, fought against the many for the sake of their children and their parents to build a better world.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

If you are afraid, hope will be lost.

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

April 6, 1944 The S.S. Serpa Pinto arrived in Philadelphia carrying 280 Canada-bound refugees, most of them Jews. This was the first of three groups which escaped Europe via Portugal. Their entry was negotiated by Saul Hayes. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Legal aid needed for a just society

The attorney general's claim that despite the cut in funding, his government still spends more on legal aid than any other provincial government in Canada, is not quite accurate. The real issue would be the amount spent on legal aid per person requiring the assistance of counsel. As this government has announced its intention to cut off legal aid certificates after the first 60,000 are issued, the amount thereafter spent per person will be very easy to calculate: zero. Legal representation to those in need must be provided if there is to be any hope for a future just society.

Sloane Hechter
McGill University
Montreal

Peace is good for Israel's economy

It is vital that Israel continues to strive for peace, if it intends to flourish economically. In the last year, Israel's economy grew by more than seven percent. This growth can be largely attributed to the political stability of the region, which is a result of the Middle East peace negotiations. Due to the Israeli peace efforts, the Arab boycott of Israeli goods is crumbling and the markets of Asia and the Far East are also opening to Israeli goods. These exports account for 30 percent of Israeli corporate profits. In addition, the Israeli stock market has also been performing well and was considered one of the best performing markets of last year.

This latest threat to the peace negotiations has caused a tremor to run through the Israeli economy. Since the Hamas suicide bombings, the Mishtanim index of the top 100 blue-chip stocks has fallen by more than one percent. If Israel cannot establish peace it will mean disaster for the economy. It is obvious that Israel has received economic benefits from the peace process. The process needs to be re-established if Israel is to become an economic giant of the Middle East and the world.

Jonathan Kopman
Montreal

Mission was context for Jewish history

Having recently returned from UIA's Canada 3000 Mission to Israel, I feel compelled to publicly acknowledge how superb were its planning and organization.

Planners pulled together a variety of events and experiences for first-timers and veteran visitors alike, infusing us all with heightened pride and awareness of the achievements of Israel in general and the role of Canadian Jews in Israel in particular. From Metulla to Eilat, we bused, hiked across the land, walking through the Judean hills and the desert of the Negev with the Bible as our guide, meeting with Israelis, young and old, religious and secular, supporters and rejectionists of the current peace process, new *olim* and sabras.

We experienced the hope and material progress resulting from the peace process, followed by a series of savage terrorist attacks which plunged everyone into the darkest fear and despair. Perhaps it would be helpful to recall that there have been other dark chapters in Jewish history over which the Jewish people have prevailed and ultimately triumphed. Our mission to Israel put all of this into stark relief.

Beverley Stern
Toronto, Ontario

Outraged at TV show

I am writing this letter because of the outrageous program *Face Off*, shown recently on CBC-TV Newsworld.

Face Off was devoted to the Arab-Israeli peace process in the aftermath of the ghastly suicide bombings. Both hosts, Claire Hoy (who co-authored a book on Victor Ostrovsky about the latter's "exposé" of the Mossad) and Judy Rebick, made opening statements sympathetic to the Palestinians. Rebick also mentioned that the show would feature only the Palestinian side.

The two guests were Rashad Saleh of the local Palestine House and Norman Finkelstein. Both emphasized, outrageously, that it was the Palestinians who were suffering because of "collective punishment," and not the Israelis, victims of grisly suicide bombings. The anguish of the Jews was all but dismissed.

Jacob Mendlovic
Toronto

Looking for Latvian survivors

I am interested in contacting Latvian Holocaust survivors as well as second generation survivors.

Please contact me at the following address:
Steven Springfield, President

Jewish Survivors of Latvia Inc.
74 Short Way
Roslyn Heights, N.Y. 11577

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Mimouna's origins linked to Rambam's family

By SARAH TAIEB-CARLEN

G-d gave the Torah to the people of Israel and the people of Israel have added an important aspect to the law or Halachah, namely, custom or *minhag*.

A *minhag* is based on and connected to a mitzvah, the commandment. Whereas the Halachah is the same for all Jews, the *minhag* varies according to the country; and even within a country, it is often specific to certain communities.

For example, the Halachah enjoins Jews to observe Shabbat and the *minhagim* add ways to honor, beautify and glorify that day. The *minhagim*, however, will not be as universal and uniform for the Jewish world as the positive and negative mitzvot pertaining to the observance of Shabbat.

Minhagim fill the important function of emphasizing the feeling of belonging to a group and of strenthening the emotions of the community by adding a specific character to a holiday, such as what foods to prepare, what foods to avoid and what clothes to wear. (In many Sephardi communities, for example, olives disappear from the table on Shabbat because it is a staple food during the shivah.)

The *minhag*, of course, is mainly oral rather than written, since it is kept and transmitted from generation to generation. Sons and daughters learn them in their parents' home, observe them in their own home and teach them to their sons and daughters. This is also why the *minhag* can be weak. Its preservation often depends on community acceptance and social circumstances.

Today in Israel, for example, with *kibbutz galuyot* (the ingathering of all the Jewish communities of the world), the early immigration policy of the "melting pot," the changes in family structure and size, the prevailing secular character of Israeli education, unisex clothes and people's craving for pizza and hamburger, *minhagim* are sadly and unavoidably at great risk of disappearing altogether.

Among the most distinctive and compelling *minhagim* known to the Sephardi communities of the Machrek and the Magreb (respectively the Middle East and North Africa) is the Mimouna. The theories surrounding its origins are many; two of them are linked to the family of the Rambam (Rabbi Moshe ben Maimon).

One theory states that the devastating news about the death of the Rambam reached the community of Libya, and especially Tripoli, during Passover, but they had to wait until the end of the holiday to have the traditional *seudat avra'ah*, or mourning meal in honor of the Rambam, which they called the Mimouna. Not everyone, however, accepts this explanation since not all the Sephardi communities which traditionally observe this *minhag* heard the sad news at the same time. Moreover, the Mimouna is a happy occasion, whereas *seudat avra'ah*, obviously, is not.

The second explanation linking the Maimon family to the Mimouna is that the Rambam's father died on *isru chag* Pesach, the end of the festival of Pesach. Since we cannot commemorate his *hiloula*, which is a sad event, during the month of Nisan, a month of rejoicing and happiness, then we have the Mimouna instead.

This explanation seems to be more in tune with the general philosophy of the Sephardim not to miss an opportunity to celebrate, especially around the time of religious holidays.

Portraits of the man Moses Maimonides (ben Maimon), known acronymically as the Rambam, after whom, many scholars believe, the Mimouna festival was named. The statue of Maimonides by Victor Laredo is in Cordova, Spain. Inset is the most famous portrait of the Rambam, with his name appearing in his own handwriting.

A third explanation more generally accepted derives from the word *emunah* (belief). We know we were saved from slavery and Pharaoh's cruel treatment in the month of Nisan and we believe our second and last redemption will also occur in that month. Thus, we have a very festive meal and gathering at the end of Pesach to express our optimistic belief in our final redemption in the month of Nisan.

A fourth explanation is that we were not allowed to rejoice and be totally happy without some measure of restraint during Pesach, due to the fact that the Egyptians drowned. G-d asked us to be considerate: "My creations are drowning and you are singing songs of praise to me." (Sanhedrin tractate 39). We heed G-d's injunction to the point that we do not recite the Hallel in its entirety during Pesach, but only half of it. The Sephardim therefore make up for this restraint in enjoyment and merrymaking. by granting themselves an extra occasion to celebrate during the month of Nisan — the Mimouna.

It is customary for young unmarried people to go on a picnic in the country on the first day after Pesach, i.e. on the day of the Mimouna. They are usually accompanied by adults and, according to the folklore, the parents of many a young man on the following day, would ask for the hand of the girl who caught the eye and conquered the heart of their son the day before during the Mimouna outing.

There are quite a few other *minhagim* unrelated to the Mimouna, but linked to Pesach and the month of Nisan.

Nisan is the first month of the Jewish year. On Rosh Chodesh Nisan, the first day of the month, the tabernacle or *mishkan*, built according to Moses' instructions, was inaugurated. To commemorate this important event, the Jews of Libya and Tunisia prepare a flour-like mixture of roasted and very finely ground grains such as barley, wheat, rye and sorghum, and spices such as anise and coriander seeds. The mixture called *bessissa*, smells divine and the children love it. Olive oil, brown sugar and dates are added and the youngest child in the family mixes all these ingredients with a key, preferably a gold one. Everyone gathers around the table to eat the *bessissa* and sing songs of praise and *piyoutim*.

That evening, while lighting the *candil* (heat-proof glass full of water and olive-oil) of Rosh Chodesh, married women drop their wedding bands in it and leave it there overnight. In the morning, when they go to retrieve their ring, they usually find another small piece of gold jewelry in the glass that the husband surreptitiously added overnight. The wife's parting with her wedding band for a night is to remind us that women gladly gave up their jewelry to contribute to the building of the *mishkan* even as most of them had refused to contribute in any way to the making of the golden calf. The husband's gift is in appreciation of his wife's dedication to him, to their family and their religious traditions.

A mitzvah-*minhag* common to all the holidays but done with greater care for Pesach is the cleaning of the synagogue. Benches, cushions and silver memorial lamps were washed and put out in the sun to dry; winter wool carpets were cleaned, rolled away and replaced with fresher straw mats; walls were washed and painted and floors were scrubbed. Women and children would leaf through the books looking for crumbs of bread or any other chametz. This was a very popular *minhag*, because children loved it and families used to compete for the honor of doing it.

One of the central *minhagim* of Pesach dealt with the paschal lamb. A month or so before Pesach, each family would buy a little lamb and keep him in their backyard. For a few weeks, the air would be filled with his bleating and children would get quite attached to their temporary pet, until one morning ... ominous silence! The little lamb, much fatter than on arrival, had been taken to the slaughter house and the *shochet* had done his job. *Pauvre petit agneau!* Every single little piece of him which was ritually fit for consumption would indeed be consumed and his skin would end up on some floor or wall of the house.

Sarah Taieb-Carlen teaches Sociology at York University in Toronto.

Opinions

Out of Mitzrayim

By Jean M. Gerber

With the seders behind me, I reflect on more than 30 years of reading the Haggadah.

My first seder was held in the cramped quarters of a graduate student apartment. What a motley crowd we were: Jews, non-Jews and agnostics, black and white. The Jewish students were homesick for their own seders, even though they knew little beyond the menu. This seder, taking place at the dawn of the civil rights movement in the United States, had more than a touch of polemic just in its very happening. Everyone took away the message of freedom (especially since the apartment in which we celebrated was shared by a black and a Jewish roommate and was not supposed to be rented to blacks). How hopeful we were that the days of discrimination were soon to pass.

Once married, my husband and I began to create our own seder customs, blending traditional ones we attended as newlyweds with the songs our young children learned in Hebrew school. How proud they were when they mastered the Haggadah. They are still the only ones in our family who can sing the final verses to *Chad Gadyah* without stumbling badly.

One year we had a house full of Israelis. The formal seder ended about midnight, but all remained well into the wee small hours to sing every Israeli song we knew, ending with the new anthem, *Jerusalem of Gold*. We were filled with hope that a golden era for the Middle East was about to dawn.

In 1975, we celebrated our seder in Jerusalem, in a country just beginning to recover after the Yom Kippur War. Since we felt obligated to do two seders, we carefully followed the order of the service on the first night up until the grace after meals, at which time the kids had all fallen asleep. Then we came back the next night and concentrated on discussion. During the Hallel, our first born, who by this time had some command of Hebrew, piped up: "If they have ears, why can't they hear? And eyes — why can't they see?" Oh, that teachable moment every parent longs for had finally happened! That story too became a part of the family seder tradition.

Every year we invite students who are far from home. One year we hosted a Jewish football player! He was also an honor student, but this didn't impress our offspring, by now pretty cocky about their Hebrew. "We'll leave him in the dust" they thought.

As we started around the table, each reading in turn, the kids flashed their fluent reading. Then came the student, the most fluent of all. I won't reveal the name of the Ontario day school that should take credit, but he too contributed to our growing seder lore!

One year, when I was 10½ months pregnant, the whole family — including grandparents on both sides — ended up at the rabbi's seder table. The *ba'al haseder* left the room and came back with his travelling pack, to be asked, "Where are you going?" "To Jerusalem!" came the reply. Three generations, three continents and two religions met at that table, sharing the same story of liberation and redemption.

For the past three years, our *chavurah* has celebrated a second seder together. Thirty or more fill the table. We have begun to write a chavurah Haggadah including each year's seder theme and illustrations from the earliest European Haggadah to the Haggadah for the Beni-Israel of India, reflecting the many lands in which the Haggadah is read.

Our first year, each family took a part of the seder and explained it in their own way. We had a playlet with the appropriate characters of Pesach, Matzah and Maror (who was a real misery); an exploration of the perpetually unsettling curse, "Pour out thy wrath upon the nations;" and an announcement that this night was different because an engagement was announced!

Our second year, we took the themes of liberation and redemption. One member recounted their family's redemption from a North African country in the throes of civil war and anti-Semitic outbreaks. Another drew parallels between Zionism as the national liberation movement of the Jews and the Oka crisis as a symbol of the continuing struggle of native communities to redeem themselves from years of poverty and prejudice. A third participant offered a lighthearted look at the liberation of women from their roles as support services and enablers to full membership in human society.

That the Exodus from slavery to freedom can be told in many languages and experiences. That the familiar story can express the universal longing of mankind for liberation as well as the particular story of one people's liberation. That the telling binds Jews together from all corners of the world, yet gives each person a chance to say how she, or he, was and can be redeemed.

Argentinian emigration a bold move

By Arnold Ages

The idea being pursued by a group of Winnipeg business people to encourage Jews from Argentina to emigrate to that western Canadian city is a bold and innovative one.

A delegation from that city toured Buenos Aires recently and, judging from a recent article in the *Jewish Post & News* of Winnipeg, the invitation extended to the Jews of Argentina's capital city, was warmly received.

The idea is a natural one for several reasons. From the Canadian perspective, the migration of Argentinian Jews to Winnipeg would help that city's Jewish community maintain the population level that it needs in the face of a daunting demographic loss due to the exodus of some of the Jewish community's younger members. Winnipeg's Jewish population has remained stable over the past decade but it has not experienced any real growth. The influx of a group of highly trained professionals and entrepreneurs from Argentina would greatly enhance the health of the city and its Jewish population.

The Jews of Buenos Aires constitute one of the most dynamic Jewish communities in the world. An identikit of that community, however sketchily drawn, reveals a fiercely Zionist, secularist and Yiddishist collective in which the cultural values of Judaism have been strongly preserved. The community of 175,000 also has a strong Orthodox and Conservative segment and a rabbinical seminary belonging to the latter movement.

In recent decades, the community in Buenos Aires has been buffeted by anti-Semitic agitation. Argentina, as is well known, was also the terminus for Nazi war criminals who fled Europe at the end or World War II.

During the rule of the generals in the 1970s and 1980s, many of the *desparecidos* the "disappeared ones" — murdered by the then Fascist regime — were Jewish. One prominent Jewish journalist was among those imprisoned on suspicion of Communist activity and he wrote a telling memoir describing the anti-Semitism which his interrogators deployed in their questioning of him. It was during this period that the infamous anti-Semitic slander *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* was available in several Buenos Aires bookstores.

With the rise of Iranian and Muslim fundamentalism the Jews of Argentina have encountered a new menace — anti-Jewish terrorism based on a sadly misguided interpretation of Islam. Argentina and neighboring states are the home of hundreds of thousands of Arabs. The zealotry of a small number of fanatical members of that group led, most people think, in the summer of 1994, to a devastating bombing of a huge Jewish communal institution building in Buenos Aires in which a dozen people were murdered and many others injured.

Despite the presence of mounting evidence linking the bombing to fundamentalist groups, the Argentine government to this day has stonewalled so effectively that to this point not a single individual has been charged with this most heinous crime. This was the second such attack: The first in 1992, destroyed the Israeli Embassy in the city and resulted in the death of 30 people. Since those bombings, Jewish community buildings have resembled an armed camp with barricades and security patrols at all times.

In addition to the specific dangers faced by the Jewish community, Argentina itself has been suffering from both political and economic instability — caused in part by the marital problems of its president — and the lowering of tariffs on a wide variety of consumer goods. The Winnipeg delegation was told, for example, that Jewish merchants in the manufacturing trades, have been seriously damaged by the relaxation of customs duties and the entry of retail giants such as Walmart into the Argentine market.

It is unlikely, of course, that the proposed Argentine immigration would involve more than a few hundred people. The Jews of Buenos Aires are not going to abandon a city and a country which, for the last 100 years, has given them unparalleled opportunities of education, employment, culture and commerce. But even the migration of a small number of Buenos Aires Jews to Winnipeg would be a shot in the arm for that city and for Canada as well.

The Arafat speech

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Three weeks ago, I wrote about a speech that Yasser Arafat was reported to have made on Jan. 30 to a group of Arab diplomats assembled in Stockholm, Sweden (*CJN*, March 14). In this speech, he allegedly made a forecast of Israel's eventual destruction, and did so in the most vivid terms, salted with a generous dose of anti-Semitism ("I have no use for Jews . . . You know how Jews are").

When I first read about it, I was of two minds: not surprised because I continue to suspect Arafat's deeper convictions and have read many of the inflammatory statements he has made to Arab audiences, statements which are frequently hard to reconcile with the peace process; but at the same time surprised, because I do not think Arafat — a cagey political survivor — would throw all caution to the wind. For to have made the alleged speech before as many as 40 people, even if all of them were sworn to secrecy, would have been putting his plans and aspirations at risk. It would take only one person to be indiscreet.

But it now appears highly questionable whether Arafat ever made this speech altogether. If he did not, then I erred by passing it on to my readers, though I was not alone in my inadvertence. Respectable newspapers like the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Washington Times* printed it; Barbara Amiel in *Maclean's* also assumed it to have been said; and even a serious Israeli Newspaper like *Ha'aretz* published an opinion piece about it.

I have since become aware of the murky path by which the information about the speech is said to have travelled. The best I have been able to ascertain with the help of the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) reads something like this: An unnamed individual received the information from an unnamed diplomat who was present. He offered it to *Dagen*, a reputable Swedish newspaper, but the editor turned down the information for lack of corroboration. It first appeared in the *Allgemeiner Journal* (New York) — also without clear attribution to a verifiable source. It was then picked up by a small Norwegian Christian paper, also called *Dagen*, and this coincidence of names led some to believe that it was the Swedish *Dagen* that had published it.

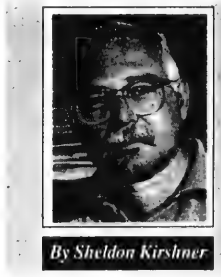
Meanwhile, Arab sources denied that the speech had been made as reported; Israel's ambassador to the United States, Itamar Rabinowich, also doubted it; and most recently *Ha'aretz* reversed itself and carried a column by Akiba Eldar in which he suggested that most likely the whole thing was a plant in order to undermine the peace process. *The Economist* of London appears to take the same view.

To claim that something was said remains rumor if its source is only an anonymous "Deep Throat," an unnamed person whom no one is able to question and who therefore cannot be taken as a serious conduit for so explosive a matter.

However, having said that, I need to add that Arafat remains accountable for his numerous other statements which still await explanation.

The Kirshner File

Anti-Semitism: the world's longest hatred



By Sheldon Kirshner

Violent anti-Semitic attacks increased worldwide last year, prompting the president of the World Jewish Congress, Edgar Bronfman, to remark: "It is disturbing to see the incredible resilience of anti-Semitism."

Yes indeed. Anti-Semitism is a recurrent and pathological phenomenon, profoundly rooted in history.

Just how deep it is may surprise some. Preceding Christianity, anti-Semitism surfaced in ancient Greece and Rome, gained impetus with the formation of Christian theology, bled into popular European folklore and reached its apotheosis in this century in supposedly the most advanced of countries, Germany.

Having spread its tentacles to non-Christian societies, anti-Semitism is probably the most persistent societal disease in the universe. It may wax and wane, but it never disappears, as Edgar Bronfman incredulously observed.

Several years ago, the scholar Robert Wistrich produced a sweeping analysis of anti-Semitism, tracing its roots from pagan civilizations to modern times. The book, *Anti-Semitism: The Longest Hatred* (Pantheon, $15 US), was recently published in a paperback edition.

Wistrich, a professor of history at the University of London and the Hebrew University, deserves praise. Comprehensive yet succinct, *Anti-Semitism: The Longest Hatred* may well be the finest one-volume treatment of this perennial subject.

Leaving no stone unturned, Wistrich fixes his penetrating gaze on a panoply of topics, ranging from the Crusades and the Spanish Inquisition to the rise of anti-Semitism in Islamic lands.

Three centuries before the Christian era, pagan anti-Semitism surfaced in Hellenistic culture, driven by the desire of the Jews to remain a separate people. Anti-Semitism drew sustenance from resentment that Jews refused to acknowledge the gods of their neighbors, partake in their sacrifices and eat, drink and intermarry with them. Charges that the Jews were exclusivist are found in the writings of Seneca, Juvenal and Cornelius Tacitus.

Popular outbreaks of violence in the first centuries of Christianity resulted in the burning of synagogues. Yet, as Wistrich notes, Jews fared relatively well under Charlemagne and his successors. As the only non-Christian group of any significance permitted to practise their faith in early medieval Europe, they were able to lead a tolerated, though limited, existence.

To Wistrich, the decisive turning point was the First Crusade (1096), which triggered massacres hitherto unprecedented in Jewish-Christian relations. He estimates that in Germany and France one-quarter to one-third of the Jewish population was wiped out in pogroms.

Church doctrine reinforced the animus. The Augustinian credo that "the Jew is the slave of the Christian" had its effect, as did canonical legislation of the Fourth Lateran Council (1215).

Apart from these restrictions, the Talmud came under attack as a symbol of Jewish blasphemy against Christianity. Stereotypes, notably the Jew as a usurer, surfaced. Jews became associated with banking and the parasitical exploitation of the Christian peasantry. In medieval art, Jews were portrayed as agents of Satan. The fantasy of ritual murder, which arose in England, burdened Jews with yet another handicap.

To this, during the Black Plague which ravished Europe between 1347 and 1360, was added one more calumny — that Jews, in their quest to eradicate Christianity, poisoned wells.

Edgar Bronfman

Interestingly enough, the ecclesiastical authorities did not endorse and usually combatted these myths. But the papacy was ambivalent at best with respect to its attitude toward Jews. The church forbade forced baptism and interference with Jewish festivals and desecration of Jewish cemeteries. On the other hand, it supported distinctive dress codes that rendered Jews pariahs and deplored Jewish obstinacy in refusing to acknowledge Jesus as their savior.

As Wistrich reminds us, this blend of limited tolerance and restrictive legislation was ultimately aimed at converting the Jews. Segregation (in the form of ghettos) and repression, it was hoped, would break the back of stubborn Jewish resistance to conversion.

In his discussion of the Inquisition, Wistrich raises an important point. Conversions were widespread in Spain, elevating conversos to prominent positions. But by the 15th century, anti-converso feeling had swelled, fed by a new kind of anti-Semitism which held that Jewish blood was basically tainted. This was the origin of racist anti-Semitism, which reemerged with a vengeance in the 19th century and was appropriated by the Nazis.

Surprising as it may be, the Enlightenment did not spare Jews. The philosophers of that period rejected deicide, but held Jews responsible for crimes and perversities committed in the name of monotheistic religion. Thus, Voltaire repeated the canard that Jews were the "enemies of mankind."

Atheistic radicals, like the Young Hegelian Bruno Bauer, depicted Judaism as a fossilized religion, based on superstition and obscurantism, whose diety was cruel, vengeful and egotistical.

Wistrich notes that the racist trend in anti-Semitism appeared in an age of formal equality when Jews had emerged as dangerous competitors in the liberal professions. Racism had obvious attractions, replacing ghetto walls with immutable biological criteria that the Nazis found irresistible.

A new variant of anti-Semitism, based on anti-capitalism, found its voice in Karl Lueger, the first democratic politician in Europe to triumph on an explicitly anti-Jewish platform. Elected mayor of Vienna in 1897, he provided the first model for Hitler's own war against the Jews.

Wistrich devotes the last third of his book to the relationship between Jews and Muslims. He neither accepts the rosy view that Jews lived under idyllic conditions in the Islamic world nor, at the other extreme, that they were consistently mistreated by Islam.

When tolerance prevailed, Jews registered advances in economic prosperity and even some political influence. But all too often, their lives were punctuated by misery, humiliation and persecution. The litany of violence is recorded on pages 205 to 206. It dwarfs the magnitude of the Holocaust, but is nevertheless instructive.

The Arab-Israeli dispute has exacerbated the incidence of anti-Semitism in the Middle East, particularly among Islamically-inclined Palestinians who support fundamentalist groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad. But anti-Semitism has spilled into every corner of the Arab world, even into places no longer inhabited by Jews.

Regrettably, the world's oldest virus is resistant to all cures.

YOM HASHOAH V'HAGVURAH

Monday, April 15, 1996

כז ניסן תשנ"ה

7:00 p.m.
ASSEMBLY
at
Yad Vashem
Holocaust Memorial
Earl Bales Park,
North York

7:30 p.m.
Toronto
March of the Living
along Bathurst Street
to Synagogue

8:00 p.m.
COMMEMORATIVE
PROGRAM
at
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda
Synagogue
100 Elder Street,
North York

COMMUNITY EVENT
Canadian Society For Yad Vashem and
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue

Following the assembly, shuttle buses will be available from Earl Bales Park to Beth Emeth and return to Earl Bales Park.

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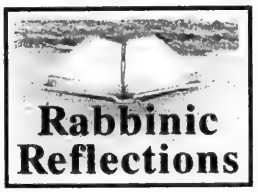

Sounds of silence

By RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS

One of the powerful monuments of the Torah occurs in this week's Parshat Shemini. However, you can't quote it because nothing was said.

The Torah describes the tragic death of Nadav and Avihu, the two sons of Aaron. Caught in a religious frenzy, they had entered the Tent of Meeting improperly and were consumed by fire, as Aaron, their father stood watching.

Immediately following this tragic moment, Moses said to Aaron, the bereaved Aaron, with his two sons dead in front of him, "This is what HaShem has said: 'I will be made Holy through those who are close to Me.' " Aaron responded with silence.

This moment of Aaron's silence is one of those dramatic moments of the Torah. Faced with the tragic death of his sons, Aaron sat silent. Rashi comments that Aaron was rewarded for his silence. This silence was a great moment.

Aaron's silence can be understood to be the stoic acceptance of Divine justice, the acceptance that the death of his sons was HaShem's doing and whatever HaShem does he will accept.

However, in a broader sense we can learn an important lesson as to the value of silence. Sometimes silence is the most powerful moment. Sometimes nothing is the best thing to say.

For a musician this is certainly true — the proper pause creates tension and anticipation and gives shape to the music. In conversation, silence and the proper pause can sometimes convey the very thing we want to say — I want you to continue to speak, so I will sit silent so you may continue.

When comforting others in their moment of grief or pain, the spoken word is often destructive and detrimental for it tends to trivialize the moment. The Shulchan Aruch in fact states exactly that, in the laws of mourning — the comforter should wait for the mourner to begin to speak and should not began the conversation.

Often the conversations at shivah homes are torturous to the mourner — they have lost a loved one and everyone is talking about such trite and insignificant things.

When *lashon hora*, negative talk about others, is being spoken, silence will close the conversation. No one wants to talk to themselves; so if we don't participate and say nothing, the conversation will die.

In this week's chapter in Pirkei Avot, Chapter 1, Mishna 17, Rabbi Shimon ben Gamliel emphasizes this point: "My whole life I have grown up amongst chachamim and I never found anything as good for you as silence."

Rabbi Shimon's father was the Nasi, the leader of the Jewish people. The people around Rabbi Shimon were very substantive people. Yet the best thing in his mind was silence. If you listen you hear, if you're talking you aren't listening.

One of the truly powerful moments of the Torah cannot be quoted because it contains no words, only silence. We would do well to learn the lesson of silence.

Rabbi Tradburks is the spiritual leader of Kehillat Shaarei Torah in Toronto.

Shir Lashalom...a national hymn

By DONNIE FRIEDMAN
Special to The CJN

The song *Shir Lashalom* has evolved through several incarnations. Once an "underground" song, one that was actually banned from Israeli radio for many years, it became an anthem of the Israeli peace movement. Today it is an internationally known eulogy to the memory and vision of Yitzhak Rabin.

On the lips of Rabin before he was gunned down, its words bloodied by the assassin's bullet, the song has achieved a symbolic, almost mystical dimension, and has been elevated to the status of a national hymn.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut correctly pointed out in a recent *CJN* column that the song is fiercely secular. Prayer is futile, says the songwriter, Yaakov Rothblit. The victims of war are gone and forever buried in the dust. And for the sake of those "whose light is extinguished," as well as for future generations, we must dedicate ourselves to peace. Action for peace, not prayer, not recitations of psalms, the poet implies, is the fittest memorial.

Canadians my be reminded of a similar poem, in which the voices of the dead are also invoked, *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae, written in the late days of World War I and recited every year on Remembrance Day. Like the Israeli poet, McCrae calls upon the dead to speak to those left behind.

But legacy of McCrae's fallen soldiers is quite different from that of those invoked by Rothblit. The victims of World War I in McCrae's poem exhort us to "take up our quarrel with the foe." Indeed, unless the living do so, the souls of the dead "shall not sleep, though poppies grow/In Flanders fields."

Shir Lashalom is likewise an elegy, a lament for the dead. In the Hebrew poem, although the sun shines to end the long night, the voices are those of the fallen victims of war. Instead of calling upon us to take up the quarrel, however, their legacy is a call to lay down arms. (Literally: "Lift up your eyes with hope, but not in order to aim through gunsights.")

One can readily understand why this song was once regarded as subversive. Long before the peace process became government policy in Israel, the poet of *Shir Lashalom* put into the mouths of fallen soldiers and civilians the declaration of a controversial political position. Insensitive? Inflammatory? Or prophetic?

In undertaking a singable English rendition, I was cautioned that it would be wise to soften some of the lines referring to the futility of prayer. Interestingly, Rabbi Plaut, in his column, deplored exactly this sort of distortion of the Hebrew in an existing English translation.

Although the poet would perhaps not share this belief, both prayers and acts are essential to the song for peace.

SHIR LASHALOM

Let the sun shine through the darkness
Brighten up the morn,
Purest words of all your prayers
Can never bring us home.

We whose light will shine no more
Are buried in the dust.
All your bitter cries and tears
Cannot disturb our rest.

Not a soul can bring us back
From deep within the ground,
No hymn can reach us,
Revelry of victories,
Of these we hear no sound.

So let us sing out,
Sing out for peace,
Let prayer turn into song.
It's time to sing out,
Sing out for peace
With voices loud and strong.

Let the sun shine through the blossoms,
By its rays be blessed.
Don't forever look behind us,
Let the fallen rest.

Cast your eyes ahead with hope
And sing forevermore,
Taking aim, with voices raised,
At love instead of war.

Don't just say the day will come,
We've waited far too long,
It's not a dream,
For all our voices fill the squares
And peace is now our song.

Lyrics: Y. Rothblit; Music: Y. Rosenblum; English adaptation: Donnie Friedman (based on a translation by Yitzchak Argamán).

Jewish Life

Internet sites help to understand Holocaust

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Zachor. For the survivors of the Holocaust, zachor (remember) has become the universal plea and command to the world not forget those who were destroyed by the Nazis and their accomplices.

Yom Hashoah, the day set aside to remember the destruction of European Jewry, will be observed on Tuesday. Fortunately, there is no shortage of sites on the Internet created to remember and attempt to understand the Holocaust.

Today I will look at Internet sites dealing with the Shoah. I will address the issues of Holocaust denial and modern anti-Semitism in future columns. Understandably, some of these sites have very disturbing text and images. If you have younger children who surf the Web, you may want to explain to them what they are about to see.

The Cybrary of the Holocaust **[http://www.best.com:80/~mddunn/cybrary/]** is a good starting point.

This large and impressive site looks at all aspects of the Holocaust and includes an education forum where students and teachers worldwide can share their experiences, research and findings. There is also an area for children of survivors and essays on such topics as The Music of the Holocaust.

Many institutions devoted to Holocaust memorial and research have set up their own web sites:

The Simon Wiesenthal Centre and Museum of Tolerance operates a large and well-designed site **[http://www.wiesenthal.com/]** which looks at prejudice and hatred in general and at the Holocaust in detail.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Internet site **[http://www.ushmm.org/]** includes a Brief History of the Holocaust, an essay on Children and the Holocaust and an Annotated Videography on the Shoah.

The Anne Frank House in Amsterdam has a page at **[http://www.channels.nl/annefran.html]** but Anne Frank Online **[http://www.annefrank.com/]** is not yet complete. When it is, it promises to be a comprehensive source of information about the young girl who has captivated generations with the diary of her years in hiding.

Perhaps the most famous Holocaust remembrance institution is Yad Vashem **[http://yvs.shani.net/]** which was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. This modest site takes a brief look at some of Yad Vashem's facilities and displays.

And here in Canada, you can visit both Vancouver's Holocaust Education Centre at **[http://hoshi.cic.sfu.ca/~specstate/vhec.html]** and the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of Toronto **[http://www.feduja.org/puzzled/progserv/hrc.stm]**.

Sometimes more than the written word is needed to help explain the enormity of the Holocaust. Here are some sites that use photographs and art to tell the story of the Shoah.

The Holocaust Pictures Exhibition **[http://modb.oce.ulg.ac.be/schmitz/holocaust.html]** includes graphic and disturbing photographs which document the atrocities carried out at the extermination camps.

Maurice Mendjisky presents his Homage to the Martyrs of the Warsaw Ghetto at **[http://orangeraie.azur.fr/mm1_e.htm]**. Mendjisky dedicated his 35 drawings of the Warsaw Ghetto to the memory of his son who was shot by the Nazis in Nice in 1944.

And The Holocaust Album **[http://www.hooked.net/users/rgreene/]** follows a group of survivors who decided to return to Germany in the summer of 1995.

Much emphasis is being placed on younger generations to remember what happened to their parents and grandparents. The March of the Living is an annual journey where Jewish teenagers from around the world gather in Poland to visit the camps of destruction. Montreal's Steven Fransblow has created a site **[http://www.bonder.com/march.html]** which includes essays and photographs about the March. By late May, Fransblow promises to add an extensive March of the Living Virtual Tour.

No examination of the Shoah would be complete without acknowledging the heroic efforts of the Righteous Gentiles who risked their own lives to shelter Jews. An essay on what motivated these rescuers is located at **[http://www.english.upenn.edu/~afilreis/Holocaust/rescuers-article.html]**

And an extensive bibliography of Rescuers During the Holocaust is presented at **[http://www.cs.cmu.edu/afs/cs.cmu.edu/user/mmbt/www/rescuers.html]**.

There are far too many sites dealing with the Holocaust to mention in this column. To see many more links on this subject call up The Ultimate Jewish/Israel Link Launcher at **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/cgi-bin/linesearch.cgi]**. Then type in the word "holocaust" and press return. You will get a list with about 100 titles.

But in the end, whether there are 100 or 1,000 sites on the Internet devoted to the Holocaust, it is probably impossible to fully understand why an event like the Shoah happened.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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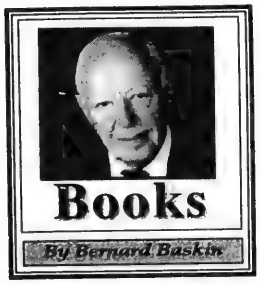

Führer-Ex: Memoirs of a Former Neo-Nazi by Ingo Hasselbach, Random House $33.50

The author of this disturbing book was once the golden hope of the neo-Nazi movement in East Germany. He organized paramilitary camps, coordinated racist attacks against immigrants, desecrated Jewish property and indoctrinated disaffected youth into an international network of right-wing terrorism and Holocaust denial.

But in 1993, after five years of violent and mindless anti-democratic activities, Hasselbach had a change of heart. He recognized "the psychological horror at the heart" of what he was doing and was repelled by the targeting of innocent civilians — especially the fatal fire bombing of immigrants in Northern Germany. He courageously denounced the movement and turned over vital evidence to the authorities. This move resulted in death threats to his family and himself, and the sending of a powerful mail bomb to his mother that, fortunately, failed to detonate.

Hasselbach began his involvement with skinheads as a rebellious and bored teenager, reacting against the restrictions of East German life as well as his disturbed relations with family members.

Among the revelations in the book are the following: Nebraska is the capital of world neo-Nazism; young zealots were trained to go to Bosnia to fight as allies of Croatia.

This book is both an absorbing story of a remarkable personal transformation and an ominous overview of neo-Nazi ideology in contemporary Germany.

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This program has been developed by the Second Generation Group, a sub committee of the Beth Tikvah Social Action Committee.

The Sally and Morris Justein Endowment Fund has provided financial support for this program.

Orthodox matchmaking service on-line for that perfect catch

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

Zelig and Ahava Spillman

TORONTO — Remember the classic song from *Fiddler on the Roof*: Matchmaker, matchmaker, make me a match, find me a find, scan your computer files and catch me a catch...

Computers? In Anatevka? What would Tevye the milkman have made of Yenta the matchmaker using Vindas 1895 or Vort-perfect to access her files on eligible bachelors in their tiny *shtetl*?

The world has certainly changed since Yenta was charged with finding husbands for Tevye's daughters. In those days, relying on her vast network of connections, Yenta might have turned up a tailor's son and perhaps a butcher from the next village (a good catch, always meat on the table).

Today, matchmaking is a different business indeed. Oh, it's still a mitzvah to bring two people together for the purpose of matrimony, but now technology has intruded into that very traditional occupation (or avocation).

One company making use of the new technology is the Orthodox Connection, a matchmaking service that relies on computerized files and Internet hookups to help make you a match or catch you a catch. As a result, the list of eligible partners is going worldwide and the Orthodox Connection has clients in Toronto, Montreal, Antwerp, Australia and South Africa.

Zelig and Ahava Spillman are the husband and wife team behind the three-year-old company. It's their task to interview prospective clients, have them fill out an application form containing biographical data, enter it into their computer system and try and find a suitable mate for each and every one.

"It's tough work," said Zelig.

"A tremendous emotional investment," adds Ahava.

From their database of over 700 clients, they arrange meetings or dates for suitable couples, but even with the help of computer programs that match people with similar backgrounds and values while eliminating others, matters of the heart can still be a hit and miss proposition.

"You can think it's a good *shidduch* (match) and they can't wait to get away from each other," Zelig said.

One of their success stories involves a 63-year-old man and a woman of 45 living in different cities. He had been "fixed up" previously by the Orthodox Connection and "his date said she'd rather watch paint dry than go out with him again," Ahava recounted.

She suggested they fix him up with the second woman, who was "full of vim and vigor." Zelig looked at her as if she was losing touch with reality, but eventually he agreed and the date was arranged.

"She unlocked his spirit. Now he's active, they go places together, they travel extensively" and they're married, said Ahava, who teaches a course in interpersonal communication at Seneca College.

Though everybody loves a story with a happy ending, Zelig, a former corporate headhunter, won't be specific about the number of successful *shidduchs* arranged by the Orthodox Connection. It's in double figures, but to say more might place an *ayin harah* (evil eye) on the venture and doom other couples, he said.

The Orthodox Connection's clients range in age from 18 to 75 and as the name of the firm suggests, they all share a minimum level of religiosity — keeping kosher and observing the Sabbath.

But even among the Orthodox, there's a wide range of observance. Some men don't mind if the woman wears pants, while others want a wife who will shave her hair and wear two head coverings.

The average age of the firm's clients is 38; some are divorced, others never married.

Most are uncomfortable at "Jew Do" gatherings; so the Orthodox Connection brings people together in a more hospitable environment.

Often the couples will meet secretly to avoid unwanted speculation in their communities should the dates not lead to marriage, Zelig said. Their home has become known as "Hotel Spillman," as prospective partners often use it to meet, though many others choose to meet in New York, Ahava said.

The Orthodox Connection recently went on the Internet, the worldwide computer network, with a home page designed by Carey Miller of Call A Ten Year Old, a computer consulting firm.

That Internet connection expands the Orthodox Connection's reach to thousands more eligible Jews and could lead to an expansion of the company's database, making finding the right match more likely, Zelig said.

Ironically, Zelig and Ahava themselves were brought together by mutual friends. Zelig, who was becoming more observant, met Ahava on Rosh Chodesh Nisan and called her back the next day, asking if she'd like to go to a movie the next week and get married on Lag b'Omer. Ahava was taken aback by the proposal and turned it down but agreed to go out with him.

"It took me three days to convince her," Zelig said. They were married on Lag b'Omer 6½ weeks after they first met four years ago.

Their frustration at being single and not finding the right mate helped prompt them to get into the matchmaking business.

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Le Bal Masque to aid ICRF in fight against cancer

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Glamor, excitement, fabulous food, mysteries — and all for a great cause. What more can one ask for?

The fourth annual Le Bal Masque will be held April 20 this year at the Arcadian Court in the Simpson Tower. The event is to aid the Israel Cancer Research Fund.

A press release promises a charity casino, a laser show, dancers, a silent auction and, one of the highlights of the evening, the awarding of a prize for the best mask.

Among the items included in the silent auction are trips to Hong Kong, Sandals resort in Jamaica, and Florida; a signed *Seinfeld* script; spa days; a "be a model for a day" package; a laptop computer; signed baseball bats; and dinners, complete with limos and followed by plays.

Founded in 1975

The Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF), founded in 1975, has as its mission to encourage innovative cancer research by Israeli scientists; to establish a world-class centre for cancer study and to broaden research opportunities within Israel.

It supports research in all of Israel's major institutions and at the ICRF Clinical Cancer Research Centre near Tel Aviv.

Some of the projects funded in the 1994-1995 fiscal year were studies in breast cancer, immune deficiency disease, pediatric oncology, development of new drugs, bone marrow transplantation, tumor suppressor genes and radiation therapy.

During the year, the fund has allocated $1.25 million.

Le Bal Masque netted over $161,000 last year.

Dress is described as "funky black and white, with black tie optional." Tickets are $50 in advance, $60 at the door.

Co-chairs are Sharon Liss, Andrea Obront and Annette Wine. For more information or tickets, call the Israel Cancer Research Fund offices, 416-487-5246.

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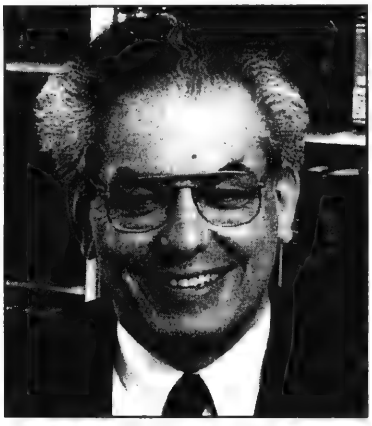

Rabbi David Hartman

speak on the current situation in Israel

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From coast to coast

Adoption: What does Halachah say?

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

"Whoever rears an orphan in his house is considered as if he had begotten that child." — Talmud, Sanhedrin 19b.

What does Halachah say about adoption? Plenty. The Talmud and other sources expound at length on the myriad of issues surrounding the raising of Jewish and non-Jewish children who are not one's own.

Special Report

As with everything else in Jewish life, rabbis through the ages have arrived at various interpretations, but there is surprising uniformity in thought, even among the different branches of Judaism. Questions sometimes arise, however, on how, or even whether, to convert a child.

Because it is a modern concept, the Talmud does not discuss legal adoption as we know it. Jewish law has no equivalent to today's civil adoptions, which require adoptive parents to assume all rights and responsibilities toward the child and become the legal parents in every way. In fact, there is no word in biblical Hebrew for adoption. In modern Hebrew, the word is *imutz*, which derives from *ametz*, meaning "strengthen," and probably taken from a reference in Psalm 80 to a branch being transplanted and "made strong."

Nevertheless, biblical Judaism had a positive view of raising another's child. Moses himself was adopted and his adoptive mother, Bithia, daughter of the Pharaoh, is praised by the sages. Ruth's child was also called Naomi's, because he was reared by Naomi. Mordechai was said to have "adopted" Esther. Michal, King David's childless wife, raised her sister's sons and was considered their mother. Other midrashim reinforce the view that adoption is a great mitzvah.

But civil adoption does not change a child's status in Jewish law. A non-Jewish child maintains its biological identity until he or she is converted.

Jewish law regarding adoption centres on whether the child was born to a Jewish mother. But according to Rabbi Michael Gold, author of *And Hannah Wept*, a groundbreaking study of infertility and adoption among Jews, some Orthodox couples will avoid adopting a baby born to a Jewish mother. The child could be the result of adultery or incest and therefore a *mamzer*. (A baby born out of wedlock is not necessarily a *mamzer*, but there are different categories of *mamzerim*, who cannot marry Jews of legitimate birth.)

Some rabbis say there is a presumption of legitimacy when the mother is Jewish. If the birth mother is Jewish and married, they assume the child was sired by the husband. If she is unmarried, they assume the natural father was not of a category that would make the child a *mamzer*. These rabbis contend there should only be concern about *mamzerut* when there is direct evidence of it. Other rabbis believe there is no presumption of legitimacy.

In any event, the majority of modern adoptions deal with non-Jewish children. And if a child's religion is not known, it should be assumed he is not Jewish.

If the child is a newborn boy, he should be circumcised (although secular counsellors strongly suggest waiting until the end of the legal consent period in case the birth mother should change her mind). Older boys should also be circumcised. Boys already circumcised should undergo the *hatafat dam brit* (the drop of blood of the Covenant) ceremony.

Orthodox and Conservative Judaism require that both boys and girls undergo total immersion in a mikvah (*tevilah*) to symbolize rebirth. Many Reform congregations consider *tevilah* optional and believe that simply giving the child a Hebrew name and Jewish education is sufficient for conversion. Immersion is to be performed before a *beit din* (religious court) of three rabbis. The special blessing for converts is said and the child receives a Hebrew name.

Being Jewish a *'z'chut'*

Most sources agree a correctly converted child is treated by Halachah the same as a biological child, while some believe adoption does not quite constitute a fully natural relationship between parent and child. Traditional views hold that if an adoptive father is a *kohen* or a *levi*, it does not make the adopted child one. They add that when an adoptive parent dies, the adopted child should observe shivah and recite Kaddish, but is not subject to all the regulations governing mourning by a child for his natural parents.

Most sources concur that an adopted infant may be named after a deceased relative of the adoptive parents. If a boy is a first child of his biological Jewish mother and neither natural parent is a *kohen* or *levi*, he should have a *pidyon haben*, regardless of whether the adoptive parents have other children or are descendants of *kohanim* or *levi'im*. A converted girl cannot marry a *kohen*.

Many rabbis allow a child receiving a Hebrew name to be called the son or daughter of the adoptive father, but want the word *hamegadlo* (who raised him) added after the adoptive father's name on conversion documents and when a child is called to the Torah, to avoid future problems on marriage and divorce papers.

Some Orthodox rabbis, however, say an adopted child must be called *ben Avraham Avinu*, the son of Abraham our father (for girls, *bat Avraham Avinu*.)

Sages, however, have posed the serious question of whether anyone — even an adoptive parent — has the right to convert a non-Jewish child and raise it as a Jew without its input.

There are medieval and even Talmudic sources which suggest a child may only be converted to Judaism when its biological parents bring it along for conversion, or that there must be some consent from gentile biological parents. Other authorities state a child must be mature and intelligent enough to decide for itself.

But generally, all streams of Judaism operate on the Talmudic dictum that to be a Jew is a *z'chut* (privilege), and "we can act to a person's advantage without his express permission." (*Ketubot* 11a). Thus, a minor's consent is not necessary.

The late Rabbi Gedalia Felder of Toronto wrote that the very act of putting a child up for adoption is proof that the biological parents are doing what is best for the child, and this is tacit enough permission to convert it.

Some rabbis say the ideal halachic approach would be to convert the child just prior to his or her bar or bat mitzvah, but this too raises concerns. For until the actual conversion, the child is a non-Jew, and that causes additional tensions in a family. Postponing conversion might become an impediment to the proper integration of the adopted child into its Jewish family and community. Thus, according to the Union for Traditional Judaism's panel of halachic inquiry, most rabbis favor converting a child in infancy.

On the other hand, Rabbi Melech Schachter, a Yeshiva University authority on the subject, notes that many Jewish couples who adopt are not fully observant. Adopted children may then violate the Sabbath, disregard kashrut and ignore Torah. Can this kind of Judaism be a *z'chut*?

Rabbi Schachter responds: "The way conditions are today, it is by far a greater *z'chut* to remain a non-Jew than to become a Jew and violate every commandment."

No matter what kind of conversion there was, the Talmud states a child may "protest" it upon reaching the age of consent (12 for girls, 13 for boys). In modern terms, that means an adopted child has the right to retroactively nullify its conversion. But a child who grows up in a loving Jewish home and receives a Jewish education will probably choose to remain Jewish.

Most rabbis regard the bar or bat mitzvah ceremony as a reaffirmation of the conversion. Others say a child must reaffirm its conversion prior to the ceremony. But beware: the Talmud states that should a child not cancel its conversion at the right time, he or she may never do it again.

Should a child be told he or she was adopted? Tradition says yes — in Orthodoxy because a child should know his or her true status for purposes of marriage and divorce. The Talmud notes that a convert is like a new person without relatives, but that does not release the adopted child from taking great care not to marry a possible close natural relative, even going so far as to refuse to marry another adoptee.

The best advice is the simplest: Consult your rabbi.

Agencies to call

Batshaw Youth and Family Services: A public agency for Jewish families in Quebec seeking to adopt locally. Works with the Secrétariat à l'adoption internationale du Québec, a government body that oversees the adoption of children from outside Quebec, including the rest of Canada. 514-695-5251.

Société Formons Une Famille Inc.: Certified by the Quebec government, this non-profit group founded in 1991, specializes in foreign adoptions and has facilitated the adoptions of about 1,200 children from China. Provides detailed breakdown of costs and required paperwork. 514-252-1465; 416-755-7310.

Adoption Council of Ontario: Founded in 1987, features extensive support for adoptees, adoptive parents and birth parents. Provides information hotline, public education, advocacy and resources. 416-482-0021.

Canadian Homes for Russian Children: Founded in 1993, has matched two dozen children from Russia with Canadian couples. Works with a team in Russia. Most children are not Jewish. Average wait is eight months or less. Half of all placements involve siblings. 416-667-7666.

Families for Children Inc.: Founded in 1972, has facilitated the adoptions of over 2,000 children from El Salvador, Somalia and other countries. Currently specializing in India. 416-967-7148.

Jewish Family and Child Service: Toronto Jewish community's central social service provider. Waiting lists for children can reach seven years and more. Most children it places are "special needs," but that definition includes any child over one year. 416-638-7800.

LAFF: (Latin American Adoptive Families). A support group for parents who have adopted or are considering adoption in South and Central American countries. Has 250 family members across Canada. 416-461-7988.

Partners in Inter-Country Adoption Inc.: Helps Canadian couples adopt institutionalized Romanian children. Run by volunteers with direct experience in adoption in Romania. P.O. Box 46072, College Park Post Office, 444 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont., M5B 2L8.

Children's Bridge: Founded by Linda Welsh in 1991 after she adopted a girl from China. Has facilitated in some 140 Chinese adoptions. Average waiting period is nine months. Provides solid support and counselling. 613-225-4003.

Family Outreach International: Also specializes in Chinese adoptions. Provides information on financial requirements and help with documents. 613-789-8677.

Jewish Family Service Agency: Vancouver Jewry's social service provider. 604-257-5151. The B.C. government also has an Adoption Programs service, which can answer questions about its progressive new Adoption Act. 604-387-3660.

Jewish Children's Adoption Network: The goal of this Denver-based matchmaking group is to keep Jewish children in Jewish homes. Receives referrals of up to 200 Jewish children a year from rabbis, social workers, lawyers and birth mothers. Maintains a list of over 1,000 Jewish families seeking to adopt. 303-573-8113.

Stars of David: Founded 10 years ago, based in Northbrook, Ill., provides Jewish couples with information on every aspect of adoption, including conversion, baby-naming, post-adoption problems and special-needs children. Has some 1,000 members in 30 chapters in the United States, but does deal with Canadians. 708-509-9929.

All provincial governments provide information on adoption, lists of licensed practitioners (where applicable) and updates on rules and regulations on foreign adoption. Details may be obtained through the family or social services ministry in your province. — R.C.

From coast to coast

China the 'hot' market

[Cont'd. from page 2]

two heritages."

Cohen puts it in perspective: The lighter the child's skin color, the fewer problems he and his new parents will face in a white society.

Parents and children struggling with identity and other issues may consider rabbinic counselling or turning to a number of organizations which offer a full range of support services for adoptive families, such as the Illinois-based Stars of David.

Sheli Braun is trying to start a Canadian arm of the Jewish Children's Adoption Network, a Denver-based matchmaking organization that tries to keep Jewish children in Jewish homes. Revenue Canada has turned down her request for charitable registration, but she has reapplied.

The Chinese Route

International adoptions proceed much faster than private ones and certainly anything at public agencies, where waiting lists can be years long. The best information is usually obtained through provincial social service ministries, which supply updated lists of dozens of countries and their legal requirements.

Today, China seems the hottest market. Cohen estimates that between 800 and 1,000 Chinese babies are being adopted by Canadian couples every year. The reason is availability. China's one-child policy is strictly enforced (at least in urban areas) and boys are prized. Thus, Chinese orphanages are brimming with baby girls given up by parents who keep trying for a boy.

A Chinese adoption usually costs between $12,000 and $16,000. That includes the required notarized home study, travel costs, expenses, legal and translation fees and a hefty "donation" (up to $3,000 US) to a Chinese orphanage. According to China's adoption laws, any married couple 35 years old and older, without any children, may adopt. There are some exceptions for younger couples. Couples in a common law relationship may not adopt.

The paperwork may seem overwhelming but the average period to complete an adoption from China is just nine months.

Experts agree that couples need not worry about baby-buying in China. Because the country is so highly regulated and orphanages are state-run, there is "little or no bribery and corruption," says Linda Welsh of Ottawa, founder of Children's Bridge, which helps couples adopt from China. "Everything is above board."

Goldblatt notes that couples should question a foreign adoption that costs $25,000 or more. "It simply does not cost that much. If it does, there are a lot of people being bought off along the way."

All provincial laws are clear that no one may give or receive any payment in connection with an adoption. But in another country, different rules apply and Canadian couples have no control over whether the birth mother is paid. Besides, there are no records of a Canadian adoption being rescinded because of shady practices in another country.

Recently, international adoptions have come under suspicion in Guatemala, Paraguay, El Salvador, India, Ukraine and Georgia.

And then there are health concerns. Couples are advised to be extra careful in Russia, where Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is widespread. Adoption researcher Cohen says couples should watch out for any contagious disease, including hepatitis and tuberculosis, as well as AIDS, especially in Romania.

The best rule of thumb is that the poorer the host country, the more likely there will be corruption and selling of babies, Cohen adds. "If money went to the birth mother, that would be good. But the middleman gets the money. Usually, birth mothers get very little."

Once an adopted child is safely back in this country, Cohen advises couples to do two things: adopt the child in Canada using Canadian lawyers and courts and make the child a Canadian citizen, as adoption does not always confer citizenship.

Another good idea is to get to know the host region's laws on the time period in which a birth mother can change her mind. In some U.S. states, she can change her mind six months after the child is born.

In four Canadian provinces, foreign adoptions are about to become a lot easier. Last year, Ottawa signed, but has yet to ratify, the Hague Convention governing intercountry adoptions, which will bring Canada in line with 65 other nations to promote the best interests of children.

So far, just four provinces have amended their laws to conform to the coming change: British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. That means anyone pursuing an out-of-country adoption in those provinces will have their choice between a central government agency and private agencies or practitioners; couples in other provinces (except Quebec) will have to continue using private agencies and licensed individuals.

The nuts and bolts are many and, at times, confusing. But in the end, Jewish couples may turn to the Talmud, which brings it all into sharp focus when it says that the "real" parents of a child are those who raise and nurture it.

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Passover products pulled in Quebec

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"It really showed some insensitivity," he said.

Sultan also voiced skepticism over the OFL's assertion that the 10 complaints it received included those from members of the Sephardi community.

Sultan, who is Sephardi, ventured that while it's possible a small number of Sephardi Jews complained, it's more likely the office "is trying to play with us," seeking to create divisions within the Jewish community on language issues.

"Anything can happen, but the Sephardi community benefits from the same products," he said.

To support his suspicion that the OFL may have been bent on proving a point this year, Sultan produced a letter the office sent just two weeks before Passover to Rejeanne Raymond, head of the francisization department of Hudon et Deaudelein Ltee, Provigo's head office.The letter urges that Raymond "act rapidly since kosher products are on the shelves for only a limited amount of time.

"It is not only a question of removing these products," the letter states. "It is also necessary that you receive a confirmation from your [kosher] suppliers that they will francisize their labels in order to prevent this infraction from being repeated in future years."

The issue of kosher-food labelling is complex since there are two jurisdictions involved.

Requirements for bilingual food-labelling apply across Canada and fall under the federal agriculture department's Food & Drug Law, for which non-French imported kosher goods have been treated as "food of origin" exemptions.

Quebec language legislation, however, also controls food labelling insofar as it is part of the area covered by the French language charter.

Further complicating the issue are longstanding complaints by local kosher food importers requiring them to slap French-ingredient labels onto imported English-only kosher goods made available year-round.

Sultan said CJC-Q would be asking the OFL to allow Article 5 (c) to be applied year-round, but not to enforce the part prohibiting English-only imports if an "equivalent" product is already available with French-labelling.

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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

***GAMES Jewish Singles Play! Sunday, Apr. 21, 7:30 p.m.,** Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook. Ages 26-40, 41-69. ***Bridge, Rummicube, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, etc., Early Bird Bingo.** 7:30-8:00 p.m. Prizes. Refreshments. $5. **51 couples have already met! Free Introductions!** Mollie, 733-3634.

Alumni of Livnot U'Lehibanot, Otzma, Project Oren, Sherut La'am & WUJS are invited to hear Elliot Chodoff, Israeli military & political analyst speak about "Peace in the Shadow of Terror". For info, call Hallie: 862-2072.

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וכל המַּרְאֶה הזה איך בָּבָה

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בנו של נתן יונתן, ליאור, נפל במלחמת יום הכיפורים, ומאז עולה זכרו ברבים משיריו של נתן לאורך עשרים השנים האחרונות. ובימים אלה, כשכל-כך הרבה ישראלים מאבדים את חייהם על מזבח הטרור, וכל-כך הרבה הורים קוברים את ילדיהם - מקבלת כותרת הספר ״רעול פנים הזמן״ משמעות כואבת עוד יותר.

מכתב מליליאן:

ליליאן בן לולו כותבת לי: ״בהמלצתך 'פנתר במרתף' של עמוס עוז הגיע אלי ובינתיים אתן לו ציון של 'בסדר'. עד שאסיים את קריאתו אולי אוסיף לו עוד ציון. אך אני ממליצה לך על הספר ״נעגועים לאולגה״ של אהרון מגד, ממש הטאה. כָּתָבְתָּךְ 'לכל איש יש שם' היתה נושא לשיחה רצינית משפחתית וחברתית. והשאלה היא האם השֵם עושה את האדם, כלומר - מקדם אותו? אני בהחלט מתנגדת לשינוי שֵם אבל לפעמים זה עוזר״. הכתבה, לאלה שלא קראו, עסקה בהרהורי חרטה שעוברים על רבים מאיתנו על עיברות השֵם שעשינו בשנותינו הצעירות וקלות הדעת. תודה לליליאן. מאוד מעַנְיֵן לקבל מכתבים כאלה.

וַנְיָנְיֶקָא, סבּרואר 1996:

הטלפון מעיר אותי בחשיכה. איפה אני הלילה? בקויבק סיטי?- לא, זה היה שבוע שעבר! בפלורידה? לא, זה בעוד שבועיים! אחר כך אני מתאפס ונזכר שאני הלילה בווינִיפֶג. קומה עשרים ושלוש במלון. טיסה שביעית בחודשיים האחרונים. בחוץ מינוס שבעים ושלוש. כל ״הבחוץ״ שלי מסתכם בדרך מן הלובי למונית, ומן המונית לדלת הזכוכית של שדה התעופה. שאר הזמן - באקווריום. כל המקומות נראים כמעט אותו הדבר. ההרצאות שאני נותן גם הן די חוזרות על עצמן. טוב, אני מגזים, אני פוגש אנשים חכמים ומאוד מעניינים, ולומד מהם הרבה - מהעבודה שלהם, מהנסיון שלהם, ולפעמים אפילו מן הדרך שבה הם שואלים שאלות. פתאום אני מבין שהעבר הרחוק שלי בתחום הבידור, הנסיעות התכופות עם אמנים מעיר לעיר ומארץ לארץ הביאו אותי גם למסע הזה אל עולם המדע. ומדוע אני מספר לכם את זה? שתדעו שאין לכם מה לחפש בווינִיפֶג בפברואר, אפילו אם מציעים לכם כרטיס בחינם. תישארו בבית.

מַשְׁאֲלָה לְפֶסַח:

שיִפֶסַח אלוקים על בתי בני ישראל כמו שעשה פעם, ושיעברו על כולנו ימים שקטים יותר, אפילו משעממים.

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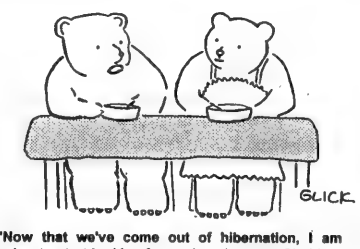

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Five Tuesday Evenings - April 16 to May 14, 1996 - 8:00 p.m.

April 16 - *Chapter 1* — DR. TIRZAH MEACHAM
Hebrew University, 1st Woman Ph.D. in Talmudic & Rabbinic Literature
University of Toronto, Associate Professor, Near Eastern Studies

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April 23 - *Chapter 2*
RABBI JOEL HECKER
Ordination, Yeshiva University
Ph.D. Candidate in
Jewish Mysticism

April 30 - *Chapter 3*
DR. EDWARD BREUER
Ph.D. Harvard University
Post-Biblical Jewish History & Literature
Univ. of Pennsylvania Research Foundation

Public Welcome — Admission Free

Yom Hashoah יום השואה
Community Holocaust Remembrance

at **Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue**, 3600 Bathurst Street
(at Bathurst and Neptune)

Tuesday, April 16, 1996, 7:30 p.m.

Officiated by: **RABBI MOSHE STERN**
Spiritual Leader, Shaarei Tefillah Congregation
President, Vaad Harabbanim

GuestSpeaker: **RABBI AVI WEISS**
National President, Coalition for Jewish Concerns - AMCHA
Spiritual Leader, Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, New York

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Happy Passover to all!

What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, April 18, is deadline for May 2 issue. Thursday, April 25, is deadline for May 9 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Sunday, April 14

YOM HASHOAH SERVICE

Jehudi Kinar, consul general of Israel, is keynote speaker at the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto annual community Yom Hashoah Memorial Service, 2 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. 226-0111.

JEWISH LIFE CYCLE

Downtown Jewish Community School and Bloor JCC Jewish Life Cycle series continues with Jewish Marriage and Divorce, with **Rabbi Lawrence Pinsker** of Darchei Noam Congregation, 10-11:30 a.m. Bloor JCC.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Congregation Habonim presents **Wendy Darlow** from the Association of Parents Support Group discussing Parenting Teens in the '90s: A Formula for Success, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. (Bathurst/Glencairn). Breakfast and lecture $6.

NORTHERN ONTARIO JEWS

Stephen Speisman speaks about The Jews of Northern Ontario: the Yonge St. Line, at Temple Sinai. Services 9:30 a.m., breakfast following, program at 10. $3.

YOM HASHOAH PROGRAM

Lodzer Centre Congregation Yom Hashoah observance with guest speaker **Francesca David**, second generation survivor, liaison with Federation for Cultural and Educational Centre, 11 a.m., 12 Heaton St.

JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

Jewish Film Society presents *Jewish Entertainers on Film*, compiled by film/history buff **Aldo Maggioroti**, and featuring clips of major Jewish composers, artists and actors, 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery of Ontario. **Bill Emery** 924-6211.

ISRAELI DANCING

Special Israeli dancing, intermediate, advanced, with "new" dance from Israel, 8:30 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre Studio Theatre. $5. **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Monday, April 15

NAGILLAH CHAPTER JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, 40 plus singles, general meeting. **Anne Bloom** presents Dolls for Democracy, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. Prospective members welcome. $2. **Marci** 905-731-6939 or **Marilyn** 487-7792.

YOM HASHOAH PROGRAM

Beth Tikvah Synagogue's Yom Hashoah commemoration begins 7:30 p.m. with services, special readings and prayers led by **Rabbi Wayne Allen** and **Cantor Efraim Sapir** followed at 8 p.m. with the film *Now ... After All These Years* introduced by director **Harold Luders**.

AISH HATORAH

Yom Hashoah lecture with **Rabbi Yosef Michalowicz**, 7:30 p.m, Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

ISRAEL PHILATELY

Canadian Association for Israel Philately (CAFIP) meeting 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. 635-1749.

EXHIBIT OPENING

Opening and reception for the photography exhibit, Faith and Survival: Ethiopian Jewish Life, and a lecture by the first Jew of Ethiopian origin in Canada **Baruch Tegegne**, on My Journey, My Community's Journey: Ethiopia, Israel, Canada, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Tuesday, April 16

JEWISH CONTINUITY

Association for Jewish Continuity discussion, Assimilation and Intermarriage: Why Choose Judaism? with **Lydia London**, vice-president World ORT Union, and **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, director, Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto. Moderator is **Edmund Y. Lipsitz**, executive vice-chair, Association for Jewish Continuity. 8 p.m., Barbara Frum Library Auditorium.

NFJA MEETING

New Fraternal Jewish Association meeting with **Gerrard Kennedy**, executive director Daily Food Bank, speaking on Are Food Banks the

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

Answer to Hunger in Canada? 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

YAD BEYAD MEETING

Yad BeYad program is recruiting committed adults to volunteer in Israel this summer. Information meeting 8 p.m. 221-7384 or 445-4554. Yad BeYad is run under the auspices of Canada-Israel Forum.

Wednesday, April 17

JEWS & SLAVE TRADE

Beth Tzedec sisterhood presents **Dr. Anthony MacFarlane**, vice-president, Temple Anshe Sholom, Hamilton, speaking on Jews and the Slave Trade, 7:30 p.m. $3.

RETIREMENT INCOME

Making Your Retirement Income Work For You is the topic of Temple Har Zion's Chai group discussion with retirement income specialist **Stephen Smith**, at noon. Bring lunch and enjoy coffee, tea, pastries. Reserve 905-889-2252 or **Judith Ross** 491-8913. Temple members $1, non-members $2.

GATHERING

Holy Blossom Temple Connecting Team's Gathering meeting features folksinger **Osi Sladek**, 1:30 p.m. Guests $5. To reserve, **Leslie** 789-3291, ext. 233, by April 15.

HANDS-ON NEEDLE WORK

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles carousel of workshops including crocheted kipot, shadow quilting, log cabin knitting, 8 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Bring sewing kits. **Haya** 633-2664 or **Malcah** 866-8142.

Thursday, April 18

ROAD TO PEACE

Shira Herzog, vice-chair of the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy, delivers the annual Rosalynd Smith Memorial Lecture on the topic The Road to Peace: Israel's Challenge, Our Challenge? 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation. 635-5340.

And What Else Is New...

YOM HASHOAH WEEKEND

Beth Tzedec Congregation presents the Sam and Sarah Kerzner Holocaust Studies Institute Yom Hashoah Remembrance Weekend, April 13-14, with **Prof. Stephen Berk**. Shabbat services 8:45 a.m., pulpit lecture The Middle East at the Crossroads, congregational kiddush at noon, lecture on Russia in Crisis 12:30 p.m. Sunday morning lecture, Judgment at Nuremberg: 50 Years Later, 10 a.m.

SALUTE TO ISRAEL

Salute to Israel concert commemorating Yom Ha'atzmaut, Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Reception and exhibit by the Israeli Artists Group, followed by musical program featuring chazzanim **Louis Danto, Efraim Sapir** and **Benjamin Maissner**. Also, a musical play, *Our Jerusalem* performed by 35 young people. $18. Canadian Zionist Federation, 633-3988.

MONTE CARLO NIGHT

Games of chance and a super auction (grand prize, one-week trip for two in the sunny south) Saturday, April 20, 9 p.m., Adath Sholom Synagogue, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. $50. 635-0131.

INTERFAITH DINNER

Beth Tzedec Men's Club is a co-sponsor of the 10th annual Neighborhood Interfaith Dinner, Monday, April 22, 6:30 p.m., Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, 230 St. Clair Ave. W. **Bishop Terrence Prendergast**, Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto, will speak on Rediscovering Jubilee: A Look at the Year 2000. For tickets, **Rosemary**, 781-3511 or Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, 925-5977. Glatt kosher catering.

THE CHRISTIAN BIBLE

A Rabbi's Perspective on the Christian Bible, a four-week series with **Rabbi Lawrence Colton** of Temple Sinai, Wednesdays, 7:45-9:15 p.m. The Search for the Historical Jesus, April 24; The Deicide Charge, May 1; Paul, the Author of Christianity, May 8; and Salvation: Life After Death, May 15. Non-members $40 for four sessions, $10 individual session. Preregister. 487-4161.

PEER GROUP FOR KIDS

Jewish Family & Child Service offers a peer socializing group for kids who are shy, have difficulty making friends and asserting themselves with others. Group will improve social skills and enhance self-esteem. Begins May 5. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

CREATIVE MUSIC CLASSES

Helena and Her Magic Basket creative music classes, Thursday mornings starting April 11 at Holy Blossom Temple. Join **Helena Fine** and accompanist for music, movement, fun and social interaction for accompanied children 18-24 months. 489-4709.

YOUR JEWISH STORY

Telling Your Jewish Story, a workshop in Jewish storytelling, involves listening to good stories, exercising the voice and imagination, exploring sources and learning and telling a story. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., April 17-May 15, Congregation Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. $100. 440-1330.

ECRUSY CONVENTION

Eastern Canadian Region United Synagogue Youth's Regional Convention '96 May 3-5 at Maple Lake Lodge, Parry Sound, features **Hananía Kogan**, USY *shaliach* in Philadelphia, Shabbat, social programs, regional elections, awards and more. $199. Contact your chapter advisor or the regional office 905-738-1717.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan services at Bloor JCC: Yom Hashoah memorial service, Tuesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.; Shabbat service Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m.; Shabbat service with visiting student rabbi **Allison Henteloff**, Friday, April 26, 7:15 p.m. **Hilary** 928-1784.

YIDDISH SONG

Folksinger **Naomi Bell's** four-part workshop series, Yiddish Folksongs To Sing and Understand, in affiliation with Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS), combines music, text and historical background, Wednesdays, May 1, 8, 15, 22, at 8:15 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre. $50 (Friends of Yiddish and JASS members $40). Register by April 24. Naomi, 633-3416.

For Seniors

LZA Seniors Club first luncheon of 1996, Wednesday, April 17, Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Program includes information on upcoming trips and registration for Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills, July 14-25. Ladies Folkdancing resumes Thursday, April 18, 1:30 p.m. Discussion Group meets Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for socializing.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Catskills Homowack Hotel, Aug. 4-11; ArtPark, *Chorus Line* (first bus filled, spaces available on second bus) Aug. 1; Stratford, *The Music Man*, Sept. 24; cruises planned for June 27 and July 15. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday dances April 20, 27; Sunday dances with live band April 14, 28; movie *A Song to Remember* Wednesday, April 17, 2 p.m.; *A Little Night Music* Wednesday, April 17, St. Lawrence Centre. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays, 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). April 18 is bingo. 661-4689.

Pine Villa Retirement Residence, 1035 Eglinton Ave. W., features entertainer **Dan Clahane**, Monday, April 15, 2 p.m. No charge, but early registration requested. 787-5626.

People Enjoying People (PEP) social features guest speaker **Susan Jackson** from Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, Thursday, April 18, 1:30-4 p.m., Bathurst Place, Recreation Room, 3036 Bathurst St. **Anne** 638-4877 or **Laura** 665-4336.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip, nine days at Raleigh Hotel or 10 days at the Pines Hotel. Trip to Atlantic City included in the Pines trip. **Helen** 635-6343.

Total Living Seniors trip to Granit Hotel and Country Club in the Catskills, Aug. 4-12. Proceeds to charity. **Helen Pearson** 633-0397.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents The Power of Prayer with **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich** of Pride of Israel Synagogue, Thursday, April 18, 10-11:30 a.m.

Healthy Cooking with dietician/nurtitionist **Sharon Zeller**, Tuesday, April 16, 1:30 p.m. $1 for materials. Register.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. A lecture April 17 and Yom Ha'atzmaut party April 24. **Anna**.

The Heritage Singers perform Wednesday, April 17, 1:30 p.m.

[illegible]

BJC Senior Adult Services Learning Experiences features **The Road to Hope**, an audio-visual presentation on the ceramic work of **Herman Reches**, Tuesday, April 16, 1 p.m. Meet the artist. **Yvonne** 636-1880, ext. 259.

Non-competitive scrabble night for those 35 and up, Thursday, April 18, 7-10 p.m., Bloor JCC. Non-members $5.

Join Bloor JCC Good Age Club on Thursday, April 18, 2 p.m. to hear **Frances Chapkin** of the Older Women's Network speak about A Voice for Older Women. Men and women invited. **Judy** 924-6211.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT LECTURE

Pictured at recent Women of Achievement lecture series, sponsored by State of Israel Bonds Women's Division and Toronto ORT, are (from left) Kathleen Crook, president Toronto ORT; Joy Fielding, guest speaker; Anita Shedletsky, committee member; Janice Shedletsky, host.

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From coast to coast

CJC-P maintains fight against anti-Semitism

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Bill Yee, president of the Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver, presented a $2,000 cheque to Dr. Michael Elterman, chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region (CJC-P), at a recent event marking International Day for the Elimination of Racism.

Canadian Jewish Congress "remains vigilant in pursuing its mandate to combat anti-Semitism and racism and promote understanding among all groups, and to advocate on behalf of the advancement of equality and human rights across Canada," Elterman said at the event organized by the Committee for Racial Justice, an umbrella group of community, labor and service organizations.

Elterman said Congress has been assured of continued moral and financial support to help fight its complaint to the B.C. Human Rights Council against controversial columnist Doug Collins and the paper he writes for, *North Shore Free Press Ltd.*

A complaint was filed last year but has not yet been acted on by the council.

Elterman praised changes in the B.C. Human Rights Act which allow for complaints of discriminatory practices which are likely to expose a person or group of persons to hatred and contempt. But he said complainants need adequate resources and trained staff with expertise and knowledge.

It is Congress' opinion, Elterman said, that "because of the sensitivity and subtlety of the issues involved, the complainant must have the ability to prosecute discriminatory minority claims by having access to legal counsel without being burdened by costs personally."

As CJC-P has launched the first complaint under a new section of the Human Rights Act, "we are cognizant of the possibility of a constitutional challenge by the respondents [Collins and the newspaper]."

The outcome of the case "will impact on both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities," said Elterman in explaining the need for a legal defence fund.

"It is gratifying that other community groups join with Congress in believing that Human Rights legislation is one of the most vitally important guarantees of equality and dignity to all persons and therefore must be clear and broad enough to be successfully enforced."

JCFS project aimed at mental health problems

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Jewish Child and Family Service (JCFS) has recently launched a two-year project aimed at helping people in the Jewish community who have mental health problems.

The project, funded by the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba and the Winnipeg Foundation, is designed to help individuals who need special assistance to function more independently in the community.

The JCFS has hired social worker and nurse Faye Ostrove to work on the project. Ostrove has had 12 years of nursing experience in the mental health field, including a stint in the Health Sciences Centre Department of Psychiatry.

"We have identified about 40 people in our community who can use this service," says Barney Yellen, the JCFS executive director, "but we have decided to cap Faye's caseload at 20, while we try to determine how effective the program can be."

The project, which was developed over the past year with help from the Canadian Mental Health Association, will be thoroughly evaluated at the end of the first and second year. If successful, it will become a permanent JCFS service with funding provided from the Jewish community.

BBYO DANCE-A-THON

BBYO recently held their seventh annual fundraiser Dance-A-Thon "Tonight's The Night" at the Bathurst Jewish Community Centre. The evening kicked off with a community dance where 250 youth came out to participate. The dance wrapped up at midnight and 75 BBYOers stayed to dance the night away. Winners for the highest donation were awarded to Robb Maizen from Kingston, Naomi Hoffenberg and David Noon from Toronto and Micah Potechin from Ottawa. Neil Orlowsky (left) and Annie Ross (right) were the youth coordinators of the event.

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Southern Atlantic technicians service any brand or model of appliance, so that no matter what makes you own, the one call to Southern is the only one you need to make. Southern Atlantic has also been authorized by Sub Zero, Thermador and other manufacturers to do warranty service. The company's technicians regularly attend schooling seminars in order to keep up with new technology in the appliance industry, and maintain their skills and efficiency at a high level. For non-members, Southern will make C.O.D. calls.

During the last few years, Southern Atlantic has expanded it's business to meet the needs of both their clients and the public by carrying a full line of top quality water filters for those concerned with maintaining the purity of their drinking water.

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Family-run Furrier Provides 'Full-service' Care

Kahnert Furs on Avenue Road is a family-run business that has been serving the Greater Metropolitan Toronto area since 1957. For many women, owning a fur coat provides them with a feeling of warmth, and comfort and requires special care in order to maintain its natural characteristics.

"We have always been known as a 'full service' furrier where customers can expect professional, knowledgeable, and personal advice on restyling, alterations, cleaning and repairs," says Dan Kahnert, the 4th generation of the family business.

During the hot summer months, he stresses that cold fur storage is essential to prevent the premature drying of the pelts and to preserve the natural oils in the skin. Cedar closets and air-conditioned homes simply lack the necessary cold temperatures, the proper humidity levels, and an adequate circulation of air.

At storage time, every fur is examined by one of the family, and should any repairs need attending to, free estimates are provided. It is important to look after any small repairs early on so that further damage is avoided.

Over the course of a dirty winter, furs can accumulate dust, grime, and dirt and therefore require a professional fur cleaning. Kahnert recommends that furs should be cleaned once a year or at least every 2 years. This special cleaning process is an effective, preventative measure that will add years of beauty and life to your furs while restoring their natural lustre and silkiness.

You may also take advantage of their trade-in policy. Kahnerts will allow you up to an additional 15% off the Spring Sales prices on any new purchase when you trade in your outdated fur.

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LifeStyle

Jewish Singles join Registry - in record numbers

It has happened to all of us. A well-meaning friend or relative sets you up on a blind date with someone who is "absolutely perfect for you." You arrange to meet, take the time to get ready and on the way over you allow yourself to think - for just a moment - that maybe this might be the one. But a few minutes after meeting your date you realize that the person is nothing like your friend described, that you have nothing in common, and that you'd have been better off spending the night at home. It's disappointing, frustrating - **and it doesn't have to be that way!**

Information is key

The whole premise behind the **Jewish Singles Registry** is to provide registrants with the information necessary to make informed and quality dating choices. Members get to view very detailed and comprehensive biography profiles on each other. Personality traits, hobbies, interests, community involvement, and even the reasons for joining the service, make up just a portion of the questionnaire. A photograph attached to each file completes the "picture". **Members have been joining in record numbers**, and the selection of compatible biographies has never geen greater.

Confidentiality top priority

With all the information provided, the Registry prides itself on providing a top quality, confidential service. A first name and private code number allows Registry staff to process members' requests in an efficient and confidential manner. No last names or addresses are ever disclosed, and phone numbers are only exchanged with the consent of both individuals.

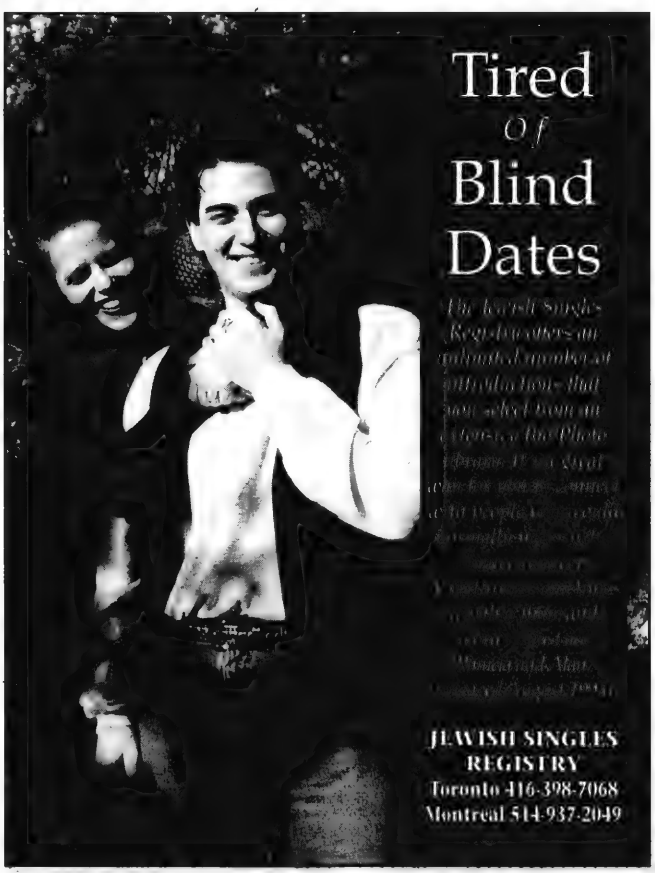
Network of Cities

The **Jewish Singles Registry** network of cities includes Montreal, Toronto, and Ottawa. The close proximity between the 3 cities allows Registry members the opportunity to connect with other Jewish singles they would not otherwise meet. Many successful marriages have resulted because of this network, and with new members signing up on practically a daily basis, the chances of finding someone suitable has never been better.

See how they operate

If you have never been to a dating service before here is the perfect opportunity to do so. The **Montreal** office will be holding an open-house on Thursday, April 25 from 2-9 p.m. at 120A Côte St. Antoine. Join them for coffee and information. This is your opportunity to be pro-active, by taking matters into your own hands, and grabbing control of your love life. A **Toronto** open house is scheduled for May.

With summer just around the corner, there is no better time to take the initiative and find that relationship that you've been seeking. Whether you are looking to meet someone for friendship, a relationship, or marriage, the time is right to sign up with the **Jewish Singles Registry**. Montreal **514-937-2049**, Toronto **416-398-7068**, Ottawa **613-591-6544.**



Excitement on Bayview! Beth Tikvah unveils new catering concept

Toronto can now experience an exciting new trend in kosher catering. It's all about choice, quality and value.

On April 1st, Beth Tikvah Synagogue entered into an arrangement with four high quality, well experienced kosher caterers. They are: **GMB Culinary Productions** in association with **Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers**; **Levy's Catering**; **Malmar Fine Foods and Catering**; and **Peter Graben Fine Foods Limited.**

The new format means that those planning an event will have a great many choices both in style of service and value range.

This innovative "open kitchen" concept is a first for Torontonians wishing to plan a kosher simcha, and we are proud that Beth Tikvah is leading the way.

At the recent synagogue launch of the "open kitchen" concept, Beverley Holtzman, Catering Chair for Beth Tikvah stated, "We hope the wide variety of choices available will lead people to consider the Beth Tikvah option when planning in-synagogue functions."

"Celebrating an important life cycle event in the synagogue brings to mind all the reminiscences and history of our traditions," explains Rabbi Wayne Allen, Beth Tikvah's spiritual leader.

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"This project was months in preparation," says Holtzman. "We gathered a committee whose members personify a diverse cross section of the Synagogue. There was representation from different ages and lifestyles, as well as input from foodservice professionals. Kosher caterers from across the city were invited to apply. Our very active catering committee then selected, based on a list of criteria and tasting presentations, the four fine caterers they felt would best service our clients' needs. Beth Tikvah Synagogue and all four caterers are glatt kosher under the supervision of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth of Toronto (COR)."

In order to showcase our facilities, Beth Tikvah Synagogue will hold a "Simcha Fair" on Wednesday, May 22, 7-10 p.m. In addition to our caterers, participants will include other simcha related service specialists such as florists, photographers, videographers, bands, invitation designers, party planners, bridal consultants and wine distributors. For further information please call **416-221-3433, ext. 313.**

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Referendum plan angers Palestinians, Likud

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Shimon Peres' proposal to hold a national referendum before signing a permanent agreement with the Palestinians has drawn sharp criticism from the Israeli right and from the Palestinian Authority.

Peres' surprise announcement last week marked the first time an Israeli leader has offered to bring the question of the final-status negotiations with the Palestinians before the Israeli people.

It also parallels Peres' promise to hold a referendum before signing a peace agreement with Syria.

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu, Peres' opponent in the May 29 national elections, immediately condemned the declaration.

"I am puzzled by the attempts by Mr. Peres to bypass the real referendum," Netanyahu told Army Radio. "The real referendum is the elections."

Likud Knesset member Uzi Landau charged Peres with attempting to avoid giving the Israeli public a clear picture of his peace policies before the elections.

"What Peres wishes is to have a blank cheque to run with whatever policy he would like to push forward, but not tell the public in Israel what he has on his mind," Landau told Israel Radio.

Palestinian leaders also criticized the idea, saying that it represented a bad-faith negotiating posture.

"It completely goes against everything that was agreed upon" in earlier accords with the Jewish state, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat told reporters in the Gaza Strip.

Palestinian Authority official Freih Abu Medein described the idea as a "death blow" to the peace process.

Peres later told reporters in the Persian Gulf nation of Qatar, during a state visit there, that he was surprised at the Palestinian reaction.

"There was no agreement with the Palestinians on how we would ratify the accord," he said. "We did not promise them that it would be done in Parliament."

Peres first raised the issue of a referendum last week, during a flight to the Persian Gulf state of Oman.

He told reporters he would seek the mandate of his Labor party to negotiate a permanent settlement with the Palestinians, and then take the agreement to the Israeli people for ratification through a referendum.

The final-status negotiations with the Palestinians on such issues as Jerusalem, borders and the fate of Jewish settlements are scheduled to begin in May.

Israeli officials have said the talks would likely start on time, but that substantive issues would not be addressed until after the Israeli elections.

Peres' proposal came as both the Likud and Labor parties have launched election campaigns promising Israelis peace with security.

This refrain has a timely ring for Israelis, shaken over the past few months by a string of suicide bombings that killed 58 victims in 10 days, a sudden jolt after a relatively quiet seven months.

The Hamas fundamentalist group that carried out the bombings vowed last Tuesday to renew suicide attacks against Israel.

Peres made the referendum proposal in the wake of charges by Likud that he was reaching secret bargains with the Palestinian leadership.

The Likud launched its election campaign earlier this year with the slogan, "Peres Will Divide Jerusalem," a claim the prime minister has denied.

Meanwhile, Labor party officials were supportive of the referendum proposal. Peres called for the referendum "in order to give a hint to the people of the State of Israel that every final decision will be taken by the people of the State of Israel in a democratic way," said Hagai Meirom, chair of the Knesset foreign affairs and defence committee.

In New York, Tourism Minister Uzi Baram said such an initiative would be a useful way "to calm down Israeli public opinion.

"I think Peres can get approval," said Baram, a longtime vocal dove who was the top vote-getter in last month's Labor party primaries, second only to Peres,

But, Baram added, if the measure did fail at the polls, the government "would have to call for new elections."

Before a media briefing in New York on the resilience of Israeli tourism in the face of recent terror attacks, Baram brushed aside a question about the possible repercussions of surprising Arafat, who has termed the idea a violation of the Israeli-Palestinian accords.

Baram did say, however, that he believed the "problem of the closure" of the West Bank and Gaza Strip after the series of Hamas bombings "creates a very complicated situation for Arafat," which, in turn, could affect Peres.

Peres has made the continuation of the peace process contingent upon a timely revocation of the portions of the Palestine National Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

But that revocation, which must pass the Palestine National Council by a two-thirds vote, is looking less and less certain as resentment is building over the security crackdown and resulting shortages of basic supplies.

Hamas threatens more bombings

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – After a month long lull in the terror attacks that shook Israel, two Islamic militant groups have threatened to resume their suicide bombing missions.

The Izzedine al-Kassam Brigade, the armed wing of Hamas, said in a leaflet distributed last Tuesday to news agencies here that it was "not going to give up and is going to punish everyone who declared war against Hamas."

The threat, which came on the eve of the Passover holiday, was issued a day after a smaller fundamentalist group, Islamic Jihad, promised new suicide attacks against the Jewish state.

The groups claimed responsibility for four suicide attacks against Israel in late February and early March that claimed the lives of 58 victims.

In their leaflet, the Hamas group referred to their suicide attacks as "the wonderful martyrdom operations."

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Syrian talks, Lebanese tension

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

It is a truism that political developments in the Middle East are often inextricably intertwined. Israel's recent decision to suspend its on-again, off-again peace talks with Syria against the backdrop of renewed tension in southern Lebanon is a prime example of how one event impinges or influences another.

Mideast Analysis

Israel called off its negotiations with Syria early last month, citing two factors: Syria's failure to condemn the latest wave of Hamas and Islamic Jihad suicide bombings which claimed the lives of 58 people in nine horrifying days, and Syria's tolerance of a spate of Hezbollah attacks in southern Lebanon in which six Israeli soldiers were killed.

Since then, Israel has upped the ante. Foreign Minister Ehud Barak has said he expects "a clear condemnation" from Syria of the suicide bombings before talks on the future of the Golan Heights are resumed. Taking things one step further, Prime Minister Shimon Peres has declared that Syria will have to rein in Hezbollah for the negotiations to proceed any further.

Israel's position seems reasonable, but is it realistic? Have the Israelis painted themselves into a corner? Or is Israel's stance related to the May 29 general election?

The Syrian government, for reasons best known to itself, has never officially condemned Arab terrorism directed at Israel. Indeed, Syria boycotted last month's anti-terrorism conference in Sharm El-Sheik, and remains on a U.S. list of nations supporting terrorism.

Syria, while opposed in principle to Islamic militancy, regards Hezbollah as a legitimate national liberation movement and supports Hezbollah's quest to remove Israeli forces from its protectorate in Lebanon. Rightly or wrongly, the Syrians view Hezbollah as surrogates with the military capability of pressuring Israel to ease its demands with respect to the final disposition of the Golan Heights.

Syria, therefore, has not opposed Hezbollah's freshest offensive in Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon. Israel, not for the first time, has urged Syria to restrain Hezbollah. But the Syrians have not lifted a finger, despite the Syrian foreign minister's assurance, stated last December, that Damascus opposes an escalation of fighting in southern Lebanon.

Hafez Assad uses Hezbollah to pressure Israel

If anything, Syria — the final arbiter of Lebanese politics — is continuing with its policy of letting Hezbollah ship supplies from Iran through routes in Lebanon. The spiritual leader of Hezbollah, Hassan Nasrallah, has confirmed this in an interview with a London-based Arabic weekly. Syria, he said, provides Hezbollah with "a political cover, moral support and field facilities."

In all likelihood, Hafez al-Assad will not abandon this policy unless Syria and Israel reach an agreement over the Golan. The two sides, however, are still relatively far apart on the key issues: security arrangements, water supplies, the depth and timing of an Israeli withdrawal, and the degree of normalization.

In the absence of any such diplomatic breakthroughs, Syria will be loath to take steps to curb Hezbollah's operations against Israel and its Arab surrogate, the South Lebanon Army, led by Antoine Lahad. These attacks range from roadside bombings to frontal assaults.

Since the beginning of this year, there have been more than 100 incidents in the security zone, Israel's last active war front. Hezbollah — which carried out more than 600 operations in Lebanon in 1995 — has also fired rockets into northern Israel, causing property damage.

Israel, which lost 23 soldiers in Lebanon last year, has warned Hezbollah that its patience is wearing thin. Ezer Weizman, the president of Israel, said recently that "the matter will be dealt with."

Is Israel contemplating a massive raid on Hezbollah bases? Peres has ruled out a major response on the scale of Operation Accountability in 1993. Yet he has said that Israel will not be bound by a policy of restraint, which has been the case so far.

In large part, Israel has held back because it realizes that Hezbollah has the means to inflict serious blows on settlements in the northern Galilee. Besides, as Israel has learned through painful experiences in the 1970s and 1980s, there is no military solution to the problem in southern Lebanon. It is, first and foremost, a political matter.

Even if Syria cracks down on Hezbollah, Iran — Syria's ally — may well step into the breach. Iran, which backs Hamas and Islamic Jihad, is ardently pro-Hezbollah. Late last month, in an unprecedented statement, Iran's embassy in Beirut warned Israel not to take action against Iranian interests in Lebanon.

Israel, however, will likely ignore this warning should it decide to strike hard at Hezbollah.

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The News In Brief

Arafat: Israel Has Declared War On Us

JERUSALEM – "Israel has declared war on the Palestinian people," Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat said Monday, April 1, in a letter to Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdel-Meguid.

"The collective punishments, the refusal to withdraw from Hebron, and the Israeli army's re-conquest of areas from which it had withdrawn are a declaration of war against the Palestinian people."

Portions of the letter were read by Mohammed Subieh, the PLO's representative to the Arab League.

Arafat asked for Arab League support, and for the league "to request an immediate meeting of the UN Security Council to put an end to the closure."

Vanunu's Secrets

JERUSALEM – Mordechai Vanunu, the nuclear technician jailed for selling classified material from one of Israel's nuclear plants, has said he would reveal more classified information at the first opportunity.

Vanunu's claims were conveyed by Justice Minister David Libai, who met recently with him.

Trade Deal Signed

JERUSALEM – Israel and Qatar have signed an agreement to establish low-level economic ties, the second such accord between Israel and a Persian Gulf state.

The agreement to open trade offices in each other's countries was reached while Prime Minister Shimon Peres was making the first official trip by an Israeli leader to the emirate.

Rabin Square Dedicated

LOS ANGELES – Yitzhak Rabin Square was dedicated last week in an emotional ceremony in which Leah Rabin, the widow of the slain Israeli leader, and civic dignitaries paid tribute to his vision and courage.

Support for Communist

MOSCOW – A rabidly anti-Semitic newspaper has called on Russian voters to support the Communist candidate in the June presidential elections, saying that he will be able to solve the "Zionist question."

The weekly newspaper *Kolokol*, the *Bell*, recently explained its support for Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov on the basis that he would advance the nationalist cause.

Recent polls indicate that Zyuganov could beat President Boris Yeltsin in the June 16 vote.

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Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Journalists launch protest after IDF finds data leaker

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The Israeli Military Police, using seized telephone records, has uncovered an officer suspected of leaking classified information to the media, an IDF spokesperson said last Sunday.

But journalists have protested, saying the move infringes on the freedom of the press and is a crude attempt to shut mouths by having reporters reveal their sources.

Legal experts, however, said the state laws are draconian enough to allow for such measures.

According to Israel Radio and *Yediot Aharonot*, Military Police questioned senior IDF officers, including brigadiers and at least one major-general, in the attempt to stop the leaks. Several of the officers were also asked to take a polygraph test, the reports said.

Those questioned were reportedly from Central Command, the civil administration, the office of the coordinator for government activities in the territories, the Judea and Samaria Command, and the IDF Spokesman's Office itself.

IDF spokesperson Brig.-Gen. Amos Gilad said the Military Police had discovered the source of the leaks and legal action is being taken against him, but Gilad refused to identify the person other than to say it was an "officer."

"Leaking is a very grave crime, and the Military Police will do everything it can, within the framework of the law, to catch leakers," Gilad said.

"It is not permissible for officers, who have signed a written pledge to comply with army secrecy, to establish a full-time relationship with journalists and leak whatever they feel like, including secrets that cause damage," he added.

Peres: Iran wants to destroy peace process, Labor gov't.

By DAVID MAKOVSKY and MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Iran supports terror attacks, because it hopes that in this way it can bring down the Labor government and derail the peace process, Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres charged last Sunday.

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, Peres said he has hard evidence that the attacks are designed to drive Labor from power.

"They are doing whatever they can to bring an end to peace and bring an end to the government that strives for peace," he said.

"For this, I have 100 percent evidence; and we have evidence they are pressing upon Islamic Jihad and other subversive organizations to act against Israel before the elections."

But he refused to disclose this evidence.

Speaking later to the Labor party convention, Peres reminded the delegates that Iran is also behind Hezbollah. He noted the recent discovery of an Iranian ship on its way to Hamburg, Germany, carrying explosives which he said were probably intended for terrorist attacks on Jewish targets.

The Likud accused Peres of incitement in his contention that the Iranians are seeking to replace his government, presumably seeking to put the Likud in power instead.

Meretz presents platform

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Meretz's new platform, which was presented to the party's council for approval last Sunday, recognizes the Palestinians' right to a state beside Israel.

Platform committee chair Amnon Rubinstein said the political developments in the region obliged Meretz to formulate its positions vis-a-vis the permanent settlements with the Palestinians, and with Syria.

"We cannot ignore the Oslo accords, the developments in the region and the new reality being formed before our eyes," Rubinstein said.

"But we must also state fearlessly that whoever wants separation is talking about separation in territory, that there are two sovereign entities: the State of Israel and the Palestinian state, the latter of which is subject to several restrictions, including demilitarization."

The platform says that Israel must agree to a gradual withdrawal from the Golan to the international border, rather than to the 1967 border.

Meretz's campaign will also focus on social and economic issues, stressing the advantages of a competitive, free economy, alongside the need to narrow social gaps and lower taxes.

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WARTIME SEDER IN BAGHDAD

***CJN* reader Joshua Heilman, of Nepean, Ont., [inset] sent us this picture of a Pesach seder in Baghdad, Iraq following World War II. Heilman was a member of a Jewish Royal Engineer company from Israel and was invited to the seder prepared by the Jewish community of Baghdad. Present at the seder were Jewish servicemen from military units encamped in Iraq, including British and American infantry, airforce and navy. The seder was conducted by the British Army chaplain Rabbi Brody.**

GSS captures Islamic Jihad terrorist

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The General Security Service (GSS) has captured a Palestinian from the Gaza Strip suspected of being an Iranian-trained Islamic Jihad terrorist, the army reported last Sunday.

Khalil Abu Ita told GSS interrogators he was recruited by the head of the Islamic Jihad organization in Turkey last summer, while he was studying medicine there.

Abu Ita, from the Jabaliya refugee camp, said he agreed to undergo military training in Iran and even received a fake Iranian passport from the embassy in Ankara, the army said.

Last August, he flew to Iran and was met by an Islamic Jihad representative who took him to a training base. There he met other recruits from Syria, Lebanon and the Gaza Strip and was given a code name, the army said.

Abu Ita received combat training and weapons instruction, as well as training in intelligence gathering and covert communications. The army did not say how long the course lasted.

Upon his return to Turkey, Abu Ita handed his fake Iranian identity back to his Islamic Jihad handler and resumed his medical studies, he told interrogators.

He was captured on March 12 when he tried to return home, the army said.

He told the GSS that the purpose of his training was to carry out an attack against Israeli targets.

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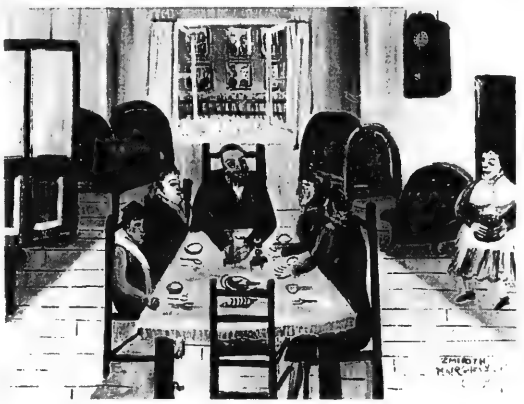
Film examines artist's memories of shtetl life

A verbal and illustrated picture of a vanished world



***The Sabbath Meal*, a painting by Mayer Kirshenblatt.**

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

Mayer Kirshenblatt is a witness, or, as Jack Kuper aptly puts it in his brief documentary, *Shtetl*, "a storehouse of memories."

Kirshenblatt came to Canada from a small town in Poland in 1934 when he was 17. He thus remembers what his *shtetl* was like before its destruction during the Holocaust.

In *Shtetl*, scheduled to be broadcast on Vision TV on April 16 at 8:30 p.m., Kirshenblatt, a painter, talks animatedly of his town, as he sits by an easel and patiently paints an oil canvas of his birthplace.

Kirshenblatt is a prolific artist. Over the years, he has produced innumerable paintings of his *shtetl*, charming works which distil the essence of a lost era in East European Jewish history.

As he rambles on contentedly, he draws an informal but by no means complete verbal and illustrated picture of his vanished *shtetl*.

In a town where virtually everyone struggled for survival, Kirshenblatt recalls that, with one single herring, his mother could make an entire meal for the family.

By local standards, the Kirshenblatts were well off, but we're never told how his father earned a living.

People did whatever they could to get by, but in the hierarchy of the *shtetl*, water carriers were on the lowest rung.

Farmers' stalls overflow with produce

Since electricity was prohibitively expensive, workers began their day at the crack of dawn; a mother bathed all her children in the same hot water; there were no telephones or radios to speak of; and isolation seemed to be the norm.

On market day, the *shtetl* was overrun by farmers, as well as by thieves and pickpockets. The stalls overflowed with an abundance of produce, but Kirshenblatt never saw a head of broccoli until he immigrated to Canada.

Recalling the seamier side of the *shtetl*, he observes that it was serviced by two Polish prostitutes and a Jewish widow who "made herself available to selected customers."

In time-honored fashion, housewives beat their laundry on rocks in the river; and for the special Sabbath meal, everyone dressed up in their finery.

On Saturdays, Kirshenblatt suggests, Jewish breadwinners could finally rest, freed from the toil of their jobs.

Jewish life in the *shtetl* ended suddenly on Oct. 20, 1942, when Jews were driven out and taken on "a journey of no return." The 23-minute film concludes abruptly at this point.

On balance, *Shtetl* is an interesting documentary, but I cannot understand why Kuper — the author of *Child of the Holocaust* — did not provide more basic factual information about the *shtetl* and about Kirshenblatt himself. Had he done so, *Shtetl* would have been a better, more authoritative film.

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Award will honor firms doing business in Israel

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canada-Israel Business Excellence Awards will be presented for the first time May 28 at the Inn on the Park Hotel.

Award co-sponsors Bank Hapoalim B.M. and the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce will honor companies exporting to, importing from or investing in Israel, or engaging in joint ventures with Israeli companies.

The awards will be presented to companies that have demonstrated strength in their category, thus bolstering the economies of both Canada and Israel and strengthening economic links between the two countries. The awards ceremony will feature Norman Spector, former ambassador to Israel, and Art Eggleton, minister of International Trade.

Coincidentally, the ceremony will be held on the day of Israel's election for prime minister.

Regardless of the election outcome, the business community will not be affected because Israel's economy is so strong, said Rafi Ben-Ami, Bank Hapoalim's chief representative for Canada, at a recent press conference. Bank Hapoalim is Israel's largest financial institution with total assets of over $44 billion (US) and more than 30 offices worldwide.

Air Canada's experience since instituting flights to Israel last summer appears to bear out Ben-Ami's confidence in Israel's economy.

"It often takes airlines a long time to develop in a marketplace. We've had an overwhelming response," said Kymberley Robertson, Air Canada's manager, corporate communications - Central Canada. "The business response has been excellent. Not only are we bringing tourists, but also business and cargo. In fact, we've had to leave cargo behind. We're looking at adding more flights."

Israel has become an increasingly attractive trade partner with the advent of the peace process, noted Robert Eli Rubinstein, incoming president of the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "The very notion that there could be peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors has been enough to provide tremendous status to the Israeli economy, and that's not even actual peace," he added.

The proposed Free Trade Agreement between Canada and Israel, scheduled to be implemented later this year pending approval of both governments, will further enhance Israel's attractiveness for Canadian business, he said.

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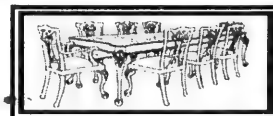
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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

Letter from Israel: Last month, a group of North American students studying at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem released an open letter to North American Jews, urging them to show solidarity in support of Israel and not curtail their travel plans to the Jewish state.

"The past seven months have shown us that fear and violence are not what life in Israel is about," the letter reads. "Underneath the current violence, this is essentially a normal community and not the war zone it may seem from abroad....

"To sum up, our experiences in Israel have given us a great respect for peace and this country. We encourage other Americans to see Israel first hand as we have. This is a rich and fascinating place for many reasons. As much as political violence is a tragic part of Israeli life, it has not been the defining factor of our time here nor will it be of yours if you decide to come."

The letter also noted that tragic acts of terrorism have also occurred in America. It was signed by 10 students, including Elana Summers of Vancouver, B.C.

***

Jewish Philadelphia: Simmi Hurwitz of the American Jewish Committee has begun offering walking and bus tours of sites in Philadelphia pertaining to local Jewish history. "I try to make the early Jewish life come alive in these tours, as well as portray our ancestors in a spirit of fun and warmth," says Hurwitz. "Philadelphia is a city extraordinarily rich in Jewish history, and can be a source of pride to local Jews and those who visit the city."

Highlights include stops at Elfreth's Alley, Franklin Court, Congress Hall, Mikveh Israel cemetery, the Liberty Bell and the Museum of American Jewish History. Each of these famous historical sites and institutions is steeped in Jewish history. 215-665-2300.

At Philadelphia's National Museum of American Jewish History, a show called *The Challenge of Piety: Satmar Hasidim in America*, and another called *Making A Living: American Jews at Work*, are on view through July 21. At the National Museum of American Jewish History, the exhibit *Art Spiegelman: The Road to Maus* runs August 1 to the end of the year.

***

London Accommodations: For only the cost of a phone call to Toronto, Canadians are now able to reserve accommodation in a range of elegant homes in London, England. A company called Uptown Reservations offers a variety of bed and breakfast hotels in the heart of the capital, close to shops, theatres and museums, and readily accessible by public transport.

Hosts have a wide range of interests and occupations, and include writers, artists, profession and business people, all of whom are happy to advise their guests of places to visit and things to do. All rooms have private bathrooms. A single room costs about, $126, a double $168. Contact Mike Coulter or Kate Stacey, 416-531-7654. Fax 416-531-2927. E-mail 76422,3645@compuserve.com.

***

Hotel Happenings, New York: The New York Palace Hotel on Madison Ave. at 50th St. combines the opulent Villard House mansion, built in 1882, with a contemporary 55-story tower. The focus of a multi-million dollar restoration, the historic section of the hotel, with its grand staircase and well-appointed drawing rooms, gives a good indication of how the wealthy once lived in Manhattan. 212-888-7000.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Ethiopian Jewry: Photographs, artifacts, a video and two lectures on Ethiopian Jewry are elements of an exhibition scheduled to open April 15 at the Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 470 Bathurst St., Toronto.

The opening reception on April 15 at 7:30 p.m. features a talk by Baruch Tegegne, the first Jew of Ethiopian origin to arrive in Canada, on My Journey, My Community's Journey: Ethiopia, Israel, Canada. Barbara Ribicoff, director of the North American Conference for Ethiopian Jewry, gives a lecture on Israel, The New Crisis, April 30, 8 p.m.

***

Jewish Film Society: Jewish Entertainers on Film is featured on April 14, 7.30 p.m. at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall.

Compiled by local film buff, historian Aldo Maggioroti, the film features clips of major Jewish composers, artists and actors from the beginnings of Hollywood to the present. Included are Jack Benny, Sid Caesar, Fanny Brice, Artur Rubinstein, Robert Merrill, Jan Peerce, Mel Brooks, Judy Holliday and many others.

Admittance restricted to those 18 or over. Members are advised to show up by 7 p.m. Bill Emery, 416-924-6211.

***

Toronto Jewish Film Festival: The fourth annual fest runs May 2 to May 9 at the Bloor Cinema, Toronto, and features an international collection of 31 films profiling the diversity of the world's Jewish experience. Festival pass, $70, includes admittance to opening night gala. Internet, http://www.interlog.com/~tjff. 416-324-8600.

***

Outstanding Musical Duo: The Amadeus Ensemble presents a concert with classical guitarist Norbert Kraft and violinist Moshe Hammer, performing music by Paganini, de Falla and Guiliani. Glenn Gould Studio, CBC, 250 Front St. W., Toronto. April 14. Adults $25. Tickets are available at the door or by calling 416-205-5555. Student rush seats available.

***

Bikel's Tevye Is Coming: With more than 1,300 performances of *Tevye the Milkman* behind him, actor Theodore Bikel continues the tradition of playing the lead role in the acclaimed musical *Fiddler On The Roof* for eight shows only at Toronto's O'Keefe Centre, June 18 to 23. For tickets ($25 to $69), visit the box office or call 416-872-2262.

***

Heppner Shares in Award: Last month, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra won a Juno award in the category of Best Classical Recording, Vocal or Choral Performance. The winning compact disc features Canadian tenor Ben Heppner and TSO conductor laureate Andrew Davis in an all-Richard Strauss extravaganza. The Globe and Mail called it "spectacular proof that it is possible to make Strauss's writing sound comfortable and even natural."

Also last month, the TSO returned to New York's legendary Carnegie Hall after a five year interlude. Their performance of the Beethoven Violin Concerto, with soloist Frank Peter Zimmermann, and two Sibelius symphonies received standing ovations and critical praise.

***

Dance Benefit: Karen Kain is guest of honor at the Second Annual Dance For Orly, a dance competition honoring the memory of Orly Watkin at the Minkler Auditorium at Seneca College, Toronto, April 14 at noon. Winners Apparel Ltd. plans to launch a line of bodywear, Orlywear, at the dance to benefit meningitis research at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre. For more information call 480-6100 ext.6100.

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Jacobovici film focuses on conversos

By JOSEPH SERGE
TAB News editor

In New Mexico, some of the Christian gravestones are sprinkled with Jewish symbols including a stylized Magen David. In the American southwest, the cornerstone of an ancient Presbyterian church is engraved with a menorah.

These are some of the ways the conversos' Jewish heritage rises up from their subconscious.

Expulsion and Memory, Simcha Jacobovici's latest documentary, is showing on TVOntario's *The View From Here* series April 17 at 10 p.m. EST.

The documentary focuses on "the hidden Jews," the descendants of the Spanish Jews forced by Queen Isabella's edict in 1492 to convert to Christianity. Generations later, many of these people continue to observe Jewish customs and traditions without knowing why.

In Toronto, for example, Maria Santos is a Catholic Portuguese who lights candles every Friday night because her mother did and so did her grandmother.

"I don't know whether it's right or wrong," Santos says about lighting the candles, "but it's faith. They say faith is what saves us."

Throughout the one-hour show, which was filmed in six different countries, Jacobovici and co-producer Elliott Halpern present examples of people who only now are beginning to discover their Jewish heritage.

In a small Spanish village, a precocious young boy talks about the history of the conversos with all the confidence of a middle-aged professor. "In this [very Catholic] town," he says, " if you count back to the father of my father of my father of my father, we're all Jewish."

For over 500 years some conversos hung on to their Judaism despite persecution and the lack of synagogues, rabbis or Jewish education.

"A converso had a wall dividing his head in two," one man says. "On the outside he must show he's a good Christian but on the inside he must show to himself that he's still a Jew."

The documentary climaxes with the special outdoor concert orchestrated by Zubin Mehta in Toledo to commemorate 500 years since the expulsion. The event was Spain's way of asking for forgiveness for its chequered past.

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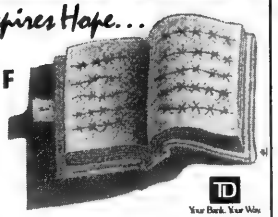
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Soo skier snags two golds at national competition

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's early spring, the snow has melted and Adam Kates has hung up his cross-country skis for another season — but not before winning two gold medals at the Canadian Junior National Cross Country Ski Championships in 100 Mile House, B.C.

Kates, a native of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., was also named Overall Juvenile Boys Canadian Champion after posting the two top finishes in his age category, 14 to 15-year-olds, at the national event.

At last year's competition as a rookie, Kates didn't do nearly as well, finishing somewhere between 18th and 20th. But "this was my second year as a juvenile, so I had the experience. I had a really strong race and I had been there before. I knew what to expect, plus I trained way harder," he said in a telephone interview.

A quintuple-threat athlete who plays football, baseball and golf and who skis and runs cross country, Kates spent last summer getting in shape by running with his high school track team.

When the snow started falling, he took to his skis at the Soo Finnish Ski Club, where he combined long, evenly-paced training sessions with short-burst, high-intensity efforts.

His gruelling training regimen stood him in good stead not only at the skiing competition, but in the little know airport marathon that preceded it. To get to the event, he and his good friend, Brady Dunne, who finished second to Kates in the freestyle, began by flying to Toronto. From there, they flew to Calgary, then on to Kelowna and from there to Kamloops. They were then driven 320 kilometres to 100 Mile House.

Exhausting for most, but not for a 15-year-old with boundless energy. On his first day back on skis, Kates felt great during his training run.

But the next day, the full effects of jet lag and the long travel schedule hit him right in the middle of the 10-km classic. Feeling tired, he finished the day .7 seconds out of third place.

The next day, "my skis felt fast" during the 5-km freestyle race, Kates said.

(In the freestyle, skiers use a style resembling ice skaters who push out to the sides in alternate strokes and glide. In the classic, they move the skis forward in parallel strokes.)

Because of his strong finish in the freestyle, he was in the front row for the start of the final event, the 7.5-km classic race. The pack, due no doubt to youthful enthusiasm, started in a frenzy and Kates felt like he was getting trampled.

He decided to lay back and work his way back to the lead. With about six kilometres to go, he got the leader in his sights and with four kilometres left, passed him. From then until the finish line it was a tight race — a virtual chess match on snow — as his opponent stayed only inches off his heels waiting for his chance.

But Kates, a good sprinter and strong on hills, knew the course ended with two hills. He decided to hold the lead as much as he could and go for it at the end.

Adam Kates displays the skating style used in some cross-country ski events

Just as he had foreseen, he gained ground going uphill near the end of the course and outsprinted his opponent, winning by about two seconds.

"I have lots of energy in all my races. I take nice long strides on the flats and just go animal up the hills," he said in describing the winning effort.

Kates' effort produced a personal best time in the 5-km freestyle race, finishing in 12 minutes, 57.4 seconds — his first time ever under 14 minutes. He won the 7.5-km race in 23 minutes, 45.2 seconds.

The wins were the culmination of a successful season for the redhead from the Soo. He began the season with a pair of wins in classic and freestyle at a December event in Timmins. He followed that up with a first in classic and a second in freestlye at the Hiawatha Invitational in January, two firsts at the Southern Ontario Divisionals at Duntroon (Collingwood), two firsts at the Ontario Provincial Championships/Continental Cup at Thunder Bay in February and finally, the two firsts at 100 Mile House, plus a fourth.

Kates got his start on skis at age 8 when his father, Paul, also an avid skier, "used to just take me out."

He enrolled his son in the "jackrabbit" program at the Soo Finnish Ski Club. At age 13, Kates completed that program and began training with the club's racing team under coach Helen Lindfors. He began competing in races at 14.

Now 16, Kates has moved from juvenile to junior boys (16-19) and he's looking forward to competing against older skiers. He's already tested himself against them and feels confident he'll be able to more than hold his own in official events.

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New ways of treating degenerative disc disease

TORONTO — Orthopedic surgeons at The Toronto Hospital are treating degenerative disc disease using a new innovative surgical technique along with a unique implant approved for use in Canada in the last six months.

Endoscopic spinal fusion surgery, which is less invasive than the traditional method, results in a shorter recovery time, a shorter hospital stay and a quicker return to normal activities for patients. The implant, known as the BAK Interbody Fusion System, is a unique technique for stopping movement of the disc.

Degenerative disc disease, which is disabling and painful, is caused by aging and wear and tear. Injury to the back can also accelerate degenerative disc disease. The discs are located between the spine bones and can be described as soft cushions which act as shock absorbers. With their deterioration, movement becomes extremely painful. Approximately two percent of the Canadian population has painful degenerative disc disease.

"Endoscopic spinal fusion is a new technique to fuse the spine and we are doing this technique in a new way by using the BAK implant," says Dr. Izzy Lieberman, an orthopedic surgeon at The Toronto Hospital. "The technique is still investigational and is closely studied in a controlled fashion. And so far, we have had positive results."

During endoscopic spinal fusion surgery, five one-centimetre incisions are made in the abdomen. Small, hollow metal tubes known as trocars are placed in these incisions. Instruments and a camera scope are fed through the trocars into the abdomen and close to the spine. The surgeon is able to operate on the spine by way of a TV monitor.

The BAK implant is fitted between the spine bones through one of the trocars. The implants are similar to large hollow screws with holes in them and are usually implanted in pairs inside the spine. Portions of the disc and bone are drilled out and the BAK implants are screwed into the holes. Bone graft is placed inside and between the BAK implants so that bone grows through the holes fusing that section of the spine.

Endoscopic surgery

Endoscopic surgery takes two hours and is followed by a hospital stay of three to four days with no stay in intensive care. A traditional, or open, method involves a large incision in the front or back and a hospital stay of up to seven days. The BAK implant may also be used for open surgery.

"There is a decreased risk of complications such as wound infection and bleeding, a shorter surgery time and hospital stay, and a quicker healing time," Lieberman says.

Lieberman is a member of The Toronto Hospital Spinal Program established in February 1995, one of only two programs of its kind in Canada. The program comprises a multidisciplinary team of neurosurgeons, orthopedic surgeons, urologists, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and chaplains.

Award honors local doctor

TORONTO — The Peter R. Newman Humanitarian Award has been created by North York General Hospital's Department of Family and Community Medicine, in honor of a physician at the hospital who was the driving force behind an innovative resident teaching program between Canada and Dominica.

Dr. Peter Newman became physican-in-chief of Marigot Hospital in Dominica in 1969, the year after he graduated from medicine. Twenty years later, he led in the creation of a program that now sees Canadian family medicine residents complete one to two months of their training in Dominica.

The new award will be open to all members of the hospital staff including physicians, nurses, administrators, health professionals, clerical and service.

"I'm delighted that an award has been created to recognize people who want to do something out of the ordinary to help other people and groups," Newman said.

"I hope this award will encourage individuals who are doing something extra, demonstrating a personal as well as professional dedication to a cause."

Dr. Peter Newman

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Call 248-4556.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

(416) 441-2888 (416) 441-2888

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED

NORTH

PRINCE EDWARD BLVD. RAVINE
$698K. Fab. contemporary custom 188 ft. tableland, open concept, art deco., quality finishings. **Marilyn Feldman***.

QUIET CRES. BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
$589,000. Superb 2 storey exec., redone kit. & baths, mn. flr. fam. + den, beautifully fin. bsmt. **Barbara Krieger***.

1ST AD DENLOW ESTATES
$488,000. CAC., hrdwd. floors, large principal rms., quiet child safe street, fin. rec. room. **Cheryl Graff***.

BEST PRICE IN DENLOW AREA
$429,000. 6 bdrms., fam SOLD & library, Victoria Woods built, great opportunity. **Marilyn Feldman***.

1ST AD THORNHILL $298,000.
Wonderful 4 bdrm. fami SOLD 3 baths, new white kit., fam. rm. with fpl. & w/o. **Marilyn Feldman***.

CENTRAL

1ST AD! AVENUE RD/LAWRENCE GEM!
$355K! Unbelievable! Mint 4 + 2 bdrms., 4 baths! Mn. flr. lau.! Nanny ste.! Won't last! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE! $295,000!
Wow! Country feel/city li SOLD 4 bdrms.! Mn. fam. rm. o/l's super 45' x 115'! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

1ST AD! 265 RIDLEY BLVD.! NEW!
$195K! Wow! Spectacular 1 bdrm., 2 baths, penthouse ste. w/fam. rm.! Won't last! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

271 RIDLEY BLVD.! $179K! WOW!
Just listed! Choice 2 b SOLD 2 baths, SE corner unit w/fam. rm.! Won't last! **Sandon Schwartzben****.

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker*

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

BAYVIEW-16TH. $525,000. Magnificent, 3,950 sq. ft. plus 4 bdrm. + fin. bsmt, 4 bths. 59'x147' lot, upgraded kit. $$ extras.

BATHURST-SHEPPARD. $159,900. Just listed! 2 bd. bungalow, 56x125 lot, choice location.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

CHOOSE YOUR FINISHES! FOREST HILL
Stone & stucco beauty, 5 baths! David Wagman 488-2875*

LOWER VILLAGE CHARMING GEORGIAN
Centre hall beauty w/centre island in kit! D. Wagman 488-2875*

1ST AD! LOWER VILLAGE $949,000
10 Yrs new, absolutely gorgeous, 2 stry Georgian, high ceilings, main flr lib & fam rm! C. Kwinter*/J. Wagman** 488-2875

LOWER VILLA SOLD AL RENO $895,000
3 Stry, 5 bdrms, exqu kit! David Wagman* 488-2875

ALMOST LAND VALUE $795,000
Vendor says sell! Great value 6 bdrms! J. Wagman** 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE ONLY $695,000 ACT FAST!
Centre hall Tudor, 4 bdrms, fabulous! D. Wagman* 488-2875

RENO'D UPPER SOLD AGE CENTRE HALL
Bring an offer! Must s uras! R. Sud* 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE GREAT VALUE
$629,000 Dead-end street 50' frntg! Jeffrey Wagman** 488-2875

AVE/LAWRENCE 3,200 S.F. + FIN BSMT
Mn flr fam & den $599K! Tobi Smith* 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE BEAUTY $599,000
Total reno! Best location! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

JUST LISTED ARMOUR HEIGHTS!
Det 2 stry, 3 bdrms, frplc, fin bsmt! S. Roth** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

BATH/STEELES 4 BDRM+ FAM RM
Mn flr laundry, $299,900! Tobi Smith* 488-2875

SHEPPARD/WILSON HTS 4 BR $539,000
9' Ceilings, best section of Balmoral! C. Jong* 488-2875

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

YONGE/CLARK "SKYRISE" $265,000
2 Bdrm, 2 baths + sol, approx 1,646 s.f.! M. Davis* 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

COLDWELL BANKER
(416) 485-2299

PINNACLE REAL ESTATE
(905) 707-8001

Bathurst/Steeles
Reduced to sell! Prestigious Ridgegate. Immac. multi level 3 bdrm, 3 baths, fam. rm., dble gar. Very motivated! Call Chaya Lawrence (905) 707-8001

Bathurst/Cairn
$209,000 - 2 Bdrm Bung. SOLD on 40 x 131' Lot! D. Abraham 485-2299

Bathurst/Cairn
$689,000 - Custom Built H SOLD w/5 Bdrms, Over 3,900 sq ft! D. Abraham 485-2299

Hillmount Avenue
$569,000 - 4 Bdrm w/Gourmet Kit, Main Fl Fam Rm + Den! D. Abraham 485-2299

Cedarvale
$339,000 - Prime Location! 3 Bdrm Det Home + Solarium and Priv Drive! D. Abraham 485-2299

CONDO · CONDO · CONDO

500 Glencairn Avenue
$164,000 - 2 Bdrm + Den, Marble Foyer, Gourmet Kit, Over 1,380 sq ft! D. Abraham 485-2299

Glencairn W. Subway
From $89,000 - 1 - 2 Bdrm w/parking, Pool, Sauna! D. Abraham 485-2299

Yonge/Steeles
$116,000 - 2 Bdrm, Parking, Locker! D. Abraham 485-2299

Expect the best.®

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

THORNHILL HOMES LISTED BY ALLEN SIDOFSKY
Bathurst-Centre "Westmount" price slashed $359,900, 4 bdrms, over 2,700 ft, parquet floors, premium lot, quiet crescent. **Bathurst-Clark 1st Ad!** Gorgeous 3 bdrm home $279,900, features 3+1 bdrms, ceramics, hdwd floors, fin. bsmt ++! *A. Sidofsky

BAYVIEW & 16TH — ASKING $498,900
About 4,600 sq. ft., great yard, 3 car garage, family room & library, ensuite baths in all bdrms. *Michael Kamin

5 CUSTOM BUILT HOMES AT BATHURST-CENTRE
Nature area, thousands in upgrades, 3 car garages, choice of finishings, 3,700 to over 4,000'. Great value! *Sarah Tamin

BATHURST & CENTRE — STUNNING HOME!
About 3,600', great floor plan, white ceramics & kitchen, jacuzzi, loads of extras, like a model! *Sarah Tamin

BATHURST-WESTMOUNT — EXQUISITE 4 BDRM!
Gourmet kit, fin. bsmt, hdwd floors, extras galore! Ted Waxman

BATHURST VILLAGE — LARGE 3 BDRM SIDESPLIT
$309,000! Fin. bsmt, dble garage, on quiet street! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-CENTRE — MOVE IN CONDITION!
Quiet crescent, separate entry to professionally finished basement, large kitchen, neutral decor! *Sarah Tamin

BATHURST MANOR $244,900
Large 3 bdrm bungalow, dble garage, finished basement apartment with separate entry, new kitchen! *Ted Waxman

CONDOMINIUMS

YONGE & CLARK "CONSERVATORY"
Prestigious 3 bdrms, move in cond., motivated! *Sarah Rovet

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

OTHER PRIME PROPERTIES;
- **S. of Finch,** n. of Sheppard custom 4 bdrm. cul-de-sac +++ $367,900
- **Armour Heights** 3 bdrm 2 stry $280,000

ANNETTE ROSENTHAL 633-6666 Res. 631-6883
Homelife/5 Star Ltd.

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED/REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST WILSON $225,000
Ideal starter, 3 bdrms, 2 bths, liv. rm. w/open fireplace, kit w/walk-out, 50'x120' lot, don't miss! Steps to all!

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
3 Bdrms, 3 bths, up-dated kit., den, w/out, fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

BLUE FOREST AREA
Cust. built, 3 bdrm + fam rm., huge liv & din, fireplce, 4 bths, fin. lower lvl, lge lot, dble gar.

NORTH YORK MANSION
Quality built, over 8,000 sq. ft, 4 bdrms, library, den, fam. rm, 8 bths, kit w/walk-out, fin. lower lvl, 70' x 200' lot.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

SEARLE-WILMINGTON
Ranch bungalow, 3 bedroom, family room, plus huge finished basement apartment.

BATHURST - RIDGEGATE
Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,300 sq. ft. Come & View. 905-884-4425.

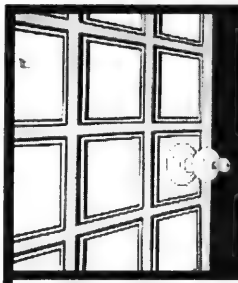
BATHURST - STEELES
Primrose - 2 bedroom + den, 2 full baths, eat in kitchen with window, 2 parking & locker.

SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

To place a **CJN** Classified ad please call **Janice (416) 422-2528**

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE



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787-1712

"We open doors for you"

CLANTON PARK — VENDOR SAYS SELL!!
Gorgeous new home, custom-built, luxurious upgrades, maple kitchen, 9 ft. ceilings on main floor, approx. 3400 sq. ft., only $499,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — LOWEST PRICE IN AREA!
Spacious bungalow on 50 ft. lot, sep. ent. to apt., renovated eat-in kitchen, priced to sell now! Only $207,500. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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CLANTON PARK — VENDOR SAYS SELL!!
Gorgeous new home, custom-built luxurious upgrades, maple kitchen, 9 foot ceilings on main floor, approx. 3400 sq. ft. only $499,900. MUST BE SEEN — ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — IST AD!
Spacious 3 bdrm. bungalow, shows well, renovated & decorated, neutral decor, ensuite bath, spacious lot, fabulous location, asking $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BAYVIEW / FIFESHIRE — ACT NOW!
Spacious bung., custom built, quality construction, approx. 2500 sq. ft. + fin. lower level, 70' frontage, fab. location. Call now! Only $559,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

DELL PARK
Brand new 3600 sq. ft. luxury home — 5 bdrms., 4 baths, dream kitchen, fabulous location, only $599,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / SHELBORNE
Move right in! Mint condition, approx. 3300 sq. ft. + finished basement. All the bells and whistles, thousands of $$$ in upgrades, two staircases, fabulous location. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bathurst/Clark, 4 bdrm + fam. rm, 1750 s.f., det. brick, immac. cond., close to all amenities & synagogue. 905-764-2640.

Lot, 50x120' on 314 Springgate Blvd in Thornhill, Clark/Atkinson, walk to Beth Abraham Joseph synagogue, 905-881-4418

Wilshire. Thornhill, quality Bramalea built, upgrades galore, 4 + 1 bdrms, inground pool, 4,379 s.f., asking $489,000.09, 905-731-4674.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Glencairn/Bathurst
$179,000
Exceptional suite. 2 bedrooms + den & 2 baths. Insuite laundry. Central air. 2 parking spaces. Balcony. Walk to shul, shops, TTC. Leslie Dennis, Sales Rep., 483-4337. **Paul Slavens Real Estate Inc. Realtor.**

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

SKYMARK · REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THESE BARGAINS ARE SOLD!

Choice of 1 or 2 bdrm. + den. Priced from $185K. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST,** 441-2003/24 hrs. on call. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

Bathurst & Steeles
3 br Condo/Townhouse, 3 Baths, 5 Appl. $193,000.
- 158 Hillmount Ave. 50 x 137 ft. $299,900
- 53 Dromore Cres. 60 x 125 ft. $219,900
- 75 John Street 54 x 210 ft. $245,000

MORE CONDOS NEEDED !
Gideon Waichenberg
RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

BATHURST & LAWRENCE CONDO
$199,000. Bright 1,449 SF, 2BR, 2Bth, 24 HR Sec., 2Prkg, steps to TTC, Shopping, Shuls, Robin Daniels, 449-2020. The Prudential Sadie Moranis Realty, Independently Owned Broker

Bathurst/Sheppard, 3 bdrm. 2 bths luxury condo, 3 exp, pool, sauna, appls, sec., shul, TTC, shops, $150,000 948-5555.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Hemispheres II
(131 Torresdale)
Luxury Adult Condominium

2 Bdrm. fam. rm, eat-in kit., ensuite ldry, sun rm, 2 full baths, 1,400 + sq. ft. corner unit overlooks park.
Call (905) 731-3080
Non-smokers please.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

Bathurst/Neptune, gorgeous, vacant, 3 bdrm, 2 full bths, reno'd, has to be seen. $160,000., $1275/mo. 783-6796

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Resp. middle-age Jewish couple want to rent bsmnt apt. or room for 3 mos. starting May 23 or will house-sit & look after pets or will pay rent. 635-0026.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

ARTICLING STUDENT requires shared accomodation w/prkg, close to downtown, May 15. Karen. 519-372-0371

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Fem. student seeks similar to share 2 bdrm. condo; n/smoker Dundas/University. 221-7384.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

85 Roberta Dr. (Bathurst-Lawrence area) 1 bdrm bsmnt, avail. immed, freshly painted, priv. ent, free prkg, free use of washer/dryer. Near bus stop & major shopping centres. Rent only $550/mo incl. Call Michael, 416-222-4843; Karen 783-5716.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart, Lake Simcoe, reno'd 4 bdrm, steps to lake, asking $99,000. 416-633-3151.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

45 mins from Toronto
Lakefront, spacious summer home 5 bdrm, 3 bths, CAC, 5 appls., fully furn., safe beach, July, $5000. 416-226-3344.

Lake Simcoe lakefront estate Beaverton area. Lux 4 bed. Tennis. Pvt sandy beach. Dock. Seas/mo. 226-0009, 749-6600.

Lake Simcoe, Belle Ewart, 3 bdrm, public beach, next to daycamp, $3500 per season. eves. 785-6222, 783-4553.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

4 bdrm, waterfront cottage at small Muskoka lake. 221-0253.

Lake Simcoe. Jewish Community near Orillia. Large waterfront cottage . By the month or season. Video avail. call Gilbert at 416-782-1319.

Lakefront cottage to rent. Balfour Beach (1 hr from Toronto) 4 bedroom, Tennis court, walk to Camp Katonim. Pts. call 905-405-7511 (Mon.-Thurs) 905-476-5015 (Friday-Sun).

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

4 bdrm cottage, priv. dock on lake, near shul, Belle Ewart, 905-764-8334.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Resp. young family seeks priv. lakefront cottage nr. Belle Ewart/Barrie area. Must have 3-4 bdrms, lndry, bbq & fireplace, July & Aug., 633-5347.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

LONGBOAT KEY, on the Gulf I SELL the **beach, bay or golf course** condos & homes. Call 1-800-354-8136 ask for **Janis Collier, Palmer Realty**

Prestigious Long Boat Key, lux 2 bdrm, 2 bth condo, furn, on bay, $139,500 US, 905-884-3771.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

1 bdrm apt + (sofa bed in lr) , Lev Yerushalayim, avail July 15-Aug. 12. $150 US/day or monthly rate negot'ble. Israel tel (07) 420-141; fax (07) 443-817.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Experienced Secretary with pleasant manner. Please send hand-written application to Fax. # 416-783-7598.

Experienced Secretary, full-time; required for busy executive. We have a Wordperfect enviroment. Spread-sheet and desk top publishing would be added advantages. Please reply to Box #6727. The Canadian Jewish News.

SONGLEADER
Jewish community sleepaway camp for ADD/LD campers needs ENTHUSIASTC guitar or keyboardist for music program. Teach & lead songs, help with services, work on camp ruach. Camp's worship is the best mix of Reform & Conservative youth group. Season: June 19 - Aug. 15; families welcome. Please FAX letteref interest/resume to Eugene Bell, 201-575-4188.

SUMMER JOBS
Co-ed Orthodox camp in Pocono Mts. seeks staff for Arts & Crafts director, Athletic director, general male counsellors, woodshop-pioneering, music staff. For details call 917-593-0261 or fax resume, 201-575-4188.

Teacher, London Community Hebrew Day School requires a full-time Hebrew/Judaic studies teacher commencing September, 1996. Hebrew fluency is required. Call 519-439-8419 or fax 519-439-0404.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady avail. part-time, refs. 416-588-7641

Cleaning lady, offices, houses, apts, excel. refs. 416-241-5000.

Darek's Service
Housekeeping
Window Cleaning
Landscaping. **691-2308**

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
- **No Fee to Employer**
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127

Exp. cleaning lady avail, 1 day a wk. Call after 6 pm, 252-8143

Exp. cleaning lady avail.Mon to Fri., refs., low rates. 251-6729.

Exp. cleaning lady looking for day's work. 248-2464.

Experienced cleaning lady available. 921-1331.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Mature lady seeks position as live-out caregiver. 285-6182.

Nanny, live-in or out, full or part-time, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907.

Reliable, efficient cleaning lady avail., refs., 533-8525

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Live-in companion for elderly gentleman, including kosher cooking & housework. Ability to drive desirable. Please call 416-363-4200.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

HCA avail. to work in private home/institution. 416-754-8545.

HCA available to take of elderly/companion/nanny. Live-out. 4 days/week. Please call Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm. 269-0726

Mum's Caregiving Services RNA's, HCA's, to care for elderly, handicapped, people with dementia. In home services, escorts for appts. 665-7969.

259 SENIORS

Cheerful people. Honest. Yiddish/English & other languages spoken, with car, avail to drive to doctor appts, shopping/hospital companion. Live in / out. Honey 416-665-8674.

Driver escorts for drs. appts., hospital, shopping, companion for outings. Yiddish & English speaking. 905-881-8557.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Sincere? Serious? Single? Since 1966 we have succeeded in bringing together serious minded, sincere, single people of all ages interested in marriage & lasting relationships. Let our 30 years of success help you find that special someone. Please call us at Humanist Institute, 416-226-6288.

Bringing-People-Together. We care. Ruth 905-731-5204.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appts. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Connections Introduction Service. NO FEE until 1st *connection* is made. 661-7154.

Jewish Singles Registry. Select your own dates by viewing biographies/photos. Over 980 members averaging an engagement every 7½ wks. 398-7068.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attractive, articulate prof. woman, 55, enjoys bridge, golf, music & theatre would like to meet active or retired professional Jewish male with similar interests. Box 6731 CJN.

Jewish professional male, 35, tall, attractive, athletic, down-to-earth, non-smoker & active. You are female, 25-35, attractive with similar qualities. Please lv. msg. 416-631-4706.

JM, 35, looking for a gentle JF soul, who knows what beauty & happiness is and shares it; who is conscious of the world's suffering and tries to repair it. Box 6729 CJN.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #____
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

SJF, 31, former Montrealer, trying to get a life in T.O. Warm, attractive, with a minimum of schtick. Educated, employed, good sense of humour, interested in a wide variety of things from hockey to theatre, from biking to good Italian food, seeks SJM mensch, 30 something, with similar attributes to try and make some meaningful contact and see where it goes. Box 6730 CJN.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Wedding gown bought in May at $2300, all lace and beads, size 8/9, worn for 2 hours, hoop skirt, veil. Asking $1000. Must sell! Other assorted gowns available, 782-2275.

315 CARS FOR SALE

Affordable luxury cars and others, previously owned. Excellent condition, CERTIFIED. Call Elizabeth 416-255-9594.

330 OBITUARIES

Jean Sable on March 22, 1996, late of 1 Ava Rd.
Gloria Vogel on March 22, 1996, late of 65 Skymark Dr. #1802
Helen Buckler on March 22, 1996, late of 4001 Bayview Ave. #406
Clara Shime on March 22, 1996, late of 350 Lonsdale Rd.
Ivy Morris on March 22, 1996, late of Bayview Extendicare
Molly Fleishman on March 24, 1996, late of 7259 Vernor Dr.
Paula Pape-Lipson on March 24, 1996, late of 322 Kennedy Ave.
Esther Morris on March 25, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
John Farro on March 25, 1996, late of 55 Prince Arthur Ave. #906
Reuben Reiken on March 26, 1996, late of 2121 Bathurst St. 811
Reta Blumenthal on March 25, 1996, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
Jacqueline Blake on March 27, 1996, late of 351 Christie St.
Berman, Louis on March 25, 1996, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W. #303
Gat, Leon on March 25, 1996, late of 110 Lisa Cres.
Yellan, Sylvia on March 25, 1996, late of 1085 Steeles Ave. W. #301
Green, Jeanette on March 26, 1996, late of 267 Hollyberry Green
Carrady, Morris on March 26, 1996
Vishnevetsky, Bassheyva on March 27, 1996, late of 5900 Yonge St. #305
Danon, Klara on March 26, 1996, late of 47 Ridgevila Dr.
Harris, Sarah on March 27, 1996, late of 4300 Bathurst St. #1107
Fass, Simon on March 27, 1996, late of 6 Meadowbrook Rd. #3
Beck, Maria on March 29, 1996
Hudes, Harvey on March 28, 1996, late of 65 Skymark Dr. #2302
Lerek, Michael on March 28, 1996
Kisiuk, Phyllis on March 29, 1996, late of 18 Cedarcroft Blvd. #408
Whitby, Kenneth on March 28, 1996, late of 25 Almington St.
Kalman, Zoltan on March 29, 1996, late of 2961 Dufferin St. #504
Mendelson, Harry on March 31, 1996
Eisen, Sarah on March 30, 1996, late of 131 Torresdale Ave. #1002
Wineberg, Irving on March 31, 1996, late of 40 Orchard Cres.
Grosz, Rose on March 31, 1996
Mills, Sylvia on March 31, 1996, late of 23 Lockmere Terrace
Gottlieb, Anne on March 31, 1996, late of 6150 Bathurst St.

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "The Elegant Garage Sale"

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

338 SHIVA CATERING

DIAMONDS
FINE FOODS
SHIVA
MEALS & PLATTERS
• Flexible Menus • Free delivery
• Same day service
180 STEELES AVE W.,
(905) 771-8737
9665 BAYVIEW AVE.
(905) 508-7878

Steeles Memorial Chapel

338 SHIVA CATERING

milk 'n honey
THE DAIRY RESTAURANT
SAME DAY SERVICE
*Tasteful Presentation
*Hot/Cold Platters and Full Course Meals
• DELIVERY AVAILABLE
789-7651
3457 BATHURST ST.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN SELLS JENN-AIR FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

LIME CHICKEN

Marinade:			pinch	tarragon	pinch
1	lime, juice only	1	2	boneless, skinless chicken breasts	2
1/2 cup	white wine	125 mL		flour	
1	garlic clove, finely chopped	1	2 tsp	oil	10 mL
1 tsp	ginger				
Sauce:			1/2 cup	chicken broth	125 mL
1	lime, juice only	1	12 cup	tomato paste	125 mL
1/2 cup	white wine	125 mL			

Mix marinade ingredients together and marinate chicken breasts for at least 30 mins. Drain breasts, flatten, and flour each side. In a large frying pan, quickly sauté the chicken in the oil, about 2 mins. per side. Remove and keep warm. Turn up the heat to high, add the sauce ingredients, and boil down until only half the original amount remains. Serve chicken breasts with sauce over top on a bed of rice. *The lime adds a very fresh, exciting flavour to the chicken.* Yield: 2 servings.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Dear Jesse,

I am a 50-year-old widow with numerous health problems, and I am caring for my 82-year-old mother.

Up until a year ago, my mother seemed to be able to manage more independently. Now she seems to need more care and attention. I work full time, and it is difficult to prepare her meals ahead of time. She also can no longer take a shower herself, and would like me to help. The problem is that she wants me to help her before I go to work and that is impossible.

I am feeling overwhelmed and frustrated. How do I go about getting help for my mother?

G. A.

Dear G. A.,

Caring for an elderly parent is not an easy task, both physically and emotionally. However, there are services available to help make caregiving less overwhelming.

There are several ways in which you can meet many of your mother's needs, while at the same time respecting your own. You can contact the social service departments of any hospital or community social assistance agency. It is also possible that you may find that services for the elderly are offered through your local Jewish community.

Some cities have organizations which offer subsidized frozen or warm meals that can be delivered to an elderly person's residence. Furthermore, some social service agencies provide homecare services. A trained homecare worker will come to a client's home and help in activities of daily living with which the individual has difficulty. For example, they will prepare meals, go grocery shopping and aid the client with bathing on a weekly basis.

Finally, it is imperative that you must not neglect your own health. In terms of helping yourself, communities often run support groups for caregivers. These meetings allow for individuals to converse with others who are in similar situations as themselves and experiencing similar stresses. It is often comforting to know that one is not alone with his/her feelings of frustration and helplessness.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

The Canadian Jewish news
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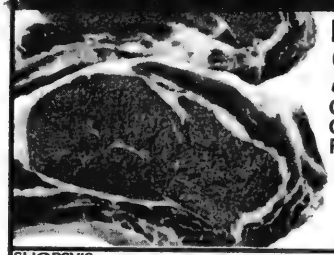

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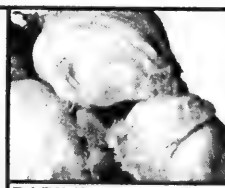

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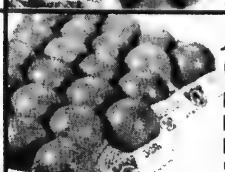

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish distress line, Tel-Aide, provides community with important lifeline. *Page 7*

Coast to Coast

Justice Minister Allan Rock discusses Israel/Canada link in areas of human rights and civil liberties. *Page 14*

17-year-old charged with promoting hatred on the Internet *Page 15*

Harry Cohen may be the only Canadian to die in the Holocaust. *Page 16*

Quebec judge apologizes for his statment that gas-chamber victims didn't suffer. *Page19*

Israel, U.S.A. & The World

Air strikes aim is to force Lebanon and Syria to crack down on Hezbollah. *Analysis.* *Page 28*

TAB news

Israeli films on Gulf War period will launch the Toronto Jewish Film Festival. *Page 35*

Sculptor of dreams, Misha Frid, unveils two pieces commissioned for the Olympic Games. *Page 36*

Sports news

Or Chaim Knights in tournament final. *Page 38*

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Shabbat: Tazria-Metzora
Candlelighting 7:48
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Pressure mounts on Lebanon

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — With its continued air assaults and naval blockade, Israel is mounting pressure on the Lebanese government to crack down on Hezbollah operations.

Foreign Minister Ehud Barak ruled out diplomatic activity to end the operation, code-named Grapes of Wrath, until Lebanon curbed Hezbollah operations against Israel.

"Right now, our guns and our aircraft are hitting the Hezbollah, and I believe that the time will come for diplomatic contacts only once the government in Beirut will realize its responsibility to take over Hezbollah," Barak said last week.

IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, said that the massive wave of Lebanese refugees fleeing the repeated Israeli bombardments of targets in southern Lebanon would force the Lebanese government into action.

The Israeli raids on targets in Lebanon came in the wake of repeated Katyusha rocket assaults launched by Hezbollah on northern Israeli communities.

After Hezbollah unleashed a Katyusha attack on northern Israel April 9, Prime Minister Shimon Peres responded two days later with a series of air assaults at Hezbollah positions within Lebanon.

At the weekly Cabinet meeting, Peres offered to stop the Israeli strikes if Hezbollah ceased its rocket attacks on northern Israel.

"If the Hezbollah ceases its attacks, we will cease ours," Peres said at the meeting, adding that "Israel has the patience, fortitude and ability to continue carrying out the required actions until Hezbollah attacks cease."

The prime minister's remarks came as hundreds of thousands of Lebanese civilians fled north to escape the IDF raids, and as northern Israel came under a counter-barrage of Katyusha rockets.

The number of refugees fleeing south Lebanon reached about 200,000, after the IDF warned it would hit Hezbollah targets in Tyre

Continued on page 29

The expression on the faces depicts a sense of urgency and disruption. Seen in this photo is the evacuation of a family from Kiryat Shmona under the threat of rocket attack. More than half of Kiryat Shmona's residents sought shelter in the south, away from their homes, in an attempt to elude the Katyusha rockets launched by Hezbollah since the middle of last week. *[RNS photo]*

Canada Centre struck by Katyusha rocket

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

METULLA — A Katyusha rocket exploded outside the Canada Centre in Metulla around 9 a.m. last Sunday, causing an estimated $1 million (US) damage to the recreation facility that was built with the assistance of United Israel Appeal of Canada. There were no injuries.

Some 60 children were playing inside the centre's underground bomb shelter when the Katyusha exploded nearby, shattering windows and puncturing a hole in the roof of the building.

"Even if the rocket had landed directly on the centre, the children would have been safe in the underground bomb shelter," Metulla Mayor Yossi Goldberg told *The CJN*.

The shelter has been used to hold activities for Metulla children since the cancellation of classes due to the security situation. The rest of the Canada Centre, which includes a skating rink and swimming pool, has been closed since last week.

"It will take about 10 days to repair the damage," said Goldberg, "but repairs can't begin until the situation in the region is back to normal."

The rocket that fell on Sunday was the first to hit Metulla, the northernmost town in Israel, in over two years.

"It was a powerful explosion," said Jonathan Margalit, who was in his Metulla home when the Katyusha landed.

"The rocket left a deep cone-shaped hole in the lawn outside the Canada Centre," he said. "There was a lot of broken glass, a hole in the roof over the swimming pool, and damage to the wrought iron fence surrounding the complex."

It was one of 45 rockets launched by the Hezbollah from Lebanon, which landed in the Galilee on Sunday.

Next Week

The CJN publishes the winning cartoons from our *Yom Ha'atzmaut* Teen Cartoon Festival.

Coping with Katyushas — please see page 27

The News In Brief

International

CANADA

Website Awards

TORONTO – Vancouver's Ken McVay and his Nizkor Project were recently awarded the 1995 eyeSITE of the Year award.

Nizkor was started by McVay in 1995 to combat the rise of Holocaust denial and neo-Nazi net propaganda. The Web site archives megs and megs of documentation on the planned and systemic slaughter of 12 million Europeans – including six million Jews.

The eyeSITE award is given by *eye* magazine in association with the Microsoft Network.

Human Rights Commision

TORONTO – B'nai Brith Canada's Institute for International Affairs (BBC) has once again sent representatives to the 52nd annual meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

The BBC representatives will be focusing their efforts on several fronts, including the proliferation of hate and racist literature on the Internet and fighting terrorism.

Jerusalem's Works

OTTAWA – Some of the many varied works relating to the city of Jerusalem will be on display at the National Library of Canada as part of a unique exhibition of more than 30 rare books from the library's Jacob M. Lowy Collection of rare Hebraica and Judaica.

Among the highlights of the exhibition is the first Hebrew book printed in Jerusalem in 1841, as well as works produced by European and North American presses spanning a period of over 500 years.

ISRAEL

Mimouna Delegation

JERUSALEM – King Hassan II of Morocco, for the first time, is sending an official, high-level delegation here to greet Mimouna celebrants, Mimouna organizer MK Rafi Edri (Labor) announced.

Edri called the visit a "further contribution of the king towards the peace process and bridging gaps between Muslims and Jews."

Among those with whom the delegation will meet is Shas spiritual mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef.

Jordan Flies Into Israel

TELAVIV – Royal Jordanian Airlines last week flew its first scheduled flight into Ben-Gurion Airport.

In another step also taken toward full normalization of ties between Israel and Jordan, Israeli motorists were allowed to drive private vehicles across the Arava Terminal between Eilat and Aqaba.

Palestinian Think-Tank

JERUSALEM – After receiving a go-ahead from the Palestinian Authority (PA), a leading Palestinian think-tank has prepared a declaration of principles on Jerusalem aimed at bridging the differences between the PA and Israel over the city's future.

The proposal, included in a paper entitled *Projection of the Future of Jerusalem,* is to be published in the upcoming journal of the think-tank, the *Arab Thought Forum.*

WORLD

Biography Cancelled

NEW YORK – In response to an enormous outcry from Jewish groups and individuals as well as from staff members within the publishing house itself, St. Martin's Press has decided not to publish Holocaust revisionist David Irving's biography of Nazi Joseph Goebbels.

Irving, a British citizen who was formally denounced by England's House of Commons as an apologist for Hitler in 1989, has vowed to circulate his book, *Goebbels: Mastermind of the Third Reich,* on the Internet.

JWI Expands Membership

WASHINGTON – Jewish Women International (JWI) recently expanded its membership eligibility in a landmark vote.

All female offspring of interfaith marriage, as well as any woman who has had a "life partner" will now be eligible to join JWI.

The decision took place last month during the organization's international convention, which kicked off the celebration of its founding 100 years ago in San Francisco.

Support For U.S. Court

WASHINGTON – Many of the same Jewish activists who have spent years facing off against Nathan Lewin are now backing the constitutional scholar in his quest to win President Bill Clinton's nod for a seat on the influential Second U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Lewin, best known in the Jewish world for his advocacy of the right to display menorahs on public property, has emerged as one of two finalists for the coveted seat on the court.

Lewin, the current director of the American section of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, also serves as the vice president of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs.

Skinhead March Protested

ROME – Jews held a silent demonstration outside the Polish embassy here last week to protest a march by skinheads at Auschwitz.

Massachusetts Eases Blue Law

NEW YORK – Hankering for a beer or a glass of wine on Sunday? If you've run dry and are in Massachusetts, you're out of luck – unless you want to buy kosher wine.

The state of Massachusetts recently passed a law permitting the sale of kosher wine on Sundays, making it the only exception to laws that prohibit the sale of all alcoholic beverages in the state on that day.

But only stores that are closed for Shabbat, from sundown Friday through sundown Saturday, are permitted to sell such libations on the Christian Sabbath.

And because there are no shomer Shabbat liquor stores in the state, the new law will affect only the handful of kosher food stores that also have a licence to sell wine.

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BB League gives human rights awards to media

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A five-part series in the *Hamilton Spectator* on the Iron Guard, an international fascist and anti-Semitic movement based in Hamilton's Romanian community, was chosen as the winner in the Print/Dailies category at the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada's 21st annual National Media Human Rights Awards.

The Iron Guard traces its roots back to pre-war Romania. In accepting the award, *Spectator* reporters Andrew Dreschel and Casey Corstanje reported that the series resulted in Hamilton's Romanian churches' condemnation of the organization for the first time, as well as an investigation by authorities into its activities.

The awards held recently in Winnipeg coincided with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This was the second year in a row that Winnipeg has hosted the event.

A story on another anti-Semitic religious group called Human Life International earned Toronto's *Now Magazine* a second runner-up position in the Print/Non Dailies category, but the plight of Somalis in Canada and the trials of aboriginal Canadians dominated the nominations.

In the Television and Radio categories, the winners were features to do with Somalia. *We Stand On Guard For Thee* was a CBC Radio Sunday Morning dramatization of the beating death of Somali teen Shidane Arone at the hands of members of the Canadian Airborne Regiment stationed in Somalia, the subsequent public inquiry in Canada and the trials of those soldiers held responsible.

The top television documentary was *Our Daughters' Pain*, a story about Somali women now living in Toronto, who are fighting against the age-old Somali practice of female circumcision. (The tradition is practised elsewhere in east Africa as well.)

Stories about Somali immigrants in Ottawa (the *Ottawa Citizen*) and the difficulties Somali refugees are experiencing with the Canadian government (*Now Magazine*) were runners-up in the Print/Dailies and Print/Non Dailies categories.

The winner in the Print/Non Dailies category was a story in British Columbia's the *Shuswap Sun* entitled *Food Bank — Natives Shunned*. The story exposed discrimination against natives who had to use the food bank in Salmon Arm where the *Shuswap Sun* is published. A CBC Radio Sunday Morning broadcast on native "sentencing circles" was a runner-up in the Radio Category, while Saskatoon's *Star-Phoenix* was a runner-up in Print/Dailies for a story on child prostitution — many of the youngsters native children — in Saskatoon.

Perrin Beatty speaks at B'nai Brith media awards.

Two stories out of Edmonton, CBC Radio Edmonton's expose of slum landlords who ignore fire safety laws and CBC Alberta Television's look at sexism and sexual harassment in junior high schools, were runners-up in the Radio and Television categories.

Throwaway Citizens, a *Fifth Estate* examination of the Canadian deportation of several thousand Japanese Canadian citizens immediately after World War II, was the other runner-up in the Television category.

In his keynote address, Perrin Beatty, president and CEO of the CBC, complimented the nominees and their work as the best hope for the preservation of the values that we cherish as a nation, "in a future where technology will give unprecedented freedom to individuals to choose their own course and their own system of beliefs."

Beatty, who held several cabinet positions in the Mulroney government, contrasted the use of "hard power" or brute force with that of "soft power" — the free dissemination of information through a variety of technological means such as television, the tape deck, the telephone and the personal computer.

"But it is the human component that, I believe, provides the heartbeat of soft power," he said. "It is our storytellers, our educators, our singers and our journalists who keep reminding us of who we are, what we stand for and why we wish to remain distinct.

Despite the burgeoning popularity of the Internet, Beatty remains convinced there will continue to be an important role for the "conventional media" in the world of the future.

The other highlight of the evening was a special presentation to Ken McVay the Vancouver Island-based creator of the Nizkor Project that combats hate and racist messages on the Internet.

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A Man of Iron

Sometime in late June, when the sun is in the sky longer than at any other time of the year, when the fields do not yet thirst for water and when most flowers are at their deepest bloom, he will officially retire from Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto, after more than 40 years in the classroom teaching young children.

But even when he walks out of the classroom, he will still be a teacher. He will always be a teacher. Teaching is the invisible force that courses through him like live electric current, travelling along the lines of his enthusiasm, his humanity and his love, lighting sparks of Judaism and mentshlechkeit in others. It was forged forever into his soul more than 50 years ago in the unspeakable crucible of Dachau and Auschwitz.

He is a man of iron, Irving Eisner.

In 1944 in Dachau, exhausted, despairing and near that point when death begins to blend, mercifully, with life, Eisner found the strength to cry out one more anguished time like Abraham his forebear, pleading for proof of God's justice.

"Dear God in Heaven, I am growing weaker from day to day. I would like to make a deal with you. Please let me stay alive; spare me from these hellish fires. I promise to devote my life to you by teaching and educating our children, your children. For you know better than I, that without the children there will be no future for our people, for your chosen people. And without the Jewish children, what future is there for your Holy Kingdom?"

Eisner survived as did his father and one of his sisters. The other five members of his immediate family did not. And he kept his promise, dedicating his entire adult life to teaching God's children about God's inscrutable ways.

Now, true to his need to teach and to explain, he has written, in two slim volumes, about the experiences surrounding his promise and its fulfilment. The first volume is called *Dachau, Book One, Prisoner 89012.* It chronicles the story of his family's murder and of his survival. The second volume is *Dachau Book Two: Back to the Camps 50 Years Later.* It describes his thoughts and emotions when he returned to the camps as a chaperone for the Ontario contingent of students on The March of the Living two years ago.

They are compelling reading.

In many respects, the details of his story are the details of the thousands of other such stories. He survived, as did most of the others, by dint of courage, determination, guile, wit and sheer random luck. His written story is not intended as a work of literature. It is intended as a record. And ever the teacher, Eisner also includes in the two books, important background information, historical data and moving poetry readings.

As these brief excerpts will demonstrate, written in a simple, unpretentious manner, the two volumes tear at the reader's heart with bold, unselfconscious honesty. For example, in the first book, Eisner describes the scene when he and his family separated from their father who was being taken by train to a prison of unknown destination.

"With our hands outstretched toward our father, we watched him go up the stairs of the train. He waved goodbye with one of his arms, which was free behind him and did not look back anymore. He couldn't say goodbye. We yelled and cried to him until our voices were exhausted and the train disappeared from sight. We gathered around our mother and started to leave the station, while in our ears we kept hearing the words of our father: "I shall live. I will survive. But I am afraid of what will happen to you...and to our children."

In the pages of the second book, Eisner returns to where the camps once stood, where millions of *"kedoshim,"* as he refers to the six million, were swallowed up in humiliation, devastation and fire. He poignantly and achingly describes his feelings and his emotions. Because only a few survivors have returned to the "graves" of Eastern Europe, and fewer still have recorded their thoughts when they did return, this book offers the reader a rarer glimpse than usual into the seared soul of the survivor. It is heartbreaking.

"When we entered this place, [Birkenau] I was completely devastated. I lost my balance. I started to tremble. My feet could not hold me. I began to crumble. When I saw the many memorial candles burning in the centre of the barrack, I started to cry, to sob, to shout, not being able to hold back or control my emotions "Mama, ich bin do" -- Mama I am here. Your son, Izchak is here! Mama, why cannot I be with you? Why didn't you take me with you? Mama, I am not leaving you here in Poland in Birkenau. I came to take you and your children, my sisters and my brother, to take you all with me to the land of Israel, to lay you to rest at the kever, (the grave) of our father o"h (olov hashalom), may he rest in peace."

The intimacy of his cry is so touching, so distressing. Never having been able to say farewell, it seems the return to the camps is the severe existential jolt that resolves his grief, that causes the sorrow so deep in his wounded heart to pour forth. The tears flow virtually on every page. But after a time, as Eisner himself writes, he leaves his tears in Birkenau.

Taking part in the March of the Living - 6,000 young Jews from 48 different countries - carrying hundreds of flags, mostly the blue and white Magen David of Israel, singing songs, was a personal triumph for Eisner over the ghosts from the Polish and Eastern European charnel houses.

But it was only when he was in Israel one week later, with his eldest son Nathan, at the grave of his father in Haifa to place the rocks and the soil which he had brought with him from Birkenau and Majdanek under the headstone, that we sense that he has completed his journey and found finally, more inner peace, this man of iron, this teacher for all times, Irving Eisner, Prisoner 89012.

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Greater Toronto Area

AIDS victim remembered for 'heart filled with love'

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Some knew him as Kael, while others called him Robert, Bobby or Bob Shriar, but everyone who spoke at a recent memorial service for the Toronto man who succumbed to AIDS on New Year's Eve expressed how lucky they were to have had him in their lives.

His different names reflect the many dimensions in his life, said Marci Rose, who co-chaired the Holy Blossom AIDS committee with him for 18 months. "He was a son, a grandson, a brother, an uncle, a teacher, a friend and a volunteer and everyone was a better person for having known him," she said of the Winnipeg native who died at age 46 after living with AIDS for more than 10 years.

She said that Kael, son of Rupert and Alyse Shriar, social workers and active community members, brought to the committee a Jewish perspective that everyone involved will miss.

"His goal was to bring awareness of HIV and AIDS into the community and he wanted to make sure that everyone always had somewhere to turn," she said.

Rose credited Kael with being instrumental in arranging the third seder for those either affected or infected by HIV and AIDS sponsored annually by the Holy Blossom AIDS committee as well as the temple and its brotherhood and sisterhood. "He made sure that people without transportation were able to get there and he reached out to people who might otherwise have had nowhere to go.

"The fact that more than 80 people from so many different parts of his life turned up at his memorial service speaks of someone who maintained ties with everyone who was important to him. He did not see color, race, sexual orientation or illness. He just saw people and it takes a very special person to do that."

Julie Levine, one of the several people who spoke about Kael at the service, recalled him as having a "heart filled with love and being generous with his money and belongings. He often gave out loans for food or rent and once gave up his bed so his friend could have somewhere to sleep. He never made it to Israel, the country to which he most wanted to go, but I have no doubt that that will be the first place he visits now that he has abandoned the body that failed him."

Others talked about the great influence Kael had on their lives and how they enjoyed the time they had with him.

"He is still living deep inside me and will always live with me," said Filipe Carabineiro after reading *How Can We Understand Death.*

Elaine Meller Todres, who knew Kael for 40 years, from the time they attended a Winnipeg Hebrew day school, remembered him for his wit, brains, strength and spark. "I will always remember that it was he who introduced the students at our school to the Beatles."

Kael's mother, Alyse Shriar, was not scheduled to speak but said she felt compelled to say how moved she was "by the generosity and spirit of the gathering. This evening is more about life than death. Bobby never backed away from a challenge or denied a request and he loved nothing better than his family. Central to each of Bobby's relationships was his caring. He could not save lives, but he could make them better and his legacy is a command to improve the quality of life. In the meantime, before there is a cure for AIDS, we all have each other, and Bobby knew that."

The service included a reading by Andrew Cohen entitled *These Do I Remember* and music by Jennifer Hellen and Bob Beckwith. It ended with Kaddish.

JEWISH HERITAGE
The grade 4 students at USDS, Bayview campus investigated the roots of their Jewish heritage. They researched 21 different agencies that help the Jewish community in Toronto. Seen here is Katherine Balter and director of education, Solly Kaplinsky.

Leah Rabin to visit

TORONTO — Leah Rabin, the widow of the late Israeli prime minister, will be the keynote speaker at the Toronto dedication of the Yitzhak Rabin Scholarship Fund for the Advancement of Peace, established by the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University.

The dedication will take place on May 7, at the Elgin Theatre.

The scholarship fund will promote the pursuit of peace at an international level and focus world attention on the role Yitzhak Rabin played in helping bring peace to the Middle East.

Each year, based on outstanding research or involvement in the study of peace throughout the world, an individual of international acclaim will be chosen to serve as the Rabin Scholar. Recipients will be granted major financial support to continue their work at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

In recognition of the Canadian impetus in the creation of the fund, at least one scholarship per year will be awarded to a Canadian student committed to graduate studies in one of the requisite areas.

Chairs of the event are Charles Gold, vice-president of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University; Gerald Halbert chair of the executive of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University; and Brian Steck, chair and CEO of Nesbitt Burns.

To contribute to the fund or for tickets to the dedication event call Merle Goldman 485-8000.

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Israeli civil rights group represents broad spectrum

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Moshe Cohen's confession that he used to dislike law (when he first started studying it) comes as a surprise. The 28-year-old Israeli lawyer has an almost palpable affinity for his area of expertise — constitutional law and human rights.

After being admitted to the Israeli Bar, Cohen spent the 1994-95 year on staff as a litigator on human rights issues at the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), a grantee of the New Israel Fund (NIF). He is currently working on a master of laws degree in Washington, D.C., on a U.S.-Israel Civil Liberties Law Fellowship, which is an NIF project.

"People think ACRI is a left-wing organization. That's absolutely not true," said Cohen during a recent interview in Toronto. ACRI lawyers have represented ultra-Orthodox Jews and right-wing extremists in cases concerning police brutality, he noted.

"Human rights are universal. They don't look at what you say or who you are. This is what's nice about human rights."

Hearing the enthusiasm in his voice and the clarity with which he expresses himself, it's easy to picture him in front of a classroom. In fact, as an assistant teacher, he taught a course on Constitutional Law in Israel at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

An alumnus of that university, he completed his law studies cum laude and went on to begin a PhD thesis on The Limitation Clauses in the new Basic Laws in Israel as a Defense Mechanism of Human Rights, an issue he is examining for his LLM thesis as well.

Israel's "basic laws," or constitution, went into effect in 1992 to protect human dignity and freedom of occupation.

The limitation clauses, designed to balance the bill of rights with the public interest, were modelled to a large degree on Section 1 of Canada's constitution, Cohen explained.

Unlike in many other countries, the limitation clauses for Canada and Israel are all-encompassing, rather than having individual clauses specific to each human right. In Canada, Section 1 of the Constitution precludes infringing upon rights "unless demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society," said Cohen.

Moshe Cohen

The Israeli version precludes infringement "unless it respects the values of the State of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state, serves a worthy cause and does not exceed the necessary," he said.

Thorny religious issues, such as the legality of secular marriages (not an option in Israel) and concerns over publishing "indecent" material, have made it difficult to constitutionalize rights such as freedom of the press and freedom of religion, Cohen explained, although some experts feel the latter rights are implicit in the right to human dignity.

He sees the basic laws as a significant first step towards a comprehensive Israeli bill of rights.

Right now, though, peace and personal security issues have taken precedence over human rights issues, said Cohen.

He has mixed feelings about Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' decision to seal off the territories in the wake of recent suicide bombings by Hamas terrorists.

"In times of public emergency there's a real need to do something, to respond. This is how I also feel. But you must think twice when you're so outraged, because the consequences can be [different from] what you think they will be.

"The basic notion [of human rights] is that collective punishment is not the right punishment. The one that did the damage should suffer the consequences. In this case, we don't have anyone to punish. He's dead. The argument of the government is that if the suicide bomber knows that his family will suffer the consequences, he will think twice before doing it."

Cohen sighed deeply. "I have big problems with this argument."

Cohen himself does not have the answers, he said, but he cautions that "we should keep in mind the purpose of suicide bombers. They want to stop the peace process. If we help them do it, it's a very big mistake."

As the interview drew to a close, Cohen prepared to leave for a conference on the Canadian Charter. "What could be better for me [to do here] than to go there?" he asked.

Watch for the winning submissions from the Yom Ha'atzmaut Teen Cartoon Festival next week in

The Canadian Jewish news

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Greater Toronto Area

Tel-Aide provides community with lifeline

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

About a year ago, a woman called her husband at his office, only to learn that he had lost his job several months earlier.

He had managed to hide the truth by pretending to go to work. Every day, he told her not to call him — he would phone her — because he'd be out of the office.

When she discovered the truth, she was "so distraught" she called Tel-Aide, the Jewish telephone distress line, said Bonnie Kates, the Tel-Aide volunteer who picked up the call. "It was devastating. She cried. She was ashamed to tell her family."

By the end of their conversation, the woman was able to calm down and start dealing with practical issues; she decided to get a job, Kates said. "It was one of the saddest calls I have ever had."

And there have been plenty of calls. Kates, who has been involved with Tel-Aide for 11 years, now chairs the organization. She has spoken to hundreds of people in stressful situations, the most common of which involve relationship and financial problems, she said.

Many callers are under professional care and may use Tel-Aide from time to time as an additional support, Kates said. But some may call three to four times a day if they are under severe distress.

Tel-Aide, in existence since 1985, is a volunteer-run organization which operates on a shoestring budget: There are no paid staff, space is donated and a small grant covers other expenses like the telephone lines and staff training. Tel-Aide also raises funds by selling tribute cards — three for $10 — for special occasions.

The service is strictly anonymous, but volunteers give out the numbers of community resources. The anonymity makes it easier for many people to confide to the Tel-Aide volunteers, Kates said.

Some 50 volunteers man the Tel-Aide lines, which log 200 to 300 calls a month. The lines are open 13 hours a day, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, with early closings on Friday.

The volunteers work an average of eight or nine hours a week and cannot be younger than 22. They must be Jewish, Kates said, because "there is an instant bond with a Jew and a Jew. Eight percent of the callers aren't Jewish ... They think [Jews] have the answers."

Two volunteers work together on every shift in case a suicide call is received. Then one volunteer can contact the police emergency medical department, which traces the location of the caller and sends out medical assistance, Kates said.

"Five years ago, suicide calls were rare, possibly one or two a year. Now we're having three to four a month. More people are talking about it."

She attributed the increase in suicide calls to the strain on relationships caused by increased financial distress in the '90s and the general lack of family support systems.

Tel-Aide volunteers listen and provide verbal support, but often that's not enough, Kates said.

"You can't always cure the problem or fix it. It's a tough lesson to learn ... I have seen the volunteers moved to tears."

She compared the group of volunteers — many have been involved from five to eight years — to a family. "People really look out for one another ... Many friendships have been formed."

And she is always on the lookout for new volunteers, offering training sessions several times a year, she said. There are also monthly in-service education programs for ongoing volunteers.

Kates gets "more out of Tel-Aide than she puts in" because "listening to other people's tzuris" helps her appreciate how good her own life is, she said.

For more information about Tel-Aide call 416-636-9610.

Forum to focus on gay children

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ever since Jewish Parents of Gay and Lesbian Children was established as a self-help/support group in 1989, there has been a steady flow of parents — and young gay men and women — seeking them out.

The group, which meets monthly at Holy Blossom Temple, is co-sponsoring a forum on May 7 about Gay Sons and Daughters in the Jewish Family. The program will begin at 8 p.m. in the temple's Maurice Eisendrath Auditorium. It will be co-sponsored by Holy Blossom's Department of Jewish Living.

Featured speakers will be Marg Schneider, assistant professor, department of Applied Psychology at Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and author of *Often Invisible: Counselling Gay and Lesbian Youth*; and Nurit Adler of Jewish Family & Child Service, who facilitates a weekly support group for Jewish gay, lesbian and bisexual students.

A couple and their gay son will also be on the podium. All participants will be available to answer questions, and a number of group members will be on hand to answer questions or talk with people individually, if they wish.

For further information, call the group's confidential voice mail line at 416-763-9111.

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Helpless spectators

It was a pathetic but telling sight. Lebanon's Prime Minister Rafik Hariri admitted last weekend to reporters that he does not have the capability to control Hezbollah. Pinned helplessly under the fierce boot of his brooding Syrian overlord, the vassal prime minister cannot even tend to the fanatic "fighters-for-God" in the south, who, in their zealotry for killing Jews, have "poached" the last shred of what was left of his country's pride and integrity. And tragically for the people of Lebanon, as of this writing, they have also poached the lives of dozens of innocent Lebanese victims.

Preferring the cover of civilian shelter to the order of battlefield manoeuvre, these religious fighters aim their rockets at Israel from within highly-populated urban and village enclaves. They bank on a double, bloody account: Israel's inherent reluctance to risk innocent civilian life and international condemnation directed at Israel for the civilian deaths which must surely result after any retaliation.

Predictably, and lamentably, many Lebanese civilians have been killed; hundreds of thousands are now fleeing to safer sites in the north. And the western media is now focussing on the human loss and dislocation as a result of Israel's response. But Israel's response was as necessary as it was inevitable. It need not apologize for taking appropriate measures to protect the life of its citizens and of the state.

Hezbollah's aim is to extinguish the Jewish state. They have never left any doubt about this. They are Iranian proxies playing on Syria's field of dreams in the despicable game of shoot-at-the-Jews-and-hide-among-the-spectators. The Lebanese, unfortunately, are the spectators, helplessly, pathetically relegated to the sidelines bearing the brunt of Iran's fanaticism, Syria's hegemony, Hezbollah's hatred and Israel's determination to live securely, at peace, forever.

Judged by his actions

Two levels of Quebec's government must be held to account for the insensitive, bullying treatment by the Office de la Langue Française (OFL) toward the Jewish community in causing Passover foods to be removed from certain grocery stores on the eve of the holiday. At the very least, the OFL bureaucracy behaved zealously, perhaps even recklessly, urging the stores to "act rapidly since kosher products are on the shelves for only a limited amount of time." There is also a sense, however, that the OFL acted deliberately and mischievously, countermanding a long-standing agreement with the community regarding the packaging of foods used only during the eight-day holiday. "It is not only a question of removing these products. It is also necessary that you receive a confirmation from your suppliers that they will francisize their labels in order to prevent this infraction from being repeated in future years."

And what of the political masters of the OFL? By their silence, they acted indifferently. It is very unlikely that Premier Lucien Bouchard, away on vacation, knew of the severity and the inconsistency of the OFL's Passover foods packaging policy before the holiday. But it is inconceivable that he was left in the dark once the issue became public two weeks ago. And yet, there was no official rebuke of the OFL or other appropriate intervention on behalf of the singled-out minority, in this case the Jewish community.

Bouchard has made a very public and celebrated effort to allay the post-referendum anxieties of Quebec's ethnic communities. The apparent lack of political will by his government to act quickly and reasonably on so important a religious matter begs the question of its credibility. He will be judged by his actions, not by his words.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

One fool can sometimes ask more questions than ten sages can answer.

EVERY FEW YEARS THE ARAB STATES FIGURE THAT ISRAEL IS WEAK ENOUGH TO DESTROY
SO THEY LAUNCH AN ATTACK. WE SMASH THEM, AND THEY STAGGER AROUND IN A DAZE FOR A FEW YEARS
IT'S AN ONGOING MIRACLE!
WHICH?
OUR CONTINUING TO WIN... OR THEIR ABILITY TO FORGET?

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
April 15, 1934 Prime Minister R. B. Bennett joined A.J. Freiman of Ottawa in a nation-wide radio broadcast to launch a United Palestine Appeal. *(Canadian Jewish Agenda, CJC 1995)*

Rosh Chodesh is not ignored

Re: "Women Credited for Revival of Rosh Chodesh Celebration" (*CJN* April 3)

Contrary to the misinformation carried in this article, Rosh Chodesh has not been "pretty well ignored except for a prayer once a month." Every Rosh Chodesh, Jews for many centuries have been reciting Hallel, making additions to the Shmoneh Esrei and offering blessings.

Every aspect of Jewish life involves both men and women and the tragedy is that the women discussed in the article trivialize those roles, and Judaism, as an excuse for pushing their own agendas, which often have little to do with love for Torah and HaShem.

If, instead of trying to create religion in their own image, the individuals referred to in the article truly recognized themselves as having been created in the image of the Creator, they would find that the world of Torah Judaism is much more inviting than their world of humanly created vanities.

David J. Colman
Toronto

Finds comparison to Holocaust offensive

Re: "Yesha urges leadership ..." (*CJN* March 28)

Just as Laurence Zeifman cannot sit idly by while Diaspora Jewry shows its respect for the democratically elected government of the State of Israel, so must I now prod Zeifman and his Friends of Yesha to consider how disturbing their tactics are.

Though I was not among the recipients of the letter mentioned in your article, I have personally heard supporters of the Friends of Yesha make the comparison between North American Jewry's silence during the Holocaust and that during the current peace process. As an Israeli citizen and as a Jew, I find this comparison extremely offensive.

Zeifman and his group seem to overlook the most important difference in this ludicrous analogy: Israel's decision and policies are in her own hands, decided by the people who must live and die by the choice made. Those of us who choose to live in the Diaspora have no right to dictate what is best for the country!

Rebecca Gruber
Toronto

Oil blocks action against terrorism

The failure of the March 13 anti-terrorism summit in Sharm al-Sheikh is an alarming signal that the actors in the global market are lacking good values. For this reason, economics is not a viable solution to the problem of terrorism.

The economic market serves as an indicator of what investors value most. According to the recent summit, 26 countries (excluding Israel, the United States and Britain) value their relations with the oil rich country of Iran more than helping to stop terrorism. What this means is that Iran can do what it pleases and remain economically prosperous because it is rich. It is clear that Israel needs to focus on more than economic pressure to deal with Iranian terrorism.

Tamara Zimmerman
Montreal

Jews should leave Russia now

In the next six months, three major world elections will have been decided. Israel has its election in May, Russia in June and the United States in November. By next fall, the world could be a very different place! It is essential that the Jews of the former Soviet Union emigrate to Israel while they still have the chance. Anyone with friends and relatives there should encourage them to make this move now.

It is very possible that the Jewish immigration to Israel will reach the one million mark (since 1990) even sooner than most thought. For the first time in 2,000 years Israel will then, rightly so, have the largest Jewish population of any country in the world!

Dr. Edan F. Orvitz
St. Catharines, Ont.

Ending peace efforts will not stop terrorism

I do not know what it is like to lose someone I know to a terrorist attack; nor do I know what it is like to live in Israel in constant apprehension. However, I have a simple idea and a philosophical reflection directed to those who would like to end the peace process because of ongoing terrorism.

First, ending the peace process would have an insignificant effect on ending terrorism. The anti-Israel terrorists do not want to stop until Israel is destroyed; ending the peace process would make them think they are succeeding and certainly would not influence them to stop.

Secondly, it is a well known Jewish teaching that God places before us life and death and suggests we choose life. Does not God also place before us war and peace, and would not the Creator of all life say to choose peace?

Jay Wax
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Rekindling our legacy in Shoah's wake

By BILL A. SURKIS

The trial of Adolf Eichmann began in Jerusalem on April 10, 1961. More than 100 eyewitnesses gave evidence. Testimony was supported by nearly 1,600 original documents, many of which had been signed by Eichmann. A vivid account of the tragic events was unfolded: testimony about the persecution of the Jews, incitement of hostility and anti-Jewish legislation, identification, isolation, imprisonment, deportation and finally the brutal murder of millions of Jewish men, women and children. On Dec. 15, 1961, judges Moshe Landau, Benjamin Halevi and Yitzhak Raveh ruled that Eichmann had done everything in his power to carry out his orders in the harshest and cruelest manner possible. Eichmann was executed on June 1, 1962.

The accounts of the Eichmann trial were broadcast to the world. Many Jews, and the youth of Israel in particular, thus learned about the inhuman and brutal methods employed by the Nazis and their collaborators. We learned of the heroism of the Jews in the ghetto and camp revolts and we learned about resistance of the human spirit. Worldwide interest in the Shoah increased and many of those who emerged from the inferno and chaos began to recount their experiences.

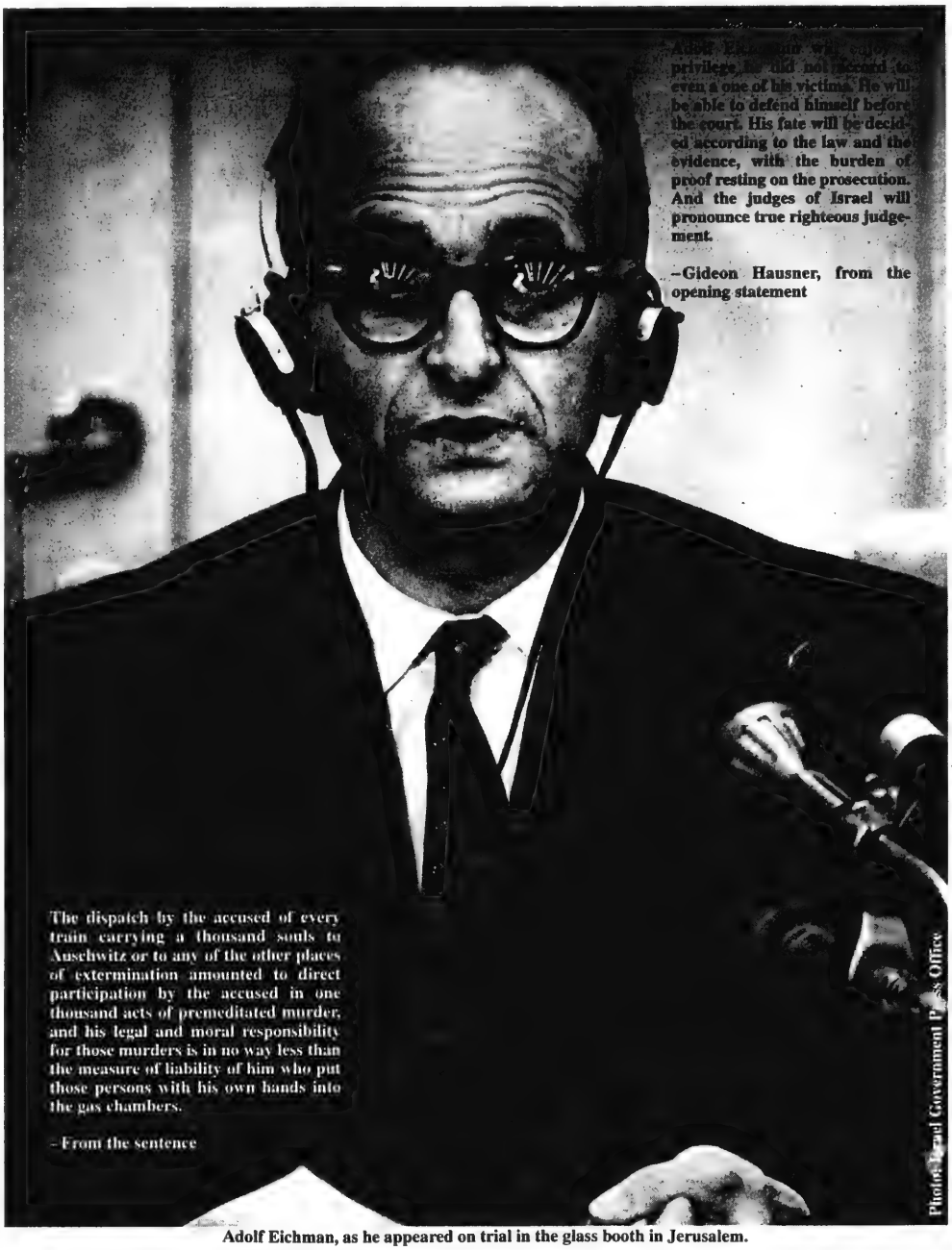
The trial itself represents the bringing to justice of a criminal. It is a milestone and a part of the record of the Shoah. Our focus and attention, however, should not be the trial, but that which the trial disclosed, and that which is our legacy.

This week Jews around the world held commemoration services marking Yom Hashoah. The Holocaust has become part of our vocabulary, but the inferno it represents remains unfathomable. The Holocaust stands in the history of man as the paradigm of the destructive power of prejudice and anti-Semitism. After 15 years of the Third Reich, nearly 5,000 years of Jewish life and culture lay waste across the continent of Europe. We must remember and mourn six million of our brethren who perished in inexplicable horror. We must continue to remember what was lost.

The Shoah is often taught through the accounts of the massive brutality brought upon the Jews of Europe and North Africa. The names of the killing centres have become indelibly engraved in our minds. But what we need to integrate into our teaching of the Shoah is the history and the broad richness of the culture that was destroyed.

We are the heirs. We hold in trust the memory of those who perished. We are responsible for teaching our history, our tradition and our culture. We must preserve the artifacts of the pre-Holocaust period so that they will illuminate our knowledge. It is with an understanding of the history of the Shoah that present and future generations will be empowered to transform the survivors' memories into knowledge. We have a collective responsibility to work increasingly to combat hatred, bigotry, prejudice and anti-Semitism.

Time is running out. In the near future there will be few survivors of the Holocaust left to recount their experience. Every effort must be made now to record the histories of the witnesses who make their homes in Canada. Documentation, artifacts and personal memorabilia must be gathered and preserved so that we will be able to use them to teach the history. A Holocaust curriculum must be integrated into our educational system and Holocaust museums and centres must be opened to allow this material to be seen and understood.


privilege, he did not accord to even a one of his victims. He will be able to defend himself before the court. His fate will be decided according to the law and the evidence, with the burden of proof resting on the prosecution. And the judges of Israel will pronounce true righteous judgement.
–Gideon Hausner, from the opening statement
The dispatch by the accused of every train carrying a thousand souls to Auschwitz or to any of the other places of extermination amounted to direct participation by the accused in one thousand acts of premeditated murder, and his legal and moral responsibility for those murders is in no way less than the measure of liability of him who put those persons with his own hands into the gas chambers.
–From the sentence
Photo: Israel Government Press Office

Adolf Eichman, as he appeared on trial in the glass booth in Jerusalem.

We must teach individuals, Jew and non-Jew alike that everyone must take a stand against hatred and persecution. We must teach about the courage to care, the courage of the Danes in rescuing the Jews of Denmark, the courage of the citizens of Le Chambon who defied the Nazis by providing safe haven, the courage of the ghetto fighters, the courage of the chroniclers of the history of the Warsaw Ghetto, the courage of the many who risked life and limb to help shelter Jews, the courage of the youth of Warsaw who published underground newspapers with the theme of for your and our freedom. We must integrate this knowledge into our teaching.

I am often reminded of the folklore of the father who gathered his family to recite the Friday night kiddush. He filled the family's glasses to overflowing. When he tried to fill his own, no matter how much he poured, the cup remained unfilled. He opened a second and then a third bottle and his goblet still remained unfilled. He cast his eyes to heaven and plaintively asked why. An angel passing by heard the plea and was so moved that the angel began to cry. A single tear fell into the wine glass and it filled to overflowing.

Even at the most festive of occasions such as a wedding, a cup is broken under the chupah in remembrance of the destruction of the Temple. Commemoration of the Holocaust will in the future become integrated into our collective customs. The trial of Adolf Eichmann will be forgotten. The memory of the Holocaust and what was lost will remain our legacy.

Bill A. Surkis is the executive director of the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre.

Opinions

Defending my Jewish ethnicity

Racist. Discriminatory. Zealot. I've been called all of these names during my past two years of studying in Halifax. More than once. By many people.

By Viva Press

Most of my fellow students know I'm Jewish. I don't hide it. My Magen David around my neck is a giveaway. So, too, is the fact that I do not attend school on yamim tovim, nor do I write exams or tests on these days. And those who are unaware of the significance of my beliefs know about my practices from my friends.

For the most part, my Jewishness is accepted. It is even revelled in. My friends love spinning dreidels on Chanukah, trying new foods and lighting the candles on Shabbat. But there are some people who think I'm a racist. I'm not.

A classmate recently asked me if I would date somebody who is not Jewish. I do not publicize my response, as I am in a minority group in Halifax and I don't want to be offensive. But when someone asks me directly, I answer directly. And I said, "No." He was shocked.

"So, you're racist," he told me.

Racist? No, I am not racist. Nor am I a zealot, nor discriminatory — all things he suggested that I am. Just because I don't date someone of another faith does not make me a racist. In fact, I'm far from it.

If there is one thing I learned from Jewish history, it is that as Jews we cannot afford to be racist. We are a minority. We have suffered throughout history at the hands of pople who hate us because we are Jews. If anything, we must have tolerance. How could we Jews be racist when we know how it feels to be the victims? And most recently the film *Anne Frank Remembered* has driven this point home even more forcefully. We must not discriminate.

Right away I told him that I did not speak for all Jews, but I did represent what many Jewish people see as necessary for survival. I told him assimilation is a huge problem. I told him that I grew up Jewish, and in the future I wanted my family to remain Jewish. Wholly Jewish. He said if I did not interdate then I had to be racist.

It was strange that he, of all people, would call me a racist. We met in Hinduism class in the first semester and we were together in Buddhism class in the second. My minor is in comparative religion. If I was a racist, why would I be so interested in learning about other people's faiths?

The classes are set up so that everyone has the opportunity to ask questions. The professor regularly checked with me whether the Jewish comparison he was making was a valid one. Everyone in the class knows I am Jewish. Everyone in the class knows my friend is Hindi.

I told him his Hindu beliefs have nothing to do with my answer. It is a religious decision, but he is still adamant about my being racist.

I told him I would date Jews regardless of their origin. But I also said that simply because someone is Jewish, does not mean I would automatically date that person. He, like many others, told me that if I date a non-Jew it doesn't mean I have to marry him.

"True," I said. "But who knows where a relationship will lead. I'd rather not build up a relationship I don't want to continue long term."

This is not an attack on this one person. His responses are just an example of my experience in being confronted with questions relating to my Jewishness, questions I deal with almost every day at school.

I grew up in a Jewish environment. All my friends from high school are Jewish. I have never been confronted with this attitude before. It sometimes gets annoying. I take offence at being called racist. My friends who attend universities with a large contingent of Jewish students have not come under this type of scrutiny. I don't want to change schools. My program is very good, and I do have a lot of non-Jewish friends.

I think it's necessary for me to explain my ethnicity so that there is a Jewish voice among my peers. For most of them from the Maritimes, I am the first and only Jewish person they know. It is important that I explain Jewish beliefs.

I have two more years of study in Halifax. I will frequently be called a racist. And I will constantly defend my Jewish ethnicity.

Spring — students' season for stress

As the month of April creeps up on us, most people's minds are on Passover, the arrival of spring and summer plans. But for those of us who expect to graduate from university this year, the month of April represents something very different. We suffer from a common ailment which has been diagnosed as the anxiety of graduating. The root cause is anticipation of entering the real world and a fear of the great unknown. However, students suffer from it in a number of different ways and for a number of different reasons and while this condition is by no means terminal, it can be very distressing.

By Ilan Gewurz

Graduation means leaving the stability and familiarity that has existed in our lives during university. The close friendships we have established will not be as easy to maintain. And what about all those school friends, those people we chat with in the library or with whom we take study breaks? Are all those who have not made it into our personal phone books no longer going to be a part of our lives? "You know what's his name," a friend of mine recently asked me, "that guy that I speak to every Thursday morning in political theory class? I am really going to miss him."

But more than just moving beyond the current reality, graduation requires us to make serious decisions which will impact significantly upon the future course of our lives. In almost every conversation on campus, you can hear someone ask: "What are you planning for next year?"

Next year is the great shared anxiety, yet we are all anxious for different reasons. Some can get in to the most prestigious schools but do not have the financial means to do so, while others can afford to go anywhere they'd like but do not get accepted. Not having any good options for after the summer can be a source of tremendous stress, but having too many options can have the same effect. I recently congratulated a friend on winning an award of academic excellence which entails a year of study in France.

"This only adds to my anxiety," she responded. "I was having a hard enough time deciding between the U of T Law School and the London School of Economics before this came along."

The application process itself is a source of tremendous anxiety. Some of us have taken every standardized test available — the GRE, the LSAT, the MCAT and the GMAT. We've filled out so many applications for fellowships, scholarships and internships that we've become experts in coloring "our past" and "what our future holds," in order to give us the edge. Somehow that one tennis match we won by default at 10 years of age has classified us as "champion of a local tennis tournament."

After writing dozens of such applications I finally asked my father to read one of my personal statements; he was so impressed he asked if he could meet the guy.

But no matter how qualified one is, the anxiety of what the next step should be and whether it will work out, is a very real one. If we really knew what our future held perhaps we would not have the anxiety of uncertainty now, though knowing for certain what the future holds might be even more distressing. We talk about it and ask others what path we should choose, but deep down we know that no one can answer that but us.

We are often advised to "do things while we're young," for it is easiest and best to gather original and interesting experiences at this age, when no one else is dependent on us. At the same time, there are always societal and other pressures that urge us to follow the conventional path of pursuing a career. "There are risks," we are told, in "leaving the system" for too long, though there is no guarantee that even intense career training will assure us of a job.

All this is a normal part of the process, and in fact a little anxiety may be good in motivating us to make better decisions. But we must always be aware that while we may have only limited control over our external realities, our internal peace of mind is more within our capacity to control. As long as we realize that our primary sense of well being comes from our acceptance of self and not from what we can or cannot achieve or who we'd like to become, then this anxiety of graduating will serve its purpose without causing any serious damage.

Chosen for Divine service

Jewish history is a succession of vast improbabilities. It is studded with unlikely heroes, impossible coincidences, enormous failures and astounding successes. It has received more attention, more literary, historic and philosophic treatments — to say nothing of theological considerations — than any comparable group in history. Proponents and opponents have described its subjects in extreme terms, reaching from "the chosen of God" to "devils incarnate." The Jews have been called mankind's greatest blessing by some and mankind's greatest scourge by others. Scholars of many kinds have tried their hands at describing or solving the puzzle of this people's existence.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

Chosenness is one answer, and it is certainly worthy of serious consideration.

Jewish history revolves around this very concept. To be a Jew was and is a privilege, and in daily Jewish worship, the idea is repeated time again. We praise the Maker of heaven and earth who has set us apart from other families of the earth, giving us a destiny unique among the nations.

The Torah tells us that the choice of Israel goes back to Abraham and was confirmed at Sinai. It was acknowledged by a people who affirmed, "All the Eternal has spoken, we will do." In this grand view, God's plan for humanity can be put into effect only if Israel is faithful and only then the world at large will see salvation. God and Israel are forever intertwined and depend on each other.

It is without question a grand if "unreasonable" concept. But then, is grandeur ever reasonable? Against all odds, Jews have played a role quite out of proportion to their numbers. They have not fared materially better than others; on the contrary, their task has exposed them to persecution and oppression, to anti-Semitism and to the Holocaust. Yet belief in the divinely appointed task has never disappeared even when it has been difficult to maintain. It was difficult a long time ago among conditions of exile, and modern times have not eased the problem of believing in a God who chose this people for Divine service, despite all appearances that were denying such a choice.

When it comes right down to it, this is the burden of belief. Many Jews (as well as many gentiles) think such a concept has become outmoded. To their ears, it is disconnected from an often harsh reality; while to those who continue to believe in the Divine promise, being a member of the Jewish people is an infinite privilege which is grounded in special obligations, called mitzvot. For them, there is nothing more glorious than to be a servant of the Holy One. The only privilege that this belief entails is the self-assumed obligation to be God's servant at all times and with full devotion, not because we are in any way superior to others, but only because God's mysterious plan has so provided.

Chosenness does indeed deserve serious consideration.

The above text is excerpted from the rabbi's forthcoming book, A Commentary on the Haftarot of the Year.

The Kirshner File

The Holocaust in words and photographs

By Sheldon Kirshner

Like it or not, the Holocaust looms large in our collective conscience. Publishers, naturally, cater to this fascination.

Here, then, are some of the latest books dealing with the Holocaust and related events.

History of the Holocaust (Westview Press, $89.95 US) is an extremely useful, one-volume account of the Shoah. Complete with graphs, tables, photographs and documents, this tour de force is written by Abraham and Hershel Edelheit.

The Path to Genocide (Cambridge University Press, no price listed) is an excellent primer. In a series of erudite, accessible essays, Christopher Browning sets the stage for the greatest crime ever committed in the annals of humanity.

The Origins of Nazi Genocide (University of North Carolina Press, $45.50) may be considered a companion volume. Here, Henry Friedlander expertly explains how the Nazi program of euthanasia evolved into the systematic extermination of Jews and Gypsies.

The Nazi Connection (Oxford University Press, $30.95) outlines the relationship between the eugenics movement in the United States and the Nazi program of "racial hygiene." Stefan Kuhl's revealing book is an indictment of the baneful influence American scientists exercised on the Nazis' policy of "racial purity."

The Holocaust and the Liberal Imagination (Blackwell, $54.95) attempts to answer the controversial question of how the democratic world responded to the Final Solution. Tony Kushner's thoughtful essays range far and wide.

The Nazi Dictatorship (Routledge, $21.50), by Ian Kershaw, plumbs the essence of the Third Reich, with one chapter expressly devoted to Hitler's relation to the Holocaust.

Life in the Third Reich (Oxford University Press, $25.50), edited by Richard Bessel, is composed of six succinct essays on various aspects of Nazi society, including its anti-Semitic dimension.

The Holocaust and the French (HarperCollins, $40) is Susan Zuccotti's bracing analysis of how a nation responded to the persecution of its Jewish population. True, the Vichy regime was shamelessly anti-Semitic. Yet about 76 percent of French Jews survived the Holocaust. With envious skill, Zuccotti explains this discrepancy.

Oskar Schindler and His List (Paul S. Ericksson, $24.95 US) explores the Schindler phenomenon in depth. Thomas Fensch's informative compendium — which draws on newspaper and magazine articles from the American press — introduces us to the first journalist who interviewed Schindler back in 1949, and helps us understand why Thomas Keneally wrote *Schindler's List* and what inspired Steven Spielberg to make his Academy Award winning film based on Keneally's book. The last half of *Oskar Schindler and his List* consists of movie reviews and think pieces about the Holocaust.

Secret Germany (Penguin, $7.99) revolves around Claus von Stauffenberg, the charismatic mastermind of the failed 1944 plot against Hitler. Writers Michael Baigent and Richard Leigh forcefully argue that the conspiracy hatched by Stauffenberg and his circle was driven by moral and spiritual necessity rather than political expediency.

Auschwitz and After (Yale University Press, $25) is an impressive memoir, Charlotte Delbo's moving story of her incarceration in Auschwitz and Ravensbruck. Delbo — a French Christian — and her husband, Georges Dudach — a resistance leader — were arrested in March 1942. Dudach was executed, but Delbo was spared, only to be deported to Poland.

Auschwitz 1940-1945 (Route 66 Publishing, $8.95 US) is an ABC of the Nazi concentration camp which has become synonymous with the Holocaust. Simply written and presented, it can be read by adults and older children alike.

Anatomy of the Auschwitz Death Camp (Indiana University Press, $39.95) is probably the last word on the subject, a tome which leaves no stone unturned. Published in association with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, it is edited by Yisrael Gutman and Michael Berenbaum.

The Buchenwald Report (Westview Press, $35 US) is a unique document, the original, damning report of a special team of U.S. army intelligence officers dispatched to that camp upon its liberation on April 11, 1945. Comprehensive and chilling, this book has not been diminished by time. It is still one of the best accounts of a German concentration camp and its hapless inmates.

Nazi Mass Murder (Yale University Press, $30 US) refutes in telling detail the rickety claim by Holocaust deniers that systematic gassings never took place. The grim truth is related by 24 writers from six countries, including Germany, Austria and Israel.

For a change of pace, delve into *The Gates of the Forest* and *The Town Beyond the Wall*, the Elie Wiesel novels which have been reprinted by Pantheon Books. Both, to a greater or lesser degree, grapple with the pain and anguish of the Holocaust.

Reptile Press

Shortly after Germany invaded Poland to launch World War II, the occupying force closed down newspapers and magazines owned by Poles and Jews. A subservient press monitored closely by the Nazis emerged.

The late historian, Lucjan Dobroszycki, has written a dense, scholarly book about this phenomenon, the first on the topic. Based on primary sources, it is entitled *Reptile Journalism: The Official Polish Language Press under the Nazis, 1939-1945* (Yale University Press, $22.50 US).

Poland, he writes, was the only country in Nazi-occupied Europe where the local press was disbanded. Before the war, Poland had a vigorous publishing industry. But once the Nazis were in charge, it became an appendage of the German propaganda apparatus.

From the first day of the occupation to the last, the Jewish population was demonized by the collaborationist media. The anti-Semitic campaign doubtless exacerbated hatred against Jews.

Dobroszycki, a Jew, finished this book in 1967, but it was rejected by the Communist authorities. The Six Day War had ended and anti-Zionist hysteria was in vogue. Eventually, the manuscript was published in Germany. Now English speakers have an opportunity to read *Reptile Journalism*, a book which spares no one.

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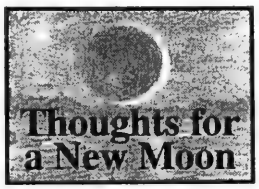
Holidays chart the historic journey of the Jewish people



By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

This month, we count the days of the Omer, the period from Passover to Shavuot. During this time, we are forbidden to engage in community celebrations and thus we cannot schedule weddings or various other festivities.

However, there are a handful of holidays which fall during the Omer period and it is important to view them in light of each other. Two of these holidays are Lag B'Omer (the 33rd day of the Omer) and Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day). We suspend our prohibitions regarding the Omer and we celebrate these days with both religious ritual and secular festivities.

At first it does not seem that these two holidays relate to one another and yet they chart an important historical journey that we have taken as a people.

Lag b'Omer commemorates the day when Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai and his son emerged from being sequestered in a cave. The Roman Empire was in power in Israel and the study and practice of Judaism was outlawed. Rabbi Shimon, guilty of that crime, had managed to escape with his son and they remained in hiding for 13 years.

Upon considering where to hide, the Talmud relates that he had several options, some of which were dismissed because of the rabbi's concern for his wife. He comments that if they hid somewhere known, she would not be able to withstand the Roman torture and might ultimately have no choice but to divulge their whereabouts. Literally he says: "Women have frail minds."

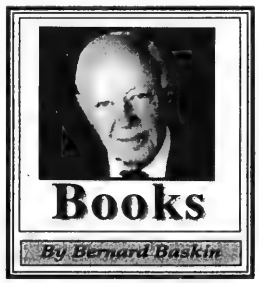
The statement is made specifically with regard to torture and the cruelties of war and captivity. Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai may have made his comment regarding all women while thinking only of his own wife. It is possible that he considered her to be frail but did not want to single her out and therefore, out of respect to her, he generalized his statement.

Whatever the reason, once the comment was written into the Talmud it echoed through time and is still cited today. Unfortunately, it is often lifted out of its original context and used as justification for excluding women from various pursuits.

Now, almost 2,000 years later, we have the opportunity to celebrate the reversal of these circumstances.

Yom Ha'atzmaut marks the date of the establishment of the modern state of Israel. Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai had to endure the Roman Empire as the governing power in Israel; we have lived to see a Jewish government ruling in Israel in our lifetime. During the War of Independence women fought side by side with men and together they achieved what had been only a fragment of a dream until that time.

The women of ancient Israel were considered too frail to withstand the realities of persecution and the hardships of war; modern Jewish women have proved themselves by participating in all facets of regaining the state of Israel. Time did not stand still; our history has moved on and many changes have found their way into our heritage. As a nation we have travelled from Lag b'Omer to Yom Ha'atzmaut.



Author shoots down today's pseudo-science

The Demon Haunted World by Carl Sagan, Random House $35.95

Recent surveys indicate that 95 percent of North Americans are scientifically illiterate. Although 45 percent say they accept the idea of evolution, only nine percent agree with the central finding of modern biology that human beings have slowly evolved by natural processes from a succession of more ancient beings. Sixty percent of adults are unaware that the dinosaurs died before the advent of human beings. Seventy-five percent do not know that antibiotics kill bacteria but not viruses and an astonishing 50 percent are unaware that the earth goes around the sun and that it takes a year to do so.

Carl Sagan, eminent professor of astronomy and popularizer of science, is shocked by these statistics. It is no wonder, he writes, that modern society is prone to superstition and swayed by psuedoscience.

He claims, in addition, that many of the worst symptoms of irrational belief have been encouraged, or at least ignored, by entrenched power structures because they deflect attention from real problems in society.

In this new, hard-hitting book the author takes it as his mission to defend the worth and importance of science against pervasive ignorance and irrationality. Objects of his disdain include astrology, creationism, religious fundamentalism and a variety of New Age philosophies. As an astronomer, Sagan is especially pained by reports of UFO visitations and alien abductions. He points out the parallels between the medieval witch-mania and the flying saucer abduction fantasy. Hallucination plays a large part in both aberrations.

Without proper knowledge of science, he asks, how can the ordinary citizen affect national or even local policy or make intelligent individual decisions about such matters as fission and fusion power, supercomputers, data highways, abortion, radon, massive reductions in strategic weapons, addiction, government eavesdropping on the lives of its citizens, high-resolution TV, airline and airport safety, fetal tissue transplants, health costs, food additives, drugs to ameliorate mania or depression or schizophrenia, animal rights, superconductivity, morning-after pills, alleged hereditary antisocial predispositions, space stations, going to Mars, finding cures for AIDS and cancer?

The author, agnostic in his religious outlook, acknowledges that some forms of religion are beneficial — those devoted to reverence, ethics, ritual, community, family, charity and political and economic justice.

This kind of religion is in no way challenged, but rather uplifted by the findings of science. He writes, "There is no necessary conflict between science and religion. On one level, they share similar and consonant roles, and each needs the other."

Sagan maintains that in every society there is a cherished world of myth and metaphor which coexists with the workaday world. Efforts to reconcile the two are made, and any rough edges at the joints tend to be off-limits and ignored.

As a partial remedy to the wave of pseudo-science, Sagan presents a valuable course in "baloney detection," as well as a catalogue of 20 logical fallacies to be avoided.

This provocative and informative defence of science is a plea for the wider dissemination of necessary knowledge before the combustible mixture of ignorance and technological power "blow up in our faces."

Hungary's secret Jewish collection

Roots & Remembrance

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Dr. Gabriel Bar-Shaked, an expert on Hungarian Jewry for Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, is convinced that a massive trove of documents on the Jews of the Austro-Hungarian Empire lies hidden in a state archives in Budapest and he's determined to gain access to it.

So vast is the collection, Bar-Shaked says, that it would allow researchers to trace back to 1850 the family trees of all 800,000 or so Jews who were living in Habsburg lands before the Holocaust. However, because the papers throw light on Hungary's Nazi period, during which two out of three Jews perished, Hungarian officials supposedly want to keep them buried.

Thus, according to Bar-Shaked and others, the Hungarian government denies the very existence of the collection, even though a section of about 200,000 pages was released by the Hungarian army for a conference in 1986.

"In the Home Office in Budapest, they have a whole archives devoted to the Jewish question, but they have been denying it until now," the Hungarian-born professor said during a recent interview. "The head of the Home Office told me that if I can find it I can get it, but that he himself doesn't know where it is."

During the German occupation, Hungary's collaborationist government established an archives, the Institute of the Jewish Question, to which all Jews of the realm were obliged to submit official documents showing that their families had lived there for at least three generations.

"If you couldn't prove it, you were sent back to the country of your so-called 'original nativity' – Poland, for example, or Russia or Romania. That's why the Jews had to collect their personal papers and file them with the government," Bar-Shaked said.

His father, a professor of history in post-war Hungary, sought out his family's papers some 20 years ago, only to be told the government no longer had them, he said.

Bar-Shaked first realized that the collection might still exist about a decade ago, after a fellow researcher showed him some papers he had received from a Budapest archives with the help of some former communist friends.

"I had never seen such documents before. One was a certificate from the schools about his occupation, another was about the paying of taxes; and there were certificates of birth and marriage – all of the items his family had sent to the Home Office to prove that they had Hungarian citizenship. The archivist evidently found these documents very quickly with the help of a computer. My friend was able to get copies without any trouble in only 10 minutes."

The researcher later requested more documents from the Home Office but was turned down and told he had received the earlier documents in error, Bar-Shaked said. "This," he said "is proof that in Hungary they have everything."

In 1989, on a trip to Budapest with French anti-Nazi activist Serge Klarsfeld, he managed to obtain a few more tantalizing tidbits from the collection, but no more.

Ironically, he has had considerably less difficulty getting details on how the Jews died. Using Nazi lists released by Hungary's post-communist regime, he has published several volumes of names – for example, Jews deported from Hajdu County in 1944, Jews sent to labor battalions and Jewish women sent to Stutthof labor camp.

Bar-Shaked said he hopes to copy the hidden Jewish documents and to catalogue them by family name in a computer database. Since two-centuries-old lists of all Habsburg citizens, including Jews, are presently available in Hungarian archives, Jewish researchers could use this material, together with the hidden Holocaust-era documents, to chart their family trees right back to the era of Empress Maria Theresa, he said.

If he is to achieve his goal of documenting the families of all the Jews of greater Hungary, he knows that he must do it without major assistance from Yad Vashem, which is focused solely on the Holocaust period. His so-called Magna Hungaria Project might eventually involve establishing a dedicated institution somewhere in Europe, perhaps Budapest, he said.

Mark Shraberman, an acquisitions official at Yad Vashem, is also involved with the Magna Hungaria Project. He is a former archivist in the State Central Historical Archives in Lviv, Ukraine (formerly Lvov or Lemberg), which holds material that "gives an extremely rich, full picture of everyday life of Galician Jewry," he said.

Considered politically sensitive, Lviv's Jewish collection was reportedly closed to researchers about a decade ago.

"All of these archives are political archives because of the Holocaust and because of communism," said Bar-Shaked. "In many cases, they are very hard to open up. But I'm sure that we are going to do it."

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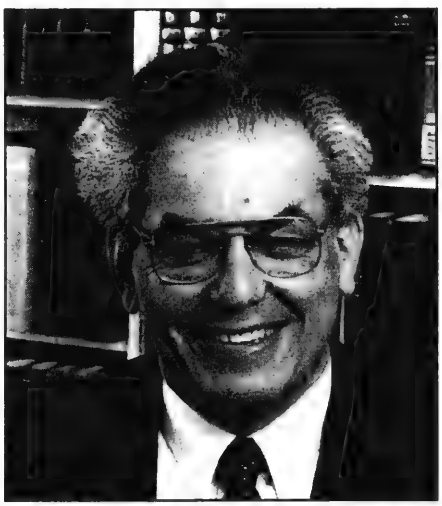

Rabbi David Hartman

speak on the current situation in Israel

CAN RELIGIOUS PASSIONS BE CHANNELED FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE?

Tuesday, April 23, at 8:00 p.m.

Rabbi Hartman, Director of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, is a widely respected author and lecturer, as well as a keen observer of the mix of politics and religion in Israel.

The Gerald Schwartz/Heather Reisman Lecture Series at Holy Blossom Temple is an ongoing series of evenings with important figures in the contemporary Jewish world. Prominent speakers have included Elie Wiesel, Abba Eban and Natan Sharansky.

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By DANIEL KINRYS, 12 years old

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A Nazi killed me.
I am one in six million,
Here is my story.

I am one in six million,
I was pinned with a star.
I am one in six million,
I escaped but didn't go far.

I am one in six million,
I was put in a train.
I am one in six million,
The conditions were inhumane.

I am one in six million,
I escaped from the train.
I am one in six million,
I was caught again.

I am one in six million,
They murdered me too.
I am one in six million,
Along with fellow Jews.

I am one in six million,
That goes to show.
I am one in six million,
That people don't know.

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Wednesday, April 24, 8 p.m.
"Jews and the Media"
David Nayman, Senior Producer CBC Newsworld

Monday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.
"Look to This Day, A Complete Guide to Health & Well-Being in Your Later Years"
Evelyne Michaels, author and lecturer
Joint program with Sisterhood

Wednesday, May 1, 8 p.m.
"God, Jews and Communication," sequel to "God, Jews and History"
Professor Bob Logan,
author, former advisor to Pierre Trudeau

Thursday, May 16, 8 p.m.
"The History of Jews in Canada"
Sheldon & Judith Godfrey, authors of "Search Out the Land: The Jews and the Growth of Equality in British Colonial America, 1740-1867"
Joint program with Sisterhood

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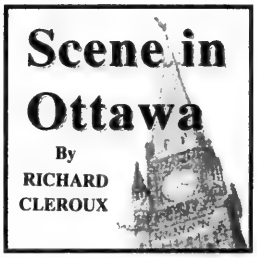
Human rights link countries



OTTAWA — For the past few years, Canada has been quietly helping Israel with its human rights and civil liberties issues and learning something in return about the effectiveness of Canada's own Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Justice Minister Allan Rock explained in a recent interview that there is a unique link between Canada and Israel in the area of human rights and civil liberties that makes an exchange of information particularly valuable to both countries.

Rock was in Israel last May to meet his justice counterpart, David Libai, and other senior government ministers including Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres.

Civil liberties and human rights figured prominently as a topic on their agenda.

"The Israelis are particularly interested in the development of our constitutional law, because Israel recently passed what it calls "basic laws," which are similar to our own Charter of Rights," Rock said.

The Israeli "basic laws" guarantee certain basic personal liberties and individual freedoms, explained Rock, "and the degree to which any Israeli law is inconsistent with these principles makes it invalid. It's much like our Charter of Rights in this respect.

"These laws are new to them, as our charter was new to us in 1982, and they are interested in knowing how our courts have grappled with the interpretation of the charter, such as when Parliament must redo a law or the strategy of the courts in giving Parliament time to change a law," said Rock.

As a result, for the past two years, a steady stream of Canadian judges and lawyers have gone to Israel to study for several weeks at a time how the Israeli "basic laws" are working out, and to lecture the Israelis on what they should expect.

In return, more than a dozen Israeli judges and lawyers have visited Canada to study what changes the Charter of Rights has wrought here.

"I'm told that of all the countries in the world, Israel is most interested in our experience," said Rock. "It's rare that a country which has a sophisticated court system and a tradition of democratic principles would also have a new constitution."

Canada and Israel are two exceptions among democratic nations.

"What most countries with our traditions have is an old constitution. But we've only had our constitution and our charter for 14 years, and our democratic traditions are similar. That's why they want to learn from us."

The program has also included Canadian constitutional law professors going to Israel to teach for a term at Israeli universities, while Israeli academics have taught during visits to Canadian universities.

Rock's trip to Israel gave him the chance to visit the sites and learn a little more about Israeli culture.

"I remember I arrived on the National Day of Remembrance for the War Dead," Rock recalled. "The following day would be the National Day of Independence. The celebrations began at sundown."

Rock recalled going down to the central square and mingling with an immense crowd, in exactly the same place where Rabin would be shot less than a year later.

The evening turned into a night of fireworks and celebration, and Rock found himself at a party where half the Israeli cabinet showed up, including Rabin and Peres. The festivities lasted well into the night, although, he chuckles, there was time left the following day for business meetings and a lunch.

Rock also visited Yad Vashem, and laid a wreath on behalf of Canada. He remembers feeling overcome with emotion on that occasion. It was even more than he had expected.

"It's located on a beautiful site on a hill overlooking Jerusalem," said Rock. "It's impossible to visit that place without being engulfed in the emotion of being involved in the enormous loss of humanity that speaks out."

Kashrut publication out

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The first edition of *Es Gezunterheit*, a 40-page booklet published by the Orthodox Council of British Columbia/B.C. Kosher, was distributed recently to the Vancouver Jewish community.

The council's kashrut administrator, Rabbi L. Teitlebaum, says revised editions of the booklet will be released free of charge periodically, with articles covering various aspects of kashrut. A list of all new products under B.C. Kosher (BCK) will be updated in each issue as well as "kashrut alerts" informing the public of products using unauthorized kashrut symbols.

The first issue contains an article, *Koshering the Right Way*, an outline of how various items are kashered for Pesach; *Walking Through the Seder* gives a glimpse of the seder night, with explanations of the traditions followed.

The booklet, released just before Passover, has a complete Passover information list of products requiring a Pesach *hechsher* on certain brand products "that have been looked into and may be used."

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From coast to coast

Teen charged with promoting hatred on Internet

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Michael Lazar, chair of the midwest region of the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada, commends the Winnipeg police service hate crimes unit for laying what may be the first Internet hate crimes charges in North America.

On March 27, the hate crimes unit raided a house in north Winnipeg and arrested a 17-year-old (his name cannot be revealed because he is under 18) known on the Internet as "Inbred Jed." The youth was traced through his Internet account after Mark Zoldy, a gay activist in Winnipeg, received a message on his Internet calling for "death to homosexuals" as "prescribed in the Bible."

The teenager greeted police at his door with a loaded pellet gun after he had tried unsuccessfully to erase the incriminating data from his computer. Among the items found in his room were Nazi and anarchist paraphernalia and a club with "gay bat" written on one side of it and "Jew bat" on the other.

Despite claims by the teen's father that it was all a "childish prank," police have laid charges of uttering threats to kill and possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace against the youth. They are examining his computer contents to determine if more charges can be laid.

"Inbred Jed" had a previous brush with the law last fall, when he was charged with fraud, theft and counterfeiting (the charges have not yet been dealt with). He offered plans on the Internet on how to build bombs and gave advice on carrying out crimes.

"This is going to be a very interesting prosecution," says Lazar. "Generally when dealing with hate on the Internet, there are jurisdictional issues and questions of enforceability. In this case, the perpetrator was in the local jurisdiction. We still have to find solutions to the broader problems."

Kolel set to offer unique Hebrew course

TORONTO — Hundreds of people in 15 locations across Canada (including nine locations in the Toronto area) will learn to read Hebrew in just eight hours on April 28.

Scheduled in honor of Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) the course costs $48 (Israel's age) and promises to be fun and easy. The fee includes a light lunch, textbook and all materials.

Last year, over 400 people across Canada learned to read Hebrew in a day. In Toronto this year, two levels are being offered: "absolute beginner" for those who have never studied Hebrew, and "refresher" for those who have studied but have forgotten much of what they learned. Other centres will offer the beginner level.

The course is being sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and ARZA Canada, the Association of Reform Zionists of Canada. The course is open to Jews of any affiliation, as well as to non-affiliated Jews or anyone with a desire to learn Hebrew. It is ideal for parents of school-age children, especially pre-b'nai mitzvah, who would like to be directly involved in their children's Hebrew education.

"Hebrew literacy is the key to unlocking the treasures of Jewish identity, tradition and history," said Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel. "It provides direct access to the richness of Torah, rabbinic text and modern literature, which are central to Jewish spiritual renewal."

Kolel acknowledges the generosity of all the locations, the Zukerman Charitable Foundation and the Canadian Zionist Federation for making this day possible.

For more information or registration, call Karen Paikin, program coordinator, National Hebrew Literacy Day, at 905-764-1-DAY or fax 905-709-1895.

Watch for the winning submissions from the Yom Ha'atzmaut Teen Cartoon Festival next week

The Canadian Jewish news

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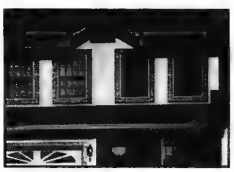

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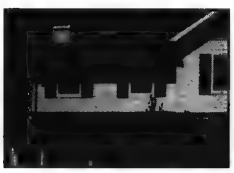

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Harry Cohen—believed the only Canadian to die in Shoah

By GIL KEZWER
Special to the CJN

MONTREAL – Last November, when Canada Post issued a stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust, it missed an opportunity to honor Harry Cohen of Montreal, believed to be the only Canadian citizen to die in the Nazi genocide of the Jews.

Neither Jerusalem's Yad Vashem memorial, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial in Washington, D.C., Oxford University World War II historian Martin Gilbert, University of Toronto scholar Michael Marrus (author of *The Holocaust in History*), nor York University's Irving Abella (co-author of *None Is Too Many*) know of other Canadian victims.

That Cohen's picture was absent from the 45 cent stamp wasn't an oversight. It is only now after more than half a century that his eldest son, Manuel Garson Cohen, 71, is willing to speak of his father's lachrymose distinction. And Cohen's three brothers and sister are too young to remember much about their father, who sailed to Europe on a business trip in 1939 and never came back.

Sitting in the kitchen of his modest bungalow in suburban Laval, Quebec, Manuel Cohen – a semi-retired manufacturer of industrial pressing equipment – recalls his father. Speaking in the unique Montréalais patois of those truly bilingual in English and French, he relates his father's story – of an ambitious, even daring businessman who loved his family and whose life was snuffed out at the age of 51.

Manuel Cohen's father Harry, known in Yiddish as Hirsch Moishe and in Hebrew as Zvi Moshe, was born in Aptov, a suburb of Lodz, in 1891. The textile centre, called the Manchester of Poland, was then part of the Czarist Empire. The Cohen family owned a jute mill in the prosperous city.

Harry Cohen's story parallels that of thousands of Canadians of eastern European origin in that era. As a result of the economic and political turmoil caused by World War I, he immigrated to Canada in 1919. Fluent in Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, German, Yiddish, Hebrew, English, French and Italian, Cohen got a job as an interpreter with Canadian Steamship Lines. But after several years, he left to fulfil the Canadian dream of being independent. Cohen became a scrap metal dealer.

"He had a two-ton Ford truck. You could deliver junk and coal too," explains Manuel Cohen. Gradually his father found coal to be the more profitable. Cohen Jr. shows an advertising blotter from the late 1920s with the inscription "H. Cohen Genuine Welsh anthracite coal is best. 4611 DesCarrieres St."

Harry Cohen

Manuel Cohen was born at that very address in 1924. "It was Victoria Day. Or, if you're French, it was Jour Dollard des Ormeaux."

From selling coal, Cohen's father – who could be called a *shvitzer* (hustler) in Yiddish – branched out to become a small-time real estate developer.

The Depression created new business opportunities for wheeler-dealers like Harry Cohen. "Anything he could lay his hands on," recalls his son. He would lend money to the unemployed and desperate on the proviso that the borrower forfeit his collateral if he failed to make the repayments.

Harry Cohen also used his scrap metal/coal truck to become a chicken merchant. "I helped him in his poultry business. I would travel with him in the Ottawa Valley, on both sides. The first French words I learned were 'Avez vous des poulets a vendre?' "

Other vocabulary Cohen Jr. soon picked up included "Pas de chiens ou juifs (No dogs or Jews)." At the age of 11 he lost an eye when an anti-Semitic bully attacked him with a stick.

Sometimes Cohen Sr. would barter the chickens for a sack of flour or sugar. After working around the clock, "he would drive in from Ontario bleary-eyed to Roy Street and Saint Lawrence and sell his chickens."

Harry Cohen also sold at the Jean Talon Market, where Italian immigrant matrons would go to buy live poultry. That's where, in 1934, Manuel met Mary Nanni, whom he married in 1947.

Every Christmas during the Depression, Cohen remembers his father giving away scores of chickens to needy neighbors and clients. "He was also a stingy man. He would make me work while other kids were playing. But I enjoyed every minute of it. When I said to him 'I must go to the movies,' he would answer, 'There's only one thing a person must do – die.' "

It was a gritty philosophy born of centuries of persecution and poverty and confirmed by the "Dirty Thirties."

Cohen's wife, Ida (nee Shapiro), a native of Montreal, died in 1938 following a lengthy illness, leaving him to raise four young children.

Cohen decided to entrust them to his sister Sarah Berenbaum while he returned to Poland to sell the family-owned jute factory. Though stringent currency regulations restricted the export of capital from Poland, Cohen planned to smuggle his money to Switzerland, his son remembers.

On June 6, 1939, he sailed on the Stefan Batory from New York City to Danzig. Three months later the Polish passenger liner was sunk by the Germans in the Baltic as the Wehrmacht crushed the Polish army.

"I got a letter in August 1939 in Yiddish that he was having problems with family and politics. There was a disagreement about the business end of the jute mill. "You didn't stay in Poland and now you want a bigger share,' his family was saying."

That was the last correspondence. But it took more than six years before postal communications were resumed and Manuel Cohen learned he had become an orphan.

"The war broke out September 1, 1939. There was no word. After the war, in October 1945, some information came from a woman in Lodz. 'In 1942 the Germans found out I had been hiding your father in my cellar. They arrested my husband and took away your father. They never returned.' " Sheltering Jews was a capital crime.

Cohen and his Polish protector were likely deported to the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, where most Jews from Lodz were sent.

Together with the letter, Cohen's would-be savior enclosed a Hebrew prayer book. "I remember my father using it at the synagogue on Roy Street."

As well, there were three traveller's cheques, each for $200, signed but not countersigned by his father. "This is why I figured it was authentic. We had to go through legal proceedings to cash them."

Today Cohen regrets he no longer knows the name or address of the woman who had hidden his father. The letter in Polish was lost in 1947 when Cohen left his aunt's house.

Cohen says that for years after 1945 he used to have dreams about his father. They always took place at the house on Gilford Street. "I used to dream I was mad at him for not giving me his entrepreneurship. He was able to make money when no one else could. He was able to build a house in the Depression. I wanted the know how."

After three decades Manuel Cohen and his family reconciled. He shows a photo of his granddaughter at Jerusalem's Western Wall. In 1984, he added his father's name to a Holocaust memorial at the Beth Ora Synagogue section of the Jewish cemetery in Dollard des Ormeaux.

"Today it still gives me goose pimples."

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For an information package on Foundations For Life, please contact Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation. By phone at (416) 586-8203. By fax at (416) 586-8639. Or by mail to Nicholas Offord, Foundation President, 600 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1X5.

From coast to coast

Anti-racism education experiencing 'backlash'

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Anti-racist education has come a long way since 1981, but it still has far to go, Karen Mock recently told a B'nai Brith Canada League for Human Rights symposium in Winnipeg.

Mock, the League's national director and a longtime anti-racist educator, recalled what an isolated and marginal endeavor anti-racist ecucation was prior to the first National Education Symposium in 1981, which also took place in Winnipeg.

"Before 1981, you couldn't use the 'R' word and get funded," she said. "Now we are seeing a backlash. People want to softpedal the issue. We are here to develop practical strategies to combat the 'isms.' We have to get away from turf wars and arguments over who gets credit for what. We have to break down the barriers to real equality rather then just grab power."

Mock gave a brief history of the development of anti-racist education from the 1970s, when Canada developed an official policy of multiculturalism. She cited landmark reports along the way including a study by Walter Pittman following racial incidents in Toronto, and other studies that documented discrimination against people of color and aboriginal people.

"We provided the data that supported the perceptions of discrimination," Mock said. "We put out race relations training manuals and lobbied for equity policies. If we as researchers are becoming discouraged by the attitudes of the '90s, how much worse is it for minority youth. They are angry and feel betrayed. No one should be surprised that they are turning to violence."

She attributed the current backlash to the depressed economic climate. Governments are using the excuse of fiscal restraint to cut support for equal opportunity hiring, she noted. As well, when someone is worried about losing his job, he tends to become self-centred.

Hard economic times also lead people to look to minority populations as scapegoats, and the rise of the move to the right worldwide emboldens local racists.

"Our studies show that about 15 percent of the population is bigoted." Mock reported. "The good news is that up to 70 percent of Canadians support multiculturalism and anti-racist legislation. The key is the remaining 15 percent who will go either way. They can be won over by someone who takes off his hood and puts on a suit to run for office. Wolfgang Droege only received 3,000 votes in Scarborough, but how many other people agreed with him even though they didn't vote for him?"

Mock is also concerned about fractiousness between minority groups. She described the term "special interest groups" as a "travesty." We are all Canadians and we all have to work together to build a society based on multiculturalism, equality and social justice, she said.

"We are at a crossroads," she said, "but I am an optimist. We wouldn't be experiencing a backlash if we weren't making progress. It is time to put words into action."

Following Mock's call for action, Helmut-Harry Loewen, the Winnipeg-based research director of the Western Anti-Racist Network (WARN) gave concrete examples of successful action taken to oppose racists.

Loewen distinguished between exposing racists and opposing them. Exposure, he explained, involves intelligence and information gathering on a number of levels, monitoring and tracking racists and building coalitions with other anti-racist groups.

"Information flows freely among anti-racist groups across Canada," he said. "Once racists are exposed, they can then be opposed and even deposed."

As an example, he noted the case of Aryan Nations leader Charles Scott, who has already been forced out of several British Columbia communities due to exposure by anti-racists.

"We have to be creative and flexible," Loewen said. "We have to match strategies to the situation. We can oppose hate through education, legal action and confrontation. We can shut down racist meetings and pressure hotel owners not to rent rooms to racists. The time to expose and oppose hatemongers is now more than ever."

Loewen and Mock were joined on the panel by Laara Fitznor, a Metis professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba, and Winnipeg city councillor Glen Murray, who is gay.

The symposium also included sessions on Holocaust education and countering hate on the Internet. The keynote speaker over lunch was Ken McVay of Vancouver Island, the creator of the Nizkor Project to fight anti-Semitism and hate on the Internet.

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Vancouver community leader to be honored by Israel Bonds

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — A leading member of Vancouver's Jewish community, Morris J. Wosk, will be among those honored by State of Israel Bonds at a recognition ceremony in Jerusalem in April.

Wosk is one of 36 selected from around the world "to recognize continuing and longstanding support of Israel, Israel Bonds and the community in which he lives," says the Bonds office.

Norman Franks, Western Canada executive director of Israel Bonds, says the recognition ceremony will be the "centrepiece" of Bonds' Jerusalem 3000 delegation to Israel, April 17 to 25.

The celebration will conclude on Yom Ha'atzmaut, with festivities including naval and air demonstrations and a performance at the new Tel Aviv opera house.

At the recognition ceremony, the Wosk family and the others being honored will have family scrolls containing their genealogy and list of community achievements placed in an Israel Bonds time capsule, which will be buried in the gardens of the King David Hotel overlooking the old city.

The Wosk family will be honored by Bonds locally at a tribute evening on June 18.

From coast to coast

Quebec judge expresses regret over comments

By DON MACDONALD
Special to The CJN

QUEBEC CITY — A Quebec Superior Court judge, who shocked the province's Jewish community by suggesting Nazi gas-chamber victims didn't suffer, now says the statement was the result of an "unfortunate comparison" of a crime with suicide by carbon monoxide poisoning.

Justice Jean Bienvenue reiterated his regret for the concentration camp comments during two days of testimony April 3 and 4, before a Canadian Judicial Council disciplinary hearing into his conduct.

"I visited Auschwitz with horror and if anyone knows what the Jews suffered during the last war, it's me," Bienvenue, 67, told the five-judge panel hearing his case at the Quebec City courthouse.

The judge made the gas-chamber comment last December in sentencing Tracy Theberge, who had been convicted of slashing the throat of estranged husband Simon Messier.

Bienvenue's sentencing statement sparked outrage among Jewish and women's groups. He told Theberge that Jews who died in the gas chambers did not suffer as much as her victim. He added that women, while the nobler of the sexes, could act with more depravity than the vilest man.

Bienvenue explained before the hearing that he was thinking of suicides by carbon monoxide poisoning when he made the Holocaust allusion.

"The gas chamber — this part of the death, this part of what they suffered — was less cruel than what Simon Messier suffered in terms of physical pain," he said. "When there is a suicide in a garage by someone blocking the tailpipe of their car, the police will tell you the death is the gentlest possible. You don't feel anything. You just go."

But Bienvenue quickly added he regretted having made the comparison and noted he had expressed his sincere apologies in a meeting with leaders of the Jewish community in Montreal in December.

"[The statement] was unfortunate, inappropriate," Bienvenue said under questioning from his lawyer, Gabriel Lapointe.

But Bienvenue's regret about his statement at the Theberge trial stopped with the one regarding the Holocaust. He said he stood by his comments about women, although he allowed that women have made great strides and singled out former Israeli prime minister Golda Meir as someone he respects.

And Lapointe may have made things worse for Bienvenue by shocking women's groups anew with his aggressive questioning of a female television reporter who testified against Bienvenue at the hearing.

Valerie Lesage, a journalist with the TVA network who covered the Theberge trial, testified that Bienvenue had made a suggestive comment to her in a hallway outside the courtroom that included a reference to her skirt.

Lapointe asked Lesage a series of questions about her height and weight and the length of her skirt, with the suggestion that her apparel had been destracting to jurors.

At one point, the lawyer asked Lesage if her skirt had been a "*rase-trou*," a vulgar French expression for a skirt that just covers the crotch area.

The question drew complaints from groups representing women, lawyers and journalists.

The Judicial Council hearing was called at the request of federal Justice Minister Allan Rock and his provincial counterpart Paul Begin.

The panel, which could recommend that Bienvenue be removed from the bench, will hear lawyers' final arguments on April 19.

Winnipeg BGU set to honor cancer researcher

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg chapter of the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University will honor Dr. Lyonel Israels, one of Canada's leading cancer researchers, at a tribute dinner on April 21, at the Westin Hotel.

For 20 years, Israels served as executive director of the Manitoba Cancer Treatment Research Foundation. He has also served as president of the National Cancer Institute of Canada, the Canadian Society of Clinical Investigation and the Canadian Society of Hematology and chair of the Scientific Advisory Council of the International Agency for Research on Cancer based in Lyon, France.

He retired from his position at the Manitoba Cancer Treatment Research Foundation in 1992 to return full time to research.

Previous honors that Israels has received include the Order of Canada, the St. Boniface Humanitarian Award, Captain of the Order of the Buffalo Hunt of the Province of Manitoba and the Distinguished Service Award of the Manitoba Medical Association.

At the Ben-Gurion dinner, Israels will be presented with the Negev Award, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev's highest award. A chair in Hematology will be established at the university's medical school in his name.

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Illustration by Rochelle Rubinstein Kaplan

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From coast to coast

CJC-Q seeks written promise on Passover foods

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The furor over some Passover foods being pulled off shelves subsided when the Office de la Langue Française (OLF) pledged that it won't happen again next year.

But Jewish community officials made it clear after a two-hour meeting with OLF officials last Friday that they want a written guarantee that Passover goods will be exempted for good.

"We are looking for a long-term solution, a written policy that will be publicized," Reisa Teitelbaum, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), told *The CJN*. "It's not good enough just to say it.

"The ultimate goal is to make sure that there is a process put into place, that it never happens again."

The meeting with the OLF, which included Montreal Sephardi leadership, capped a week in which the controversy — dubbed "Matzohgate" by one wag — seemed to take on a life of its own.

The story dominated the front page of the *Gazette* for five out of six days and even made the pages of the *Los Angeles Times*.

The OLF's actions also triggered widespread condemnation and charges of intolerance from Quebec pundits and interest groups of all political stripes.

They included Alliance Quebec, the Montreal Board of Trade and even ardent sovereigntists and supporters of Quebec French-language laws, who accused the OLF of demonstrating extreme heavy-handedness when it warned Quebec food distributors in a letter to "act quickly," just as Jews were stocking up for Passover.

At a press conference last Friday, the two sides announced the formation of a task force to find a permanent solution to the problem.

OLF officials conceded that they had no way of knowing whether a member of the Sephardi community had, in fact, registered a complaint, since the OLF does not keep records on the religious identity of complainants.

But OLF president Nicole René and communications director Gilles-Louis Racine also suggested that the OLF's letter was "misinterpreted" — a defence rejected outright by Teitelbaum as disingenuous — and refused to explicitly apologize for its actions.

While René allowed that, "in hindsight, it's obvious that the Jewish community felt it was being targeted" and that it "may not have been the best time to pursue the dossier," she insisted they were targeting Passover food importers, not the Jewish community, for "not complying with the law."

Whether that, in fact, was the case, remains a crucial point of contention between the two sides.

The CJC-Q says that besides a "tacit" agreement between the Jewish community and successive Quebec governments over the last decade exempting Passover products from French-language labelling requirements, it also exists in fact.

A regulation in the French Language Charter says that non-French-labelled products are allowed into Quebec when they are "in very limited use and no equivalent replacement products presented in French exists on the Quebec market."

Racine, however, maintained that the term "limited use" does not apply to Passover goods because they are available in supermarkets, for a community of 100,000 members.

"We will have to find a definition we can all agree on," René said.

Under federal bilingual labelling guidelines, imported Passover products are classified as "specialty" foods and are exempted across Canada from the law requiring English and French on food packaging.

Teitelbaum told *The CJN* that if there is no solution, the Jewish community might have to seek recourse through the courts.

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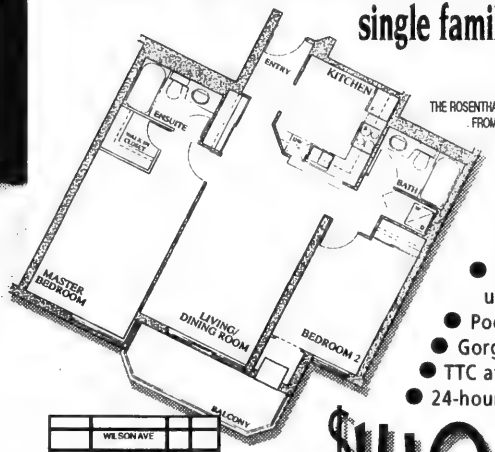

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From coast to coast

SKATE WITH THE GREATS

City TV broadcaster, former Toronto Maple Leaf star Jim McKenny (centre), seen here with event co-chairs, Jim Klein (left) and Mark Zigler, will be at the Associated Hebrew Schools parents' association Skate with the Greats at Chesswood Arena on April 21 from 4 to 6 p.m. Also skating will be Leaf legends Frank Mahovlich, Eddie Shack and Billy Harris.

Israel Forum looks to future

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The Vancouver Israel Forum, a consortium of Vancouver agencies and organizations, has been set up to discuss and plan "how our relationship and active demonstration of partnership with Israel will evolve over the next several years," says an article in the latest issue of *Federation*, published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver.

The Forum is a response to a speech made in Washington D.C. in February by Israel Foreign Minister Ehud Barak. At the time Barak said Israel and the Diaspora represent two separate systems founded on common traditions and values.

Barak acknowledged the importance of Diaspora Jewry's support in the international arena in the area of security and economic standing, but emphasized that Israel's decisions would continue to be made by its own elected leaders. And he called for "sincere openness in dialogue and consultations between the two communities."

While the Diaspora and the State of Israel "reconsider their historical relationship and develop a new model for the second 50 years of statehood, our community-based agencies are engaged in the same discussions," said the federation article. The Forum wants to develop a concrete approach to continuing a strong relationship, especially between youth movements from Israel and the Diaspora and expansion of Hebrew studies among youth in the Diaspora. A two-year plan is being developed to establish a local policy which will be announced in June.

Still in its formative stage, the Israel Forum includes Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region, Aliyah Centre, Canadian Israel Program Centre, Canadian Zionist Federation, JFGV, Jewish Community Centre, Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, Hadassah-WIZO of Vancouver, and Jewish National Fund. Morris Soronow is coordinating the group's activities through the Congress office.

Projects the Forum is working on as an initial effort include preparing an inventory of current Israel-content programs in Vancouver; working with the Canadian Zionist Federation as the lead agency in this year's Walk With Israel honoring Jerusalem 3000; planning a program of Israel-content activities for the next two years leading to the 50th anniversary of Israel.

JFGV executive director Drew Staffenberg has been asked by the group to undertake staff planning.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, April 18 is deadline for May 2 issue, and Thursday, April 25, is deadline for May 9. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Thursday, April 18

MOTHER-DAUGHTER

The Walter Lyons Memorial Lecture, She is Not the Mother I Knew, dealing with mother-daughter relationship when mother is suffering from dementia and is institutionalized, with social worker **Etta Ginsberg-McEwan**, Baycrest Centre. 6:30 p.m., lecture at 7.

Saturday, April 20

CANTORIAL SHABBAT

At Beth Tzedec Congregation, the Victor Renee Topper Cantorial Shabbat features **Cantor Moshe Schulhof** of North Miami Beach, Fla., 8:45 a.m.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh celebration at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, Minchah for women 5:15 p.m. followed by seudah shlishit and shiur by **Rabbi Mark Dratch**.

BINGO NIGHT

Bingo Night sponsored by Club Simcha, Na'amat, 8:30 p.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. $12.

Sunday, April 21

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Friends of Yiddish remembers the children and parents who perished in the Holocaust with a program of diary and poetry readings and songs in English and Yiddish, 2 p.m., First Narayever Congregation Egalitarian Synagogue, 187 Brunswick Ave.

PEACEMAKING

Shira Herzog speaks on Israel: The Challenge of Peacemaking at Temple Sinai. Services 9:30 a.m., breakfast following, program at 10. $3.

MARKET DAY

Holy Blossom Temple's first Market Day, with over 50 vendors, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 322-5813.

TRIALS & JEWISH LAW

New Leadership of Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University lecture with **Laurie Levenson**, Los Angeles-based criminal lawyer, on Trials of the Century: Exploring and Understanding Major Trials of Our Times from the Perspective of Jewish Law. $10. 485-8000.

BIRTH & BRIT

Bloor JCC and Downtown Jewish Community School's Jewish Life Cycle lecture, Birth and Brit, with **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein**, Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bloor JCC.

ISRAEL PROGRAM ALUMNI

On a speaking tour sponsored by Alumot, the association for alumni of Israeli programs ((Livnot U'Lehibanot, Project Oren, Project Ozma, Sherut La'am, WUJS), Israeli military and political analyst **Elliot Chodoff** lectures on Peace in the Shadow of Terror 7:30 p.m. at Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark St. W., Thornhill. Reserve. **Hallie**, 862-2072.

SKATE WITH THE GREATS

Join Associated Hebrew Schools Parents' Association skating with Toronto Maple Leaf greats **Frank Mahovlich, Eddie Shack, Billy Harris** and **Jim McKenny** (City TV *Live Eye*), 4-6 p.m. Chesswood Arena, 4000 Chesswood Dr. Autographs, photo opportunities, raffle for hockey memorabilia. Pre-admission $10/adult, $6/child. $30/family of four. At door $15/adult, $10/child. **Shirley Klein** 905-738-6245.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

food city Brings The Cost Of Keeping Kosher Down

Sun. 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., MON. - WED. 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., THURS. 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., FRI. 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., SAT., 8:00 A.M. - 10 P.M. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

Kosher MEAT

Kosher Whole Fresh Chickens
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4.39 kg
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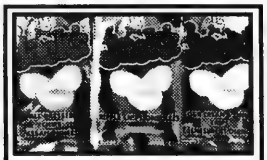

Jack's Potato Chips
Assorted Varieties
180 g bags
3/1.99

Heinz Beans
Assorted Varieties
14 oz. tin
.59

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325 - 400 g boxes
2/4.99

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Product of Ontario
3.29 kg
1.49 lb.

Dill Pickles
Mrs. Whyte's, Original
1 L jar
1.99

Snack Crackers
Snackers
350 g box
1.19

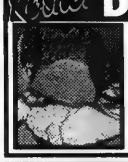
Blintzes or Crepes
King Kold, Assorted Varieties, 425 g box
2.99

Tradition Pasta
Spaghetti in Tomato Sauce or Pasta in Vegetable Sauce, 7.5 oz. tin
.89

Delicious Apples
Red or Golden, Product of British Columbia, Canada Extra Fancy, 2.18 kg
.99 lb.

Kosher DELI

Salami Chub
Levitt's, Large
750 g chub
7.99

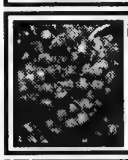


Beef Pastrami
Peri's
2.18/100 g
9.89 lb.

Rippin Striped Dainty Cookies
300 g pkg.
1.99

Kosher BAKERY

Challah Bread
Bilkas, Baked Fresh Daily, 680 g loaf
1.99



Red Globe Grapes
Product of Chile, No. 1 Grade, 4.39 kg
1.99 lb.

Rainbow Trout Fillets
Fresh! 13.21 kg
5.99 lb.

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Peri's Regular
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Streits Old Fashioned Farfel
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Challah Buns
Freshly Baked
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Product of Ontario, Canada No. 1, Greenhouse, 5.44 kg
2.49 lb.

Prices effective until closing Saturday, April 20, 1996. at CLARK & HILDA FOOD CITY, 441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

Monday, April 22

THE MARRIAGE MODEL

The Marriage Model: Jewish Couples Who Set the Standard, a seminar for married couples and those who want to be married, with **Sandy and Alex Pister**, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGH

Beth Jacob V'anshe Drildz sisterhood presents An Israeli Medical Breakthrough New to Canada, focusing on cardiac issues with **Tami Muller** of Every Minute Counts Inc., 8 p.m., synagogue. Husbands and friends welcome.

SUPPORT GROUP

Support Group for Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Phone, in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, April 23

JEWISH HEALING PROJECT

A group for people confronting a physical illness to find spiritual resources for help and comfort within the Jewish tradition, led by **Rabbi Nancy Wexler** and social worker **Jack Kugelmas**, 6:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Rabbi Wexler 905-709-2620.

Wednesday, April 24

QUALITY OF LIFE

Baycrest Centre's Wellness Education Group lecture on Improving the Quality of Life for Seniors with **Dr. Dennis Raphael**, Centre for Health Promotion, University of Toronto, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. Register by April 23, 785-2500, ext. 2267. Information **Judy Chu** ext. 2340.

MEDINA THEATRE

Medina Theatre Ensemble staged reading of a Canadian play, *Salesmen Don't Ride Bicycles* by **Leo Orenstein**, directed by **Corrine Copnick**, 7:30 p.m., North York City Hall, 5100 Yonge St., Room 4. Members $5, non-members $7. 785-1074.

JEWISH CONTINUITY

Jewish Continuity — Intermarriage and Other Issues, lecture by **Les Klein**, chair, continuity project committee, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. 226-0111.

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogical Society features The Way We Were — In Spain with **Prof. Mark Meyerson**, University of Toronto History Department, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $3.

Thursday, April 25

PROGRAM ON AGING

'Aging: Myths and Realities, issues and options facing people caring for elderly family members, moderator **Debbie Vigoda**, executive director, Ontario Gerontology Association; speakers **Blossom Wigdor**, former director, Centre for Studies of Aging, University of Toronto, and **Etta Ginsberg-McEwan**, former director of social work, Baycrest Centre, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. **Craig Stevens** 705-725-7262 days, 487-2227 evenings.

SINGLE PARENTS' LECTURE

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Single Parents' lecture, Pillow Talk, understanding gender communications differences, **Kim Finkelstein**, 8 p.m. $5. 633-5500.

And What Else Is New...

STEINBERG HONORED

The April 26 Musical Legacy concert at Temple Sinai honors composer **Ben Steinberg** who initiated the concert series, marking his 25 years as the temple's music director. Guest artists **Donna Sherman** (mezzo soprano), **Leonid Karpinsky** (baritone), **Morry Kernerman** (violin), **Mark Childs** (viola), **Gennady Gefter** (flute) and **Sarah Davidson** (harp) will be joined by Temple Sinai Congregational and Chamber choirs in a program of Steinberg's compositions. Services 7:30 p.m., followed by concert.

OUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Women's Campaign annual social and political action program is In Search of Our Spiritual Growth: What's Changing for Jewish Women? Speaker **Rela Mintz Geffen**, professor and researcher in sociology of North American Jewry, Gratz College. Tuesday, April 30, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Conference Centre. 631-5698.

ISRAEL OUR HERITAGE

The Frances Bitterman Memorial Trust Fund lectures on The Land of Israel Our Heritage at Beth Tikvah Synagogue: Monday, April 22, 8 p.m., This Is My Land with **Max Goody**; and Thursday, April 25, 8 p.m. Current Affairs with **Erika Biro**.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Women's Institute of Torah Study classes held at Barbara Frum Library, third floor: Tuesdays, 8-9 p.m., **Chaya Perman** on the theme Women of Yesteryear — Voices to be Heard Today, begins April 23 with Tamar's Drama; Wednesdays, 10-11 a.m., **Rabbi Avraham Plotkin**, begins April 24 with Rambam — Natural vs. Supernatural Order in Messianic Era. $5 per class. Preregister. 905-881-2012.

SINGLES BRUNCH

Adath Israel Synagogue Singles Group, 35-55, Sunday brunch, April 28, 11:30 a.m., dream interpreter **Anne Morse** discusses Discover the Hidden Messages of Your Dreams. $8 pre-paid reservations 635-5340, until Friday, April 25, 2:30 p.m. $10 at door.

DINNER, AUCTION

Temple Kol Ami dinner silent auction Sunday, April 28, at Di Nardo's including wine sampling, dancing, show by **Rick Levine**, Times Square Entertainment, raffle. Advance tickets $50. **Linda Marvin** 905-882-0078.

MEGA GARAGE SALE

Take part in Temple Har Zion's mega garage sale Sunday, June 2, 10 a.m., by selling your own goods from a rented table, donating goods (pick up available) and/or attending. **Mark Temins** 905-771-1050 or **Jack Vanderheyn** 905-889-6680.

HEBREW LITERACY DAY

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and Arza Canada present National Hebrew Literacy Day, Sunday, April 28. Nine Toronto-area locations, beginner and refresher levels. $48 fee includes text books, materials and COR kosher vegetarian lunch. Register. 905-764-1-Day.

BOOK SALE

Donate unwanted books to the annual University College (UC) Book Sale at University of Toronto. Proceeds support UC library. For pick up, alumni office, 978-2968.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Successful Step-Parenting — Learning To Step Together, begins May 8; Living With Teens, Parenting the Pre-schooler, Parenting the School Age Child, all begin in May; Widows/Widowers (daytime group), begins May 9. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

at the JCC/BJC

Institute for Jewish Learning at BJC is offering three courses in May: king or Kings with **Rachel Turkienicz**, Making Marriage Magnificent with **Sarah Chana Radcliffe**, and Hebrew Reading 2: The Siddur with **Marlee Pinsker**. Also, a trip to New York to visit the Too Jewish? exhibit at the Jewish Museum, tour the Storm King Art Centre and more. Register. Marlee Pinsker, 636-1880, ext. 352.

Israeli dancing, Wednesdays at BJC, intermediate I and repertoire review, 7:30-9 p.m.; intermediate/advanced 9-11 p.m. $5 per session. **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364.

Centre Camp at BJC still has spaces in arts, sports and regular camp program for 1996 season. 636-1880, ext. 378 for brochure.

For Seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday dances April 20, 27; Sunday dance to live band April 28; *Beauty and the Beast*, Princess of Wales Theatre, May 16; Ottawa and Gatineau Hills, June 18-20; Catskills Raleigh Hotel, July 22-28; day trips — Markville Mall May 9, Kitchener May 30, Cullen Gardens, Niagara Falls. Membership $12. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays, 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). April 25, Israeli movie *From Tel Aviv to Los Angeles* with **David Topaz**. 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Catskills Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11; ArtPark *Chorus Line* Aug. 1 (first bus filled, spaces available on second bus); Stratford *The Music Man* Sept. 24; cruises planned for June 27 and July 15. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Holocaust Memorial Commemoration service, Friday, April 19, 11 a.m., synagogue.

Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) presents **Prof. Martin Lockshin**, York University, speaking on Judaism, Politics and Freedom of Speech, Monday, April 22, 1 p.m. **Bookie Kwart**.

LLI program, Controversies and Turning Points in Pre-Romanov Russian History with **Sidney Soban**, University of Toronto, Tnursday, April 25 (eight classes) 10:30 a.m. to noon. members $1, non-members $2.

Yom Ha'atzmaut party with **Andrey Furs** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, Wednesday, April 24, 1:30 p.m. Members $4, non-members $5. Tickets at Information Desk.

Talking Together: A Dialogue Between Generations, Wednesday, April 24, 8:45 a.m. to noon. Members $2, non-members $3.

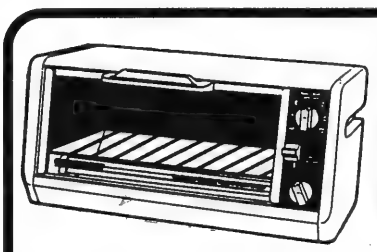
Etrog, Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Yom Ha'atzmaut party April 24, **Anna**.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets with occupational therapist **Joan Turner**, Tuesday, April 23, 1:30 p.m.

Movie, *Nobody's Fool*, Sunday, April 21, 2:30 p.m.

CORRECTION

Tickets for Adath Shalom Synagogue's Monte Carlo Night Saturday, April 20, at 9 p.m. are $5 NOT $50 as was incorrectly published in last week's What's New column. There are Door Prizes and a Grand Prize of a Trip for Two to the sunny south. For information, please call 416-635-0131.



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Trials of the Century: Exploring and Understanding Major Trials of Our Time From The Perspective of Jewish Law

with

Laurie Levenson

Los Angeles-based criminal lawyer, professor of law, author, legal consultant for CBS News and syndicated columnist for the Los Angeles Times. Ms. Levenson is a former assistant US attorney for the Central District of California.

Sunday, April 21st
7:30 p.m.
Beth Sholom Synagogue
1445 Eglinton Ave. W.

Tickets are $10.00 per person and can be ordered by phoning the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University at (416) 485-8000, or can be purchased at the door.

Sponsored by Goodman Phillips & Vineberg.

Don't be left out of Metro Toronto's Jewish Resource Guide

Call our hotline now for more information
416-633-4273

It's a ball! It's a mask! It's a blast! **Israel Cancer Research Fund** is holding its 4th Annual **Le Bal Masque** Saturday, April 20 at 8 p.m. at The Arcadian Court, Simpson Tower, 401 Bay Street. It includes a casino, silent auction, dancing, light dinner & much more. The event features funky black and white dress with black tie optional. Prize for best mask will be presented by a Toronto celebrity. Tickets $50 in advance, $60 at the door. Call ICRF office at (416) 487-5246

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

***GAMES Jewish Singles Play! REMINDER! Sunday, April 21,** 7:30 pm, Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook. **Bridge, Rummicube, Scrabble, etc. $5. 51 couples have already met!** Mollie, 733-3634.

A Really Big Show!
Vaudeville returns to the 90s - Music, Comedy & Much More
Thursday, May 2, 1996
Richmond Hill Country Club, 8905 Bathurst St. Doors open at 7 pm. Showtime 8 pm. sharp! Tickets $15. at the door. $5 from each ticket to support Heart and Stroke Foundation, Richmond Hill Chapter. Everyone Welcome!

Alumni of Livnot U'Lehibanot, Otzma, Project Oren, Sherut La'am & WUJS are invited to hear Elliot Chodoff, Israeli military & political analyst speak about "Peace in the Shadow of Terror". For info, call Hallie: 862-2072.

CO-ED SOFT BALL
M.T.S. presents its 7th anunnal three pitch softball season. Have fun, meet people and play softball. Last year we were sold out. Registration deadline May 1. 416-222-7111.

Jewish Singles Registry. Free membership to 1000th member. Averaging an engagement every 7 1/2 wks. 398-7068.

New Image 50 + Singles is having a dance on Sat., Apr. 20 at Earl Bales Community Centre. **DJ Phil Alenbick.** Refreshments, prizes. Members $5, non-members $7. Free dance lesson from 7:45 - 8:15 by Phil. Trip to Granit Sun, Aug. 4 - Mon. Aug. 12. Members dinner is Sun., May 26, money due now.

Rose Fund to reflect leader's varied interests

MONTREAL — Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will inaugurate the Alan Rose Fund for International Human Dignity, an annual program honoring the memory of the former Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) executive vice-president who died last July.

Axworthy will give an address May 14 at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim on The New State of Arab-Israel Relations in Light of the Middle East Peace Process: A Canadian Perspective, a topic chosen by Rose's wife, Joyce. The event is open to the public at no charge.

The evening will also include responses by Jewish and Arab speakers, to be announced later.

The date marks one year to the day that Rose accepted the Samuel Bronfman Medal at CJC's Plenary Assembly.

A committee, chaired by Rabbi Howard Joseph, is trying to raise $75,000 for the fund, which will sponsor an event or project each year that reflects Rose's wide range of interests, related to world Jewry and international affairs in general.

It might support publications, relief shipments to needy communities, lectures not only in Montreal but elsewhere in Canada, or other "creative options" that will put into practice Rose's vision of human rights and social justice.

Mike Cohen, the CJC staff member coordinating the fundraising, said almost half of the goal has been reached after only a month of campaigning.

Rabbi Joseph noted that there are untold numbers of people whose lives were touched by Rose, who admired him and who learned much from him.

Rose retired in 1994 after a 25-year career with CJC for which he travelled around the world, on behalf of oppressed communities, Holocaust survivors seeking reparations, to promote human rights at international events, and interfaith dialogue.

He was appointed to the federal Immigration and Refugee Board, but became ill soon after, dying at age 73.

There are four donor categories: Patrons ($1,000 and over), Sponsors ($500-$999), Friends ($100-$499) and Contributors. A tax receipt will be issued.

For information, call Cohen, 514-931-7531.

Rabin's daughter to help launch scholarship fund

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The Vancouver chapter of Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University (CHFU) is participating in the establishment of the Rabin Scholarship Fund for the Advancement of Peace, as a memorial to the assassinated Israeli prime minister.

Rabin's daughter, Dalia Rabin Pelossof, will be here in July to help launch the national project. She will be principal speaker at a "garden party by the sea," says Dvori Balshine, director of the CHFU Pacific region.

The scholarships will be set up through an endowment fund "that will allow students of all races and religions to pursue the ideals for which Yitzhak Rabin gave his life," according to CHFU.

The region's newsletter, *Between Friends*, says the fund will serve the dual purpose of promoting the pursuit of peace at an international level and focusing world attention on the role Yitzhak Rabin played in helping bring peace to the Middle East.

The fund will feature two components. Each year, based on outstanding research and/or involvement in the study of world peace, a scholar of international acclaim will be named a Rabin Scholar and given financial support to continue the studies at the Hebrew University. In addition, the balance of the revenue generated annually from the fund will be awarded as scholarships to study at Hebrew University.

At least one scholarship a year will be made available to a Canadian student. Scholarships will go to graduates of political science, international relations, economics, law or other areas relating to the study of peace.

Watch for the winning submissions from the Yom Ha'atzmaut Teen Cartoon Festival in next week's

The Canadian Jewish news

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Turbulence not always part of adolescence

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Adolescence is not necessarily a time of acute and sustained upheaval, and of fluctuating and uncontrolled hormones, according to recent research studies.

Also contrary to popular myth, two adolescent psychiatrists told the annual health education lecture of the Mount Sinai Hospital auxiliary, the absence of turbulence is not necessarily unhealthy.

Dr. Randy Gangbar, a psychiatrist and marital and family therapist, staff physician at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, Queen Street Mental Health Centre and Toronto Hospital, and consultant psychiatrist to Jewish Family and Child Service, and Dr. Douglas Weir, a child psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and staff physician at the Hospital for Sick Children, noted that nevertheless the teenagers years are ones of challenge.

There are biological changes in every system in the body, Weir said. As well, youngsters must adapt to other changes such as emotional swings, the formation of a new identity, sexual maturity, the preparation for an occupation, family life, and the internalization of a system of ethical values.

Nevertheless, a recent long-term study done in Chicago suggests that in only 23 percent of adolescents is there serious turbulence. The rest have either minor psychological upheavals, or a fairly smooth time of it.

Stable environment cited

Interestingly enough, the study indicates that the more stable the environment in which the teenager lives, the calmer will be his or her passage through adolescence.

Those with serious problems, such as suicidal inclinations and drug abuse, in adolescence, Weir added, tend to carry them into adulthood.

Teens receiving psychological or psychiatric help, said Weir, tend to have a high drop-out rate. "They are reluctant to see themselves or others as having problems."

At this age, group therapies may be more successful, he suggested.

Gangbar advised parents dealing with adolescents that for teens, saving face is extremely important.

"Choose your fights carefully. It is a sign of maturity to be able to lose a fight. Remember too that teenagers respond well to fights as a way to be close."

Adolescence is a difficult time for parents, Gangbar said. It is a time of coming to terms with the grief inherent in their children's growing independence, with the fact that wishes both for the children and themselves will not come true, and dealing with a culture that prizes youth and has an "iffy" relation with middle age and the elderly.

Many adults deal with the situation badly; with a refusal to hear what their kids are saying and a "what was good for me is good for them attitude; so strong a desire to avoid the mistakes of their parents that they have difficulty in setting necessary limits; dreading the coming of adolescence, which produces a self-fulfilling expectation of trouble; and an effort to relive their own adolescence."

Gangbar advised being "authoritative parents, rather than authoritarian ones. That is more successful."

He also denigrated the myth that dysfunctional teenagers always come from dysfunctional families. "Experts forget that a dysfunctional teenager can cause extreme stress to an otherwise healthy family."

Specialist visiting Jordan

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Dr. Arnold Noyek, otolaryngologist-in-chief of Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, is in Amman this week, trying to establish ongoing relations between leading figures in the Jordanian and Israeli medical establishments.

Before he left Toronto, Noyek told *The CJN* he hopes to "build future collaboration on the success of the first collaboration, a scientific day dealing with contemporary otolaryngology in the Middle East."

Under the auspices of the Isabel Silverman Canada-International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO), of which Noyek is executive director, that gathering was the first international Canada-Israel-Jordan effort in the medical field, Noyek said.

Representatives from Toronto, Montreal, Israel and Jordan attended that first meeting, which dealt with problems common to the area, such as cancer of the naso-pharynx and hearing loss in children.

MOVING?

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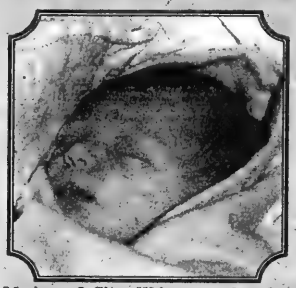
David & Andrea Pines are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Bradley Alexander on Jan. 26. Proud grandparents are Robert & Myriam Shechter and Ray & Molly Pines.

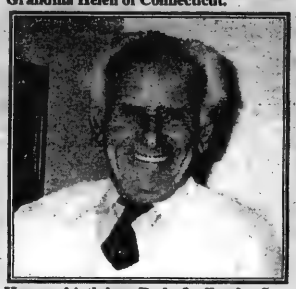


Marianne & Glenn Waiman are pleased to announce the birth of their son Jacob Quinn on Feb. 20. Very proud are Bubbie Honey & Zayde Bernie of Hamilton and Grandma Helen of Connecticut.

Rachel Kate Ler, daughter of Sharon & Richard, celebrated her first birthday on March 2.

Bertha Rosen celebrated her 70th birthday on Dec. 31 with daughters Brenda & Ilene and granddaughters Rebecca, Tracie and Marlie.

Mazel Tov to Morris Cohen on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Best wishes from his loving wife Naomi, daughter and son-in-law Bev & Mark Silverman and grandson, Corey.



Happy birthday Dad & Zayde Sam (Sender) Goldberg, who celebrated his 90th birthday on March 17, from children Brenda, David, Tzippy, Eddy, Linda and Murray; friend Rose; and grandchildren Michelle, Steve, Lori and Dale.

Max Shachter celebrated his 85th birthday on Dec. 24. Love and best wishes from wife Sylvia, children Irvin & Janice, Gail & Yossi, grandchildren and extended family.

Ludmila & Isaac Revah are pleased to anounce the engagement of their daughter Ayala to Mark, son of Suzanne & Laurie Silverberg and Cecile Silverberg. Proud grandparents in Israel are Vala & Adolf Lincer and Malka & Rofat Revah.

Happy 30th wedding anniversary to Stan & Doreen Green, the best parents in the world. With love from your children Shari & Howard Green.

Ziona & Izzy Abramowitz and Esther & Bruce Newman are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Sharon and David.

Yakov Aaron Bielak, son of Kalman & Cynthia Bielak, and Pamela Joyce Sharfe, daughter of Elaine & Sherwood Sharfe, are happy to announce their engagement. Proud grandparents are Annie Baum and Marion & Ed Vickar. A July wedding is planned.

Mel & Marlyne Lazer celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on March 25. With love from Max & Myna Lazer, Manny Wolf, brothers, sisters and their children Tracy, Erin and Andrew.

Regina & Berek Gertner celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 2. Henry & Cheryle Gertner, Eric & Elinor Gertner, Marlene & Michael Brickman, and all their children hope they enjoy many more wonderful years together.

Henry & Dora Gardner will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on April 29. Mazel tov and long life from Gerri, Marni and David Goldberg.

Gina & Idel Rubinger celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 18. Love from their children Carla & Andrew Ulpian, Gaby & Bruno Rubinger, Lenore & Morel Rubinger; grandchildren Noemi, Sharon, David, Julie, Daniel and Michael, and great-grandson Rueven Levinson.

Mazel tov to George & Judy Lysy on their 50th wedding anniversary on March 10.

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Residents of northern Israel cope with Katyushas

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

KIRYAT SHMONA – Shoval has spent most of his life inside a single room with reinforced concrete walls. The only time the newborn infant from Kiryat Shmona has been out of that room was last Saturday, when he was taken to a public bomb shelter to be circumcized.

Yigal and Anat Goredesh stayed in Kiryat Shmona just long enough to hold the *brit milah* of Shoval, their firstborn son. Then, like thousands of other residents of this northern town that has taken the brunt of the Katyusha rocket attacks over the last week, they sought refuge farther south.

"We would have left sooner, but we wanted to hold Shoval's *brit* on Saturday – eight days after his birth," explains 28-year-old Goredesh.

Not all of those invited arrived. Many had already fled Kiryat Shmona. Those who came had to strain to hear the mohel's blessing recited against the sound of IDF tanks pounding targets in southern Lebanon.

Goredesh couldn't bear to keep his son in a bomb shelter. "It's too suffocating and cold for a newborn baby," he says. "Instead we put him in the 'security room' of our home, which has reinforced concrete walls. It's about 98 percent as safe as a shelter. For the other two percent, we relied on the Almighty."

But the day after the ceremony, the Gorodeshes left Kiryat Shmona to stay with friends in the Golan. They were not alone. More than two-thirds of Kiryat Shmona's 18,000 residents have left town, many through an organized evacuation, since the start of the IDF military operation in Lebanon.

"When you have several young children, you can't afford to be patriotic," says Tami Husrabi, who took her four children, aged five, three, two and nine months, to stay with relatives in Jerusalem.

By leaving Kiryat Shmona, Husrabi hoped to spare her children undue suffering. But growing up in Kiryat Shmona has already left its mark on them.

Five-year-old Dor tells this reporter he's frightened. "My friend's house was blown up by a Katyusha. The next one might fall on our house. I'm scared," he says. "I'm scared," and repeats the words again and again.

"Sometimes I wonder if I've done the right thing by building a home and raising a family in Kiryat Shmona," admits Husrabi.

"What can I do? My family is here. My roots are here. And I love this place. Not that we could afford to live anywhere else. If we sold our house, we couldn't use the money to buy even half a room in Jerusalem.

Husrabi doesn't want to talk politics. She is beginning to doubt whether any political party can guarantee her family's safety.

"After the 1982 Peace for Galilee operation, we were sure that we'd seen the last Katyusha rockets in Kiryat Shmona. Then in 1993, Operation Accountability gave us a few months of tranquility. But here we are back again in the same position. Last month the windows were blown right out of our house. I'm beginning to think that this is the way we are always going to live."

In the meantime, in an ironic twist of fate, Husrabi is waiting out this latest border flareup at the home of her sister Ruthi in Jerusalem.

Just over a month ago, Ruthi, a kindergarten teacher in the city's Katamonim neighborhood, found refuge at her sister's home in Kiryat Shmona. Ruthi and her husband were in shock following the death of her husband's cousin in the Bus #18 suicide bombing in the Katamonim.

While Husrabi waited out the danger in Jerusalem, Marina Lekin and her two children spent every night sleeping in a bomb shelter. Lekin and her husband Vladimir, new immigrants from Russia, live on Kibbutz Manara, which straddles the Lebanese border. They are among the many residents of northern communities who stayed in their homes despite the threat of Katyusha rockets. "If I left, I would just worry about everyone else all the time," says Marina Lekin, a chemistry teacher.

Vladimir refuses to sleep in the bomb shelter. So every night Marina, who is pregnant, takes the children into the subterranean shelter.

"Unless you've spent time in a bomb shelter, you don't know the feeling it evokes," she says. "There's a distinct smell that sickens some people. There's the feeling of being buried underground.

"But then you develop a certain mind set. For me, it's like a state of hypnosis in which I just keep repeating to myself that it's going to be over soon."

From her living room window, Marina Lekin can wave to Lebanese villagers. "They are in the same boat as we are," she says. "Often the Katyusha rockets launched by the Hezbollah fall short of their target and land in those villages. I know some of the residents there. One of them tends the gardens at the college where I work. Every day I bid him shalom, and he bids me salaam. He is as much a victim as we are."

Members of an Israeli artillery crew carry 155mm shells toward their gun as shelling into Lebanon continued in retaliation for Katyusha rocket attacks into the northern Galilee. [RNS photo]

Like most residents of the north, Lekin is relieved that the IDF took action against the Hezbollah in Lebanon. But she keeps thinking about the Lebanese villagers further north.

"I know it's impossible to take military action without some civilian casualties. But Lebanese civilians are paying a very high price. It pains me."

When fighting in Lebanon flared up three years ago, the Lekins sent their children south for safety. "But it was too difficult being apart," says Marina. "So this time we decided to stay together as long as we can."

Has Lekin ever thought of leaving this border kibbutz to live in a safer place? The college where she teaches, Tel Hai, is where the legendary Zionist hero Yosef Trumpeldor died fending off Arab attackers in 1920. The lesson is not lost on Lekin, who may have spent most of her life in Leningrad but has absorbed the spirit of Zionism in her five years in Israel.

"At the very beginning I asked myself that question: Should I stay or go?

"It's the one that Yosef Trumpeldor must have asked: Is it worth it? There are people at this kibbutz who are models for me – people who have endured a lifetime of struggle. So now I no longer ask that question. It's clear to me: I am here to stay."

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Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Lebanon — a case of deja vu

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

A sense of dread and deja vu settled over southern Lebanon this week as Israel and Hezbollah traded tit-for-tat blows in the most serious fighting there in at least several years.

Mideast Analysis

In a virtual replay of Operation Accountability (July 1993), Israel pounded Hezbollah bases by air, by land and by sea, striking Beirut for the first time since the 1982 Lebanon War. Hezbollah hit back, forcing civilians into bomb shelters, prompting Israel to partially evacuate Kiryat Shmona, Metulla and other settlements in the affected area, and sending about 400,000 Lebanese fleeing northward.

Significantly, Syria remained aloof from the fray, despite having condemned Israel and having lost a soldier following an Israeli air strike near the Lebanese capital.

Israel intensified its assault, dubbed Operation Grapes of Wrath, as *The Canadian Jewish News* went to press on April 15. Prime Minister Shimon Peres said there were no immediate plans to halt the raids, which so far have involved neither Israeli ground troops nor armor.

Israel's chief objective is to force Lebanon and Syria to crack down on Hezbollah, which of late has shelled the Galilee with Katyusha rockets in a breach of its informal understanding with Israel, reached after Operation Accountability.

That agreement, brokered by the United States with Syria's and Iran's cooperation, collapsed for two reasons: Hezbollah has rocketed northern Israel, injuring 26 Israelis since March 30, and stepped up its attacks against Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon, slaying seven Israeli soldiers since January.

Hezbollah, an Islamic fundamentalist group supported by Syria and Iran, claimed that Israel started the latest round by killing several Lebanese civilians north of the security enclave. Israel apologized for the casualties, saying they were unintended.

Israel has been fighting a war of attrition with Hezbollah since 1985, when the Israeli army withdrew from all of Lebanon, except for a strip of rugged terrain adjacent to its frontier, and created the security enclave to protect its border against hostile infiltrations, initiated by the PLO in 1968.

During the late 1960s, 1970s and early 1980s, when the chief enemy was the PLO, Israel launched two invasions (Operation Litani and Operation Peace for Galilee) and innumerable raids into Lebanon.

In June 1978, following Operation Litani, the United Nations passed a resolution urging Israel to vacate Lebanon. Israel has not complied with the resolution because Lebanon — a protectorate of Syria — lacks the will and the military strength to disarm militias like Hezbollah.

Only Syria has the capability, though obviously not the will, to clamp down on Hezbollah. Syria has been using Hezbollah to pressure Israel to beat a hasty retreat from Lebanon (which Damascus regards as its legitimate sphere of influence) and from the Golan Heights. Last month, Israel suspended talks with Syria over the Golan, saying they would not resume until Syria reins in Hezbollah, which has grown increasingly brazen.

Israel has no territorial designs on Lebanon, though Arab commentators claim it covets the waters of the Litani River. In the past two years, Israel has declared a willingness to withdraw from southern Lebanon, provided its security can be assured. But the weak Lebanese government has rejected these proposals and called for an unconditional Israeli withdrawal, a non-starter as far as Israel is concerned.

An Israeli soldier carries a 155mm shell as he readies an artillery piece for shelling into Lebanon from a position along Israel's northern border. [RNS photo]

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The Week in Israel

April 8

• *Ha'aretz* reported that Israel and the NATO alliance had agreed to hold a forum to study the possibilities of joint scientific projects. The announcement came as a result of a meeting in Brussels last week between a delegation from Israel of Foreign and Defence Ministry officials with the NATO secretariat.

April 9

• *Ha'aretz* reported that Prime Minister Shimon Peres will sign a joint defence agreement with the United States against unconventional warfare at the end of the month in Washington.

• Degel Hatorah and Agudat Yisrael arrived at an agreement to present a joint electoral list for the May 29 elections. The first five places on the list will be held by Agudat Yisrael (1-3-5) and Degel Hatorah (2-4).

April 10

• The *Jerusalem Post* reported that Miriam Goldstein of Kiryat Arba, the widow of Baruch Goldstein, had appealed to the Tel Aviv district court against the refusal by the Ministry of Defence to recognize her as the survivor of a terrorist victim. In her appeal, she argued that her husband was murdered by Arabs after they had disarmed him and thus they deprived him of the right to be tried by the law.

April 11

• Midnight was the deadline for the submission of party lists for the upcoming elections. Twenty-four party lists will be vying for votes on May 29.

• Sofia Landver, a new immigrant from the former Soviet Union, was elected by a large majority to the 25th position on Labor's election list.

April 12

• *Ha'aretz* reported disagreement between the Shin Bet (General Security Service) and the IDF Intelligence Office on the question of primary responsibility for the gathering and assessment of intelligence data from the West Bank areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority. The issue reportedly arose because Ami Ayalon, head of the Shin Bet as well as head of the recently created terror fighting unit, is seeking to centralize the key intelligence aspects of Israel's fight against terrorism.

Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Pressure mounts on Lebanon

[Cont'd. from page 1]

and dozens of villages south of the Litani River. The coastal road leading to Beirut was reported to be completely blocked with traffic.

According to reports from Lebanon, about 200 villages had been evacuated by last Sunday night, including most of Tyre which has a population of nearly 60,000.

Reports from Lebanon said that one Katyusha hit inside the UN peacekeeping force base in Nakura causing extensive damage, but no injuries.

"The fire in many instances comes from inside the village. They keep the rockets inside houses, take them out and fire, then return to the house. We saw them fire from a school and other public buildings," said Shahak.

He said the IDF's call for all residents in southern Lebanon to flee northward is meant to keep them from being hurt. "We hope the exodus will prevent civilians from being harmed. We will continue to act wherever Hezbollah can be found. We won't let Hezbollah hide among civilians or use the residents of south Lebanon as a shield," he said.

OC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon said his people had information Hezbollah is trying to carry out suicide attacks in the security zone and that it may even try to infiltrate Israel with a terrorist flying a hang glider. He said that Israeli and Jewish targets abroad are also on alert against possible attacks by Hezbollah, which is being aided by Iran.

Ya'alon also said diplomats at the Iranian Embassy in Beirut had fled to Damascus, apparently seeking to avoid being targeted by Israel.

Hezbollah's Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, meanwhile, again indicated the organization would not confine its retaliatory activities to Lebanon and northern Israel. He strongly intimated that it would also hit Israel and Jewish targets abroad.

Despite repeated Israeli strikes, Hezbollah units still responded last Sunday by firing some 45 rockets at the Galilee panhandle and western Galilee.

The Katyushas caused only light damage, and only three injuries were reported.

The low casualty figure was in part attributed to the fact that residents of northern Israeli communities had heeded army directives to remain in bomb shelters and security rooms.

Another factor was that many homes were empty, after thousands of northern residents fled to central and southern Israel shortly after the hostilities broke out.

On Sunday night, one Katyusha rocket hit a shelter housing scores of people, but only two were lightly hurt.

Overall, more than 500 apartments had sustained damage in the wave of rocket attacks which began last week.

The Israeli military operation began April 11, after the Passover holiday, when Israel launched air operations that extended to the southern suburbs of Beirut for a surgical strike against what was described as the logistics centre of Hezbollah.

It marked the first time Israel targeted the Lebanese capital since the 1982 war in Lebanon.

Last week, the IDF issued a statement advising Lebanese civilians to leave four villages in southern Lebanon that Israel charged were being used by Hezbollah fighters as bases.

On Sunday, the IDF extended the warning to Lebanese residents of more than 42 villages south of the Litani River, telling them to get out of the area or risk their lives.

In addition to the artillery and air strikes, Israel imposed a naval blockade on Lebanon.

On Saturday, an Israeli helicopter rocketed an ambulance near Tyre, killing four children and two women, sources in Lebanon said. Israel said a member of Hezbollah had also been travelling in the vehicle.

On Sunday, Israeli planes rocketed a relay station in Jamhour, located south of Beirut, knocking out power in the surrounding area.

Israel said the raid was in response to a Hezbollah rocket attack the previous night that had knocked out electricity in the northern Israeli border town of Kiryat Shmona.

"No place is immune," Peres told Israel Radio. "If they will hit electricity in our places, their electricity will face the same problem."

The air force also hit two targets in the Bekaa Valley which it said served Hezbollah for transmitting its "Voice of the Oppressed" radio station.

The United States has given its support to the Israeli strikes in Lebanon.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said over the weekend that the Israeli actions were a legitimate response to Hezbollah's rocket attacks on northern Israel.

With files from David Rudge and Arieh O'Sullivan of the Jerusalem Post Foreign Service.

Islamic groups promise new suicide attacks

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM - Hezbollah called on all of its suicide attackers last Sunday to take up their positions.

"Due to the developments, we call the martyrs' brigade to join their predetermined posts and we call for general mobilization in the ranks of Hezbollah," Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah said in a statement on television.

Last month, a Hezbollah suicide attacker blew himself up near an IDF patrol in south Lebanon, killing a soldier and wounding five.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad issued a joint statement in Beirut last Saturday vowing to renew suicide attacks against Israel. "Our heroic suicide attackers will strike deep in the Zionist depth. Let the enemy and its allies know that its crimes and terrorism against our innocent and unarmed people in Lebanon will not pass without punishment," the statement said.

The Palestinian Authority (PA) has condemned the operation against Hezbollah, saying it has killed dozens of innocent people and threatens the peace process.

Meanwhile, the PA has released "dozens" of arrested suspected Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists after deciding they were not involved in planning suicide attacks against Israelis or attacks on the PA, spokesperson Mohammed Abu Shanab said last Saturday.

"More prisoners will be released and those who are shown to have been involved will be sent to the public prosecutor and tried," he said.

Until this week, the Palestinian police were holding an estimated 900 Hamas and Islamic Jihad prisoners who were arrested after the four suicide bombings.

Israel, Syria at odds

by STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Iran and Syria are at odds over whether Hezbollah should continue Katyusha attacks on northern Israel, informed sources said Saturday night.

The sources said that Iran has been encouraging Hezbollah to escalate tensions in south Lebanon by repeated Katyusha attacks, while Syria has been seeking to restrain them.

Hezbollah, which has been receiving increased funds from Iran, has chosen to ignore Syria's advice, the sources said.

The result, the sources said, is that Hezbollah, which has been storing massive amounts of ammunition and rockets over the past few months, has been able to fire at will on towns in northern Israel without permission from Syria.

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Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Preferred area of practice: Family Law
Author of Religion and Culture in Canadian Family Law

The *Get*: Use and Abuse

PART 2 OF 2

In the April 4 issue, we examined *Get* abuse and the ostracization that can result for the victimized spouse. In response, with an extremely rare display of total unity among all the different Jewish organizations and many secular organizations in 1986 and 1991, a Holy coalition convinced the new Democratic and Conservative parties to outvote the Provincial Liberal minority government and its Justice committee (the only time this has ever happened on a Canadian government bill) to pass remedial legislation. The legislation gives a secular Judge the authority to prevent a spouse from pleading or defending a family law action in the Canadian court system. The Liberals also introduced their own amendments that make it difficult to bargain for a *Get* (agreements can be set aside if that happens).

A few years later, the federal government passed similar provisions in the *Divorce Act* with the unanimous support of all organized religious institutions and faiths across Canada.

The federal government released a study in June 1992 in which they reviewed the effectiveness of the *Get* provisions of the *Divorce Act*. The cross-country survey concluded that since the legislation had come into effect, "an increasing number of Jewish spouses in Canada seeking a divorce no longer utilize the *Get* as a bargaining tool to obtain financial or custodial gain to which they are not legally entitled." The study further concluded that the legislation provides "some protection from victimized spouses, whereby a recalcitrant spouse is prevented from using the *Get* as a lever against the spouse and children." The survey also disclosed that 61% of the people who were polled (Rabbis, lawyers, social workers, and other experts) felt that the problem had been substantially diminished as a direct result of the *Get* legislation.

I don't mean to suggest that the *Get* problem has disappeared in Canada. Many would like to see the problem solved rabbinically and feel that the secular remedies are only a "band-aid" solution until a religious remedy is found.

However, as the community attempts to move further in solving this problem, both in Canada and internationally, we should take a moment to reflect on what the Jewish community has achieved to date in Ontario and in this country. Internationally, New York State and Israel have now passed similar legislation. Australia is on the brink of following the Canadian example, and England is debating remedial legislation as well.

John Syrtash is a litigation lawyer with the Toronto firm of Kronis, Rotsztain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler. Mr. Syrtash's preferred area of practice is Civil Litigation and Family Law. Neither Mr. Syrtash nor the law firm of Kronis, Rotsztain, Margles, Cappel & Gertler nor B'nai Brith Canada is liable for any consequences that may arise from any party relying upon the information in this material. Mr. Syrtash can be reached at (416) 225-8750.

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Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Palestine Council prepares to amend its charter

By JON IMMANUEL and NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency and *Jerusalem Post Foreign Service*

JERUSALEM - Salim Zaanoun, acting chair of the Palestine National Council (PNC), said last week that the historic meeting to change the Palestinian charter is planned for April 22.

Speaking from Amman where he was meeting PNC members, Zaanoun told Palestine Radio that "President Arafat called me last night and told me to send the invitations to the PNC members and to prepare all documents needed to convene the session on April 22."

Arafat is chairman of the PLO executive committee that must call the meeting.

Zaanoun added that the meeting, which according to the Oslo 2 timetable must be held by May 7, could be postponed or held in Cairo if Israel failed to provide permits for 86 PNC members who have not yet received them.

"The PNC plans a new national charter instead of the old one," Zaanoun said. He did not say whether the old charter would be explicitly annulled, as required by the terms of the Oslo agreement. The new 17-article charter, largely written, refers to a Palestinian state next to Israel with neighborly relations.

Meanwhile, council member Leila Khaled, a Palestinian terrorist known for her involvement in the 1969 hijacking of a TWA airliner, has been barred by Israel from entering the West Bank.

Khaled had received permission to attend the PNC meeting on April 22. But Israeli officials said she was refused entry Sunday at the Allenby Bridge crossing from Jordan because they were not informed in advance of her arrival.

Israel has demanded that PNC members sign a pledge denouncing terror and expressing support for the peace process as a precondition for obtaining permission to enter the territories.

Israeli officials say that some 250 of the PNC members who live outside the Gaza Strip and West Bank have already received entry permits and about 200 have already arrived for the meeting.

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Hezbollah in ambulance

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

KIRYAT SHMONA – IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak defended last Saturday's missile attack on an ambulance, which reportedly killed three children and two women in south Lebanon, saying Hezbollah fighters were trying to hide behind any innocent shield they could find.

Reports from Lebanon said an Israel Air Force (IAF) helicopter fired at an ambulance travelling on a road southeast of the port city of Tyre. Besides the dead, two men were injured in the attack near the village of Hinniyeh, the reports said.

Shahak confirmed that the IAF hit a vehicle south of Tyre, but said it contained a Hezbollah fighter and was moving in an area where Katyushas had been fired earlier.

"We hit a vehicle south of Tyre, in an area where we told civilians to flee because the Hezbollah was operating there," Shahak said. "Civilians were not supposed to be in this area.

"The Hezbollah are afraid to move and are looking for any way to try to look like innocent people.

"We will continue to hit the villages from which Katyushas are fired. Civilians are not supposed to be there and we have called upon them again to leave the area. We will allow anyone moving northward to do so freely and safely. Any vehicle moving between Hezbollah positions will be hit," Shahak said.

Lebanese security sources told the Associated Press that the ambulance belonged to the Islamic Message Scouts, an affiliate of one of the Shi'ite political groups.

The ambulance was hit just after it drove past a checkpoint of Fijian troops of the UN peacekeeping force.

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Israel, U.S.A. & the World

Hi-tech weapons used by IDF

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – The IDF is using hi-tech artillery to score direct hits on Hezbollah's Katyusha rocket launchers, the commander of IDF artillery forces in the north said last week.

He said there had been at least three confirmed direct hits on launchers by artillery and the IAF.

The officer maintained that the heavy barrage of more than 3,000 shells fired by 155-millimetre and 175-mm howitzers, last week between early Friday morning and the same time Saturday, was also designed to disrupt Hezbollah's ability to launch Katyusha rockets at northern Israel.

"We are using the best equipment, the most up-to-date, with radar which enables us to pinpoint where Hezbollah is firing from and this is connected in a loop with digital networks directly to the computers in the gun itself," he said in a briefing with reporters.

"This enables us to fire back as fast as possible... and react to what Hezbollah is doing," he said.

The IDF's goal, he said, is to make sure it will not be worthwhile for Hezbollah to continue harassing the population in northern Israel. "So far, it seems that things are going as we planned, although I can't guarantee that there won't be a Katyusha rocket where we are sitting right now in this northern part of Israel.

"Nevertheless, Hezbollah has not been able to do as it wished. At the beginning, they were able to fire quite a lot but only a very small number of rockets since then."

After the initial attacks on Western Galilee and the panhandle, Hezbollah has since moved its launchers into the centres of villages, behind houses, especially in the Barasheet, Shakra and Majdal Salim areas, to try to avoid being hit by return fire, he said.

He stressed there was no policy of firing directly into villages, except in those cases where Hezbollah launched rocket attacks from inside the population centres. In those cases, the IDF was firing back quickly and directly at the targets.

He noted that other weapons could be used if necessary, in addition to the hi-tech guns already being employed. "We have many more guns and if we find it necessary we have got even more sophisticated artillery," he said.

Laser weapons being developed

By STEVE RODAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Several weeks after they played down the project, Israeli defence officials are urging a stepped-up effort to complete a laser system capable of destroying short-range rockets, such as the Katyushas now being fired from southern Lebanon.

Defence sources said the completion of the Nautilus project has now been added to the shopping list being prepared by Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who is to visit the United States at the end of the month.

In February, officials sought to minimize Israel's involvement in the successful test of Nautilus' laser, which destroyed an incoming Katyusha. The officials said the program was based on U.S. technology, with Israel being brought in only over the last year, largely to win congressional support for the continuation of Nautilus.

But the latest wave of Katyusha attacks has turned the Nautilus into a priority, defence sources said. They said with a concerted effort by Israel and the United States an operational laser interception system could be developed within the next two years.

Brando a no-show for public apology

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES - Marlon Brando failed to appear at a news conference where he was expected to atone for anti-Semitic comments he made on CNN's *Larry King Live* show.

The Simon Wiesenthal Centre hosted last Friday's media event to give Brando an opportunity to express remorse over his verbal assault on Jews in the entertainment industry.

During the hour-long interview with King on April 5, Brando said Jews "run" and "own" Hollywood, and that many films present demeaning stereotypes of ethnic minorities, with the exception of Jews.

"We have seen the nigger, we have seen the greaseball, we have seen the chink, the slit-eyed Jap," Brando told King. "But we never saw the kike, because they know perfectly well that's where you draw the wagons around."

While Jewish organizations responded with shock and outrage, the Wiesenthal Centre's founder and dean, Rabbi Marvin Hier, reported that Brando called him on April 8, expressing remorse for his remarks.

Hier said that the actor would tour the centre's Museum of Tolerance and make a public statement.

However, instead of Brando appearing, Hier and his colleague, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, reported on a private meeting they held with the actor at the home of attorney David Ross.

Ross, identified only as a friend of Brando, released at the news conference a communique that resulted from the three-hour session.

"Brando's intent in the near future is to clarify what he feels is a misunderstanding of a statement made in an unfortunate and incorrect manner due to the pressures of appearing" on a talk show, the communique said.

"Mr. Brando is known to the Jewish community as highly supportive of Jewish culture and religion for many decades, and a profound humanitarian concerned with human rights for all people and races."

In response to questions, Hier and Ross declared categorically that Brando is not an anti-Semite.

They said Brando's comments on the King show were misconstrued, and he never meant to imply that there was a Jewish conspiracy to keep negative images of Jews out of films.

Rather, because of his great admiration for Jews, Brando would expect them to take the lead in combatting demeaning stereotypes of all ethnic minorities, they said.

Hier and Ross explained that Brando was not able to clearly express his true sentiments on the CNN program because of constant interruptions by commercials and by King himself.

They said the actor would expound on his true sentiments in print and on TV programs which allow him to speak without interruptions.

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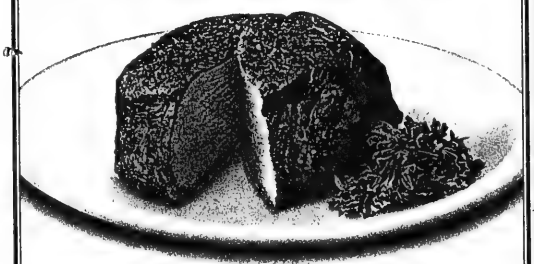

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TAB news

Travel, Arts & Business

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Films focus on Jewish life from Iraq to India

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

The fourth annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival, which runs from May 2 to 9, will be launched by two Israeli films turning on the 1991 Gulf War.

The first, *Home*, is a quasi-documentary about an Iraqi Jewish family in Ramat Gan, Israel, waiting, somewhat nonchalantly and with their minds on other matters, for a Scud missile to fall on their city.

The second, *Song of the Siren*, Israel's most commercially successful film of 1994, is a romantic drama which unfolds as Tel Aviv is gripped in Scud fever.

This year's festival, which takes place at the Bloor Cinema, features a total of 31 films. Among them are a 1918 German silent movie about a young Jewish woman living in the Pale of Settlement (*The Yellow Ticket)* and a 1995 American documentary about the Holocaust (*My Knees Were Jumping: Remembering the Kindertransports).*

There will also be two documentaries about the Jewish community of Cuba: *Havana Nagila: The Jews of Cuba* and *Abraham and Eugenia: Stories From Jewish Cuba.*

From Hollywood comes a 1969 cult film entitled *The Plot Against Harry*, directed by Michael Romer.

The Jews of Rhodes are documented in *Rhodes Forever*, and the story of a Polish Jew raised in China is told in *Round Eyes in the Middle Kingdom.*

All That Really Matters is a Polish film revolving around a Jewish family which flees to Central Asia after the outbreak of World War II.

Bene Israel: A Family Portrait, is about India's venerable but depleted Jewish community.

Long is the Road, released in 1948 in U.S.-occupied Germany, is the first film made by and about Jewish displaced persons in the wake of World War II.

In addition, six international shorts will be screened. One of them, *Dinner at Bubbie's*, is a Canadian entry.

Song of the Siren **kicks off the Toronto Jewish Film Festival.**

Here, in chronological order, is a complete list of the films:

- May 2 — *Song of the Siren* and *Home.*
- May 4 — *Sh'chur.*
- May 5 — *Abraham and Eugenia, Havana Nagila, Inside God's Bunker, You, Me and Jerusalem, Genghis Cohn* and *The Golem.*
- May 6 — *My Auntie Told Me, Round Eyes in the Middle Kingdom, Bene Israel, Report on the Living, Long is the Road, Dinner at Bubbie's, The Price is Right, Last and Only Survivor of Flora, Field Trip, Madame Jacques Sur La Croisette* and *This is Not Erotica.*
- May 7 — *Unpromised Land, Rhodes Forever, Carpati* and *All That Really Matters.*
- May 8 — *My Knees Were Jumping, Swallows Never Die in Jerusalem* and *The Plot Against Harry.*
- May 9 — *Dealers Among Dealers, I Want to be a Boarder* and *The Yellow Ticket.*

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TAB news

Sculptor unveils artwork commissioned for Olympics

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Misha Frid, "sculptor of dreams," brings another dimension to his essentially classic art with the Toronto unveiling of two pieces, *Equestrian* and *Gymnast*.

Both were commissioned for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Ga., and can be seen at an exhibition of new and retrospective works in the Sculptor's Society of Canada Gallery, First Canadian Place, Exchange Tower, 130 King St. West, through May 3.

Frid participates annually in New York City's international Art Expo, which attracts entries from across the globe. For some years, he has been "closely watched" by the official Olympic art committee and was invited to submit his concepts in the field of horsemanship and gymnastics for the 1996 games.

"It wasn't easy," he says. "To do the *Equestrian*, I visited several clubs outside Toronto — and they are locating farther and farther from the city — to learn everything I could about the horse and rider, the proper habit, the right gear, how they move together."

Gymnast

For the *Gymnast*, he read "everything" and studied live models plus "many, many drawings and photographs."

Frid, who works in bronze and crystal, sculpted *Equestrian* and *Gymnast* in crystal, using a patented technique which suggests a Lalique radiance.

Each piece relates to a freeform crystalized block.

Equestrian portrays horse and rider in three stages: Starting the jump the pair are embedded in crystal; emerging from it, they are at peak height; and finally landing the jump, the figures are in relief outside the block.

Gymnast reveals a supple, exquisitely graceful young girl going through a tumbling routine. She stands poised within the crystal, springs upward, somersaults, is gradually freed and touches down in triumph.

Frid's decision to use interior and emerging forms to project initial tension, reach and ultimate achievement encourages the viewer to identify with the excitement of the contest.

Equestrian and *Gymnast* will be displayed at the Olympic Gallery in Atlanta during the Summer Games, in company with works by other officially selected painters and sculptors.

To inquire about the Toronto exhibition, call 416-214-0389. Gallery hours are Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

***Gymnast* is one of two pieces commissioned for the Olympic Games.**

Schadchan matches mates

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Remember Yenta the matchmaker? Well, the practice of making Jewish *shidduchs* that was common in the *shtetl* has continued in the '90s.

Evelyn Potok, 36, is a modern-day *schadchan*. But this Thornhill mother of two says she bears no resemblance to her counterpart in *Fiddler on the Roof*. "I'm not a 60-year-old bubbie saying, 'Have I got a match for you!' I'm contemporary, an upbeat young mother."

Potok started Soulmates Introduction Services, a commercial dating service, in 1990. She focuses exclusively on Jewish people because, she says, she's committed to thwarting assimilation through intermarriage.

"In the 1990s, there was a need for a structured service that would offer introductions to Jewish people," she says.

She charges a yearly fee of $300, which includes registration and a minimum of four qualified introductions.

Potok has had a knack for matchmaking since she was a teenager, she says. "My husband and I were setting people up all the time. We always knew a lot of people."

In fact, they themselves met on a blind date through a mutual friend back in high school.

"The most effective way of meeting a mate is through a friend," but many people who exhaust their friends' contacts or are too busy to meet people need her service, she says.

Potok is constantly looking for single people and adding new names to her roster, she says. "I make it my business to know who's available. As soon as I hear someone is available I talk to them."

She says she has an active client list of 500 people and she has access to an additional 1,000 names through other dating services which pool their resources to improve their clients' prospects.

She works closely with her clients to understand what they're looking for in a mate, but she says many people are unrealistic in their expectations and she tries to help them be more realistic.

Old stereotypes for dating and mating still hold true for the '90s, Potok says. Typically physical attributes tend to be very important to her male clients — they ask for attractive slim women — while her

[Cont'd. on page 37]

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Ohr Yaacov: Art galleries, historic old synagogues, narrow lanes and panoramic views of the Galilee await travellers to the picturesque town of Sefat, the highest village in Israel.

It was in Sefat recently that I met Yaacov (Jacques) Kaszemacher, a French-born chassidic Jew who sells his own paintings and photographs in his own gallery. Kaszemacher, who has had several art shows in Toronto, was born outside Paris at a time when the French capital was occupied by the Gestapo.

"I was not raised religiously," he says. "My grandparents were religious Jews from Poland, and I grew up in a secular house in the St.-Germain-de-Pres section of Paris."

In the mid-'60s, seeking some form of spiritual experience, he went to New York, hitchhiked to Panama, then wandered throughout South America and "had my first awareness of God." Returning to New York, he turned vegetarian: "I became kosher without being aware of it."

Still seeking spiritual learning, he was planning a trip to India when a radical idea hit him. "Suddenly I thought, 'Hey, I'm Jewish!' I knew not to drive or smoke on Shabbat but I didn't know from what time to what time. So I thought I would come to Israel to find out."

Arriving in Israel in 1971, he learned Hebrew and began studying the Torah and other Jewish holy books. At the same time, he raised a family and established himself as a photographer and artist of geometric canvases inspired by the arcane Jewish science of gematria or numerology.

Several years ago, while in Toronto to deliver a painting, Kaszemacher met a member of the Reichmann family. Chiefly as a result of this fortuitous connection, he later curated an exhibition at the Art Gallery of Ontario featuring the work of eight religious artists from Sefat. He has also had several solo art shows in the Toronto area.

Kaszemacher's shop, Ohr Yaacov Gallery (06-974566), is located at 9 Yosef Caro Rd. Tell him you saw him in *Eye On Arts*. That is, of course, unless you read about him in the *Lonely Planet* travel guide for Israel, in which he is mentioned as a "fascinating character."

***

Jewish Libraries Conference: The 31st annual convention of the Association of Jewish Libraries takes place June 16 to 19, Park Plaza Hotel, Toronto. The theme is Culture and Continuity – A Jewish Commitment.

Planned presentations include talks on Jewish library history and Internet resources for Judaica libraries. Readings by Joe Kertes, Alan Gould and Morley Torgov on the subject of Canadian Jewish Humor have been arranged as the keynote address. A planned marketplace will offer Judaica publications, software and art and crafts.

For details, contact Edmund Y. Lipsitz, 416-785-7941.

***

Two New York Shows: Marc Chagall 1907-1917, an exhibition highlighting the Jewish artist's attempt to combine modernism and religion, opened earlier this month at the Jewish Museum in New York City. Until Aug. 4.

Four performances of *The Accused*, an opera musical about the Dreyfus affair, were given this month at the New York City Opera. The opera debuted two years in German at the Deutsche Oper in Berlin, to mark the centenary of the beginning of the French political scandal; it later played in Basel, Switzerland. Librettist George Whyte told the *Forward*, a New York-based weekly Jewish newspaper, that there are no plans at present for the opera to be performed in France.

Schadchan finds matches

[Cont'd. from page 36]

female clients want to meet "career-oriented financially successful men," she says.

Meeting people gets more difficult with age: dating is relatively easy when people are in their 20s, but their prospects narrow considerably once they hit their 30s, according to Potok. The most difficult age is 55 plus; in that group, she has 10 women for every man, she says.

About 70 percent of Potok's business comes from people in their 30s and 40s, many of whom are

Evelyn Potok

divorced with children, and she's had a high success rate — 80 percent end up in long-term relationships with six a year culimnating in marriage, she says.

Business Briefs

El Al Experiences Drop In Reservations

JERUSALEM – El Al has experienced a drop of seven to eight percent in reservations, apparently as a result of the recent wave of suicide bombers, company spokesperson Osnat Lapidot said last week.

She added that although there had been no comprehensive study, the decline probably derived from last-minute decisions to cancel visits to Israel because of the terror attacks.

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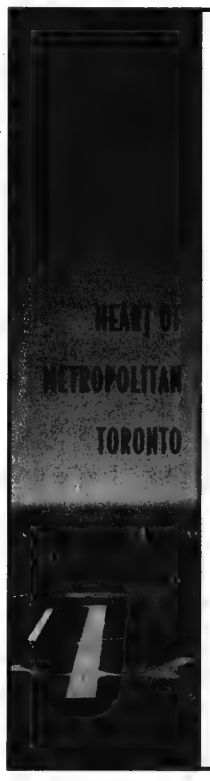

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A request for proposal is being sought for the sale and development of a 30-acre parcel on the southeast portion of the lands. Requests for expressions of interest are being sought for the remainder of the lands.

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Or Chaim records best showing yet at tournament

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There was good news and bad news for the Or Chaim Knights at the recently concluded Red Sarachek high school basketball tournament in New York City.

First the good news. The Knights were runners-up in the second tier of the tournament competition and got to the final after playing their best game of the year against the Hebrew Academy of Miami, winning by about 20 points.

The bad news? It's really not that bad: the Knights were given a lesson in top-level basketball by Rambam High School of New York in their opening game, showing just how far they have to go to beat the highly competitive U.S. hoopsters.

Nevertheless, the Knights managed their best showing yet in four years at the tournament, said head coach Tuvia Aronson, an Or Chaim alumnus.

Sixteen teams from across North America participated in the annual, invitational event, including Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, Bialik of Montreal and Yeshiva High School of Hamilton.

Game one for the Knights was against Rambam and Or Chaim kept it close in the early going. "But their experience and their New York style led to a blow out," Aronson conceded.

"Their level of competition was very intense and their school puts pressure on themselves to be fiercely competitive," he said.

"We were outsized most of the tournament but we compensated with our speed at the guard positions," Aronson added.

Having lost their opening match, Or Chaim (like all first round losers) was relegated to the second tier, which included Block Yeshiva High School of St. Louis, Hillel Academy of Miami, Hebrew Academy of Miami, Yeshiva of Memphis, Beit Sefer Mizrachi of Cleveland and Hamilton Yeshiva.

In Game 2, Or Chaim beat Block pretty handily and in Game 3 "we whipped the Hebrew Academy of Miami," Aronson said. "Our boys came up big time. We won really easily. It was probably the best game we played all season."

Next came Hillel Academy in a battle for first place in the second tier. Or Chaim fell behind early but battled back to within six points.

"They broke our press defence for a run of points in the fourth quarter," Aronson explained. "We tried a couple of desperation three-pointers, but they didn't fall."

Despite the loss, Aronson is pleased with the second place finish since "the school did not do that before."

Eitan Prisman, a point guard with Or Chaim, was named the Knights' all-star player. "He was one of the better point guards in the tournament," Aronson said.

Other members of the team included Zvi Katzman, Meir Rosenzweig, Robbie Scheininger, Yoni Rutman, Jonathan Spiegelman, Natan Kapustin, David Ulmer, David Forshtendiker, Jason Moskoske and Ron Somogyi.

The team's manager was Ari Fudim and the assistant coach was Mordie Katzman.

Hoopster's story a true 'tall tale'

By HARLAN C. ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — For the first time in perhaps 30 years, two Jewish players will be drafted by the National Basketball Association (NBA) on June 26.

Most hoops fans are familiar with Doron Sheffer, the six-foot-five point guard who has starred for the University of Connecticut the last three seasons.

Sheffer is expected to be the first sabra to be drafted by an NBA team — which will be sure to be reported in the nation's media.

But an even better story is that of Eric Gingold, the other Jewish player.

Eric who?

Gingold is expected to be drafted despite never having started a game as either a high school or college player. In addition, no NBA official who drafts him — or contemplates selecting him — has ever seen him play in a game.

In fact, Gingold has not played a game for more than two years. He has only been working out — after 11 operations and eight blood transfusions following an auto accident — since December.

Does this sound like a "tall story?"

It is a very tall story, because Gingold is seven-foot-four and as experts say, "You can't coach or teach height."

In fact, it's such an improbable story that the Walt Disney organization has purchased its rights.

A good student, Gingold enrolled at Williams College after touring colleges and having one assistant coach tell him: "If I haven't heard of you, you must really stink!"

At Williams College, he got into 30 games, scored 31 points and grabbed only 36 rebounds. He couldn't even dunk the ball when he enrolled.

"But he did have one good game, although it was an exhibition," said a Williams official. "We played against the Belorus junior team and he scored 13 points, grabbed six rebounds and stuffed the ball in over their centre," a seven-footer named Alexander Kuhl, who was a top point producer for George Washington University this past season.

"Gingold's a physical specimen now; he can run two miles in 12 minutes. When he was here, he couldn't run two miles in two days! Yes, he lacks experience, but he has no bad habits, either," the official said.

If Gingold makes it in the NBA, credit Larry Gillman, his personal coach/agent and a former coach at East Carolina. After reading about Gingold in a basketball magazine, Gillman began working with him and got West Virginia University interested.

After sitting out a year as a transfer student and building his body up to 290 pounds with only 11 percent body fat, Gingold was ready to take on major college competition — until the accident, which left him unconscious for several minutes. In surgery, he had a metal plate inserted into his cracked hip and a rod into the shattered leg.

All the follow-up operations, blood transfusions and post-operative complications left him in critical condition for three weeks. But once he received medical clearance to resume work-outs, his improvement was remarkable.

Dick Percudani, director of scouting for the Phoenix Suns, is one of the many who have flocked to Newtown, Conn., where Gingold shows his talents in workouts and in one-on-one sessions with equally tall players.

"He shoots well with either hand, he moves well, he has good hands, he's a bright kid who learns easily," Percudani said. "I'm amazed he wasn't able to get more done at Williams. He's passed 'Basketball 101' but advanced classes are full-court scrimmages."

Added Percudani, "I saw him hook left, hook right, shoot jumpers at the top of the key and not miss ... shoot free throws and not miss. I saw him dunk. I had them measure the baskets to make sure they hadn't lowered them on me. It was unreal."

Gillman's strategy seems to be to limit pro teams to individual visits.

Some scouts are whispering: "What is Gillman hiding?"

To which he replies, "If a team hasn't seen enough of Eric, than don't pick him. Somebody else will."

"I know there are questions," says Gingold, "but I don't worry. After what I've been through, I don't worry about much."

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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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RESULTS
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FINE HOMES

CHESTNUT PARK RENO
Stunning 3 sty. 5+BRs. Kitchen + brkfst rm w/walk-out. Main fl. den. 2nd fl. library & exercise rm. w/shower & sauna. *Edith Weiss.

LOWER VILLAGE TUDOR — $1,175,000
Magnificent reno'd home. Grand prin. rms. Gorgeous library on main. 7 BRs. Master w/den & ens. CAC. *Edith Weiss/*Judy Nathan.

FOREST HILL — $449,000
Lovely 3+ BRs. home faces SOLD rble hall. Reno'd kitchen. Skylight. Fireplace. CAC. Private drive & garage. *Betty Cohen.

UPPER VILLAGE — $539,000
Reno'd & updated home. Spacious interior 3-4 BRs. Main floor den & powder rm. Jacuzzi bath ensuite. CAC. Fireplace. *Elise Stern.

CASTLEHILL "POWER OF SALE" — $479,000
Luxurious "Asquith" model. Stunning kitchen. 2nd floor master suite. Family room. Fireplace. CAC. Parking. *Carol Cotton.

CASA LOMA — LIVE & WORK AT HOME
Superbly built new freehold townhomes. Elegant & luxurious finishes. 2 car pkg. Customize to suit. Only 2 left. *Faith Goldman.

LONSDALE ROAD — $245,000
Stunning 2 BR., 2 bath condo. Eat-in kitchen. Locker. Balcony. Conc. Parking. Indoor pool. $$$ spent on upgrades. *Edie Winberg.

ALLENBY DELIGHT — $359,000
Beautifully maintained 3 BR. Master ensuite. Kitchen + breakfast rm. Fin. l/lvl. Fireplace. CAC. Alarm system. Garage. *Sharon Lokash.

CHARMING ALLENBY AREA — $345,000
Fabulous mix of traditional & modern reno. 3 BRs. Beautiful wood trim, leaded glass, central vacuum. Parking. *Leslie Dennis.

WENDERLY/LAWRENCE BUNGALOW — $298,000
Beautiful one owner home has 4 BRs. + main floor family rm. Backs onto park. 3 baths. Fin. l/lvl. w/bedrm., playrm. & rec rm. **Don Wagman.

CEDARVALE PARK — $258,500
Charming 3 bedroom bungalow. Private drive. Finished lower level. Professionally landscaped. **Natalie Schacter & *Edie Winberg.

COLDSTREAM AVENUE — $499,000
Custom built with finest materials. Granite hall. Deluxe kitchen. 4 spacious BRs. Fin. l/level. Unbeatable value. *Betty Cohen.

EXECUTIVE HOME — $619,500
3 + BRs. 4 baths. Skylights. Sauna. Jacuzzi. Fireplace. CAC. Private dr. & dble. gar. South garden. **Natalie Schacter.

YONGE/LAWRENCE — $347,000
Gorgeous 3 BR. home on quiet cul-de-sac. Park-like setting. Huge kitchen + brkfst area w/w/out. Fin. l/lvl. Garage. *Leslie Dennis.

BRIDLE PATH — $1,399,000
Spectacular residence. Marble foyer. 4+ BRs. Master w/dressing rm. Inground pool & cabana. Fin. l/lvl with party room. *Edie Winberg.

HOGGS HOLLOW ON THE RIVER
$968,000. Fabulous property on exceptional lot. 3 BRs. Reno'd kitchen. Main fl. fam. rm. Fin. lower level. *Leslie Dennis.

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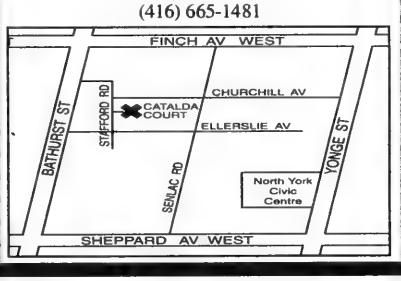

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NORTH

$649,000. — 1/4 ACRE — BAYVIEW
York Mills quiet child s SOLD de-sac, fully renovated 4 bdrms., sidesplit. **Samantha/Cheryl Graff***.

BATHURST & CLARK — MUST BE SOLD
Just move in! This is a must see. Upgraded 3 bdrms., main floor den, finished basement. $277,000. **Perry Betel***.

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$239,900 on quiet court 3 + 1 BDRMS, FAM. RM., FIN BSMT. 3½ Baths. Just listed priced below market sales.

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$895,000 - Magnificent 5 BR home, 5BA, greenhouse kit, marble foyer, triple car gar.,over 1/2 acre lot, fin.bsmt, prime Renaissance Crt. location, not to be missed!

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JUST LISTED! 1ST AD! $2,500,000
Strathearn Rd on ravine! Stately home on 1.6 acres, majestic rms. Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

FOREST HILL RD! CHOOSE YOUR FINISHES
Stone & stucco det beauty! David Wagman* 488-2875

1ST AD! RUSSELL HILL ROAD!
Totally reno'd won't last! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

TOP OF HOGGS HOLLOW $1,960,000
Architectural reno on treed sanctuary! J. Lerner* 226-1987

ROSEDALE: EDEN SMITH VICTORIAN
Gracious 6 BR, lrg princ rms. Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

WONDERFUL BEACHES INVESTMENT!!!
16 Unit apt on Queen St. E! Marty Roth* 488-2875

AVE/LAWRENCE BUILDER'S OWN HOME!
Incredible 5 bdrms, 4,700 sq. ft.! F. Sversky** 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE NEW CUSTOM 4+1 BR
Quality, style, location! Maurice Gherson* 488-2875

JUST LISTED! AVENUE/LAWRENCE $749K
Fab, 3,750 sq. ft. home, 5 bdrms! F. Sversky** 488-2875

CASA LOMA SOLD E $739,000
Unbelievable lot & home! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

CUSTOM BUILT! AVENUE/EGLINTON
Builder's own home! Maple kit, 9' ceil! F. Sversky** 488-2875

BEST LOCATION! AVE/LAWR
Fab, custom built, 3,160 s.f. 4 bdrms! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

CUSTOM BUILT HOME AVENUE/LAWRENCE
Near completion, fab 4 bdrm, 3,150 s.f.! F. Sversky** 488-2875

RENO'D TUDOR REDUCED $645,000
C-Hall, 3+1 bdrms, fin bsmt! Jeffrey Wagman** 488-2875

UPPER FOREST HILL — JUST $635,000
Lovely custom built, 4 bdrms, 33x132' lot! F. Sversky** 488-2875

1ST AD! BATH/WILSON BUILDER'S OWN
$619,000, Totally finished! Jeffrey Wagman** 488-2875

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Tasteful Tudor style home, reno'd 4 bdrms! F. Sversky** 488-2875

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Stunning 2,232 s.f. home, 25x132' lot, 4 bdrms! F. Sversky** 488-2875

CHAPLIN/EGLINTON 10 YRS NEW
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Yonge & Eglinton. 3 or 4 Bdrms. Janice Fox* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS — BEAUTIFULLY RENO'D
4 Bdrms, mn flr fam rm, fin bsmt! P. Pollock* 226-1987

FIRST AD: AVENUE RD/EGLINTON RENO
$329K, Det, 3 bdrm, pkg! Richard Sherman* 226-1987

1ST AD! PRIME CEDARVALE BUNGALOW
Exceptional 38' x 125' Sth lot, live in or add on! M. Gherson* 488-2875

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$279,900 Quiet crt, won't last! Ann Bookman* 226-1987

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NORTH PROPERTIES

REDUCED — COULDN'T BUILD ON THIS LOT
For this price $1,100,000 60x300, 5 bdrms! Leila Taylor* 226-1987

$519,000 BAYVIEW S. OF STEELES
Beautiful reno apprx 3,100 s.f. ravine! J. Lerner* 226-1987

$499,000 E SOLD N. OF 16TH
Stunning 5 bdrm, fam rm, lib! Janie Lerner* 226-1987

NEW LISTING — 54 BRONTE!
Executive 4 bdrm dream! Anna Pollock* 226-1987

JUST REDUCED! ELGIN MILLS/BATHURST
Lovely 4 bdrm, fam home, 39x131 lot! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED TO SELL!
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Move right in! Mint condition, approx. 3300 sq. ft. + finished basement. All the bells and whistles, thousands of $$$ in upgrades, two staircases, fabulous location. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Gorgeous new home, custom-built luxurious upgrades, maple kitchen, 9 foot ceilings on main floor, approx. 3400 sq. ft. only $499,900. MUST BE SEEN — ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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European villa style — mint condition! Walk-out to 3 balconies, family room, library, loaded with extras, prestigious location. Only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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$729,900. Glencairn/Bathurst. Gourmet Kosher Kit., marble floors, w/o Bsmt, 5 Bdrms. Judi Gottlieb 449-2020

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$489,000. York Mills Windfield's Estate, quality 5 bedroom, dream ensuite. Bev Burstein 449-2020

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$256,000. 2-3 Bdrm units, 1-1 Bdrm, balconies. Walk to synagogues, shopping, TTC. Bev Burstein 449-2020

TRIDEL "THE COURTLANDS"
$139,900. Estate sale. Must be sold. Wonderful open plan, den, balcony, solarium. Bev Burstein 449-2020

3000 BATHURST STREET GEM!
$130,000. Bright, spacious 1 bdrm + sol. Large eat-in kitchen. Sabbath elevator. M. Budd/B. Colman 487-4343

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bathurst & Steeles
Primrose 2 br. Balcony, corner, 5 appl. $167,900
- 3 br., 3 Baths, 5 Appl.
- 158 Hillmount Ave. Bung., fin. bsmt. 50 x 137 ft. $299,900
- 53 Dromore Cres. Bathurst/Finch. 60 x 125 ft. $219,900
- 75 John Street. Building lot 54 x 210 ft. $245,000

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ARTICLING STUDENT requires shared accomodation w/prkg, close to downtown, May 15. Karen. 519-372-0371

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Avenue Rd./Eglinton, new 1 bdrm, lrg bsmnt, sep. ent, lndry, n/smoker, no pets immed. occupancy. 416-488-5555.

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highrise
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BATHURST-SHEPPARD. $159,900. Just listed for quick sale! 2 bd. bungalow, 56x125 lot, choice location.

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BATHURST WILSON $225,000
Ideal starter, 3 bdrm, 2 bths, liv & din. comb, quiet street, lge lot.

BATHURST SHEPPARD
$398,000
1st time offered. 2 storey, 4 bdrm, 3 bths, fam. rm, kit w/walkout, liv & din comb., oak staircase, skylight, fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

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3 Bdrm + den, 3 bths, up-dated kit., rec. rm. + more.

SHEPPARD AVE. WEST
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35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Hemispheres II
(131 Torresdale)
Luxury Adult Condominium

2 Bdrm, fam. rm, eat-in kit., ensuite ldry, sun rm, 2 full baths, 1,400 + sq. ft. corner unit overlooks park.
Call (905) 731-3080
Non-smokers please.

LUXURIOUS CUSTOM BUILT BATH/LAWRENCE BARGAIN
Stunning masterpiece over 2,800 sq. ft. + over 1,400 sq. ft. fin. bsmt, w/walkout, parquet & ceramic flrs throughout, huge fam rm., Jacuzzi, bidet, ensuite, 4 bdrms. + 1, 4 bths., skylights + much, much more. Only $418,000.

BATHURST MANOR BEAUTY
Fantastic 4 bdrms. + 2, lg. fam. rm., 4 bths., fin. bsmt., huge recreation rm., stone firepl., dble. gar. + circular driveway, 2 storey, solid brick, 2,850 sq. ft. + reduced to $329,000. Must be sold!

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$179,000
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120 COTTAGE WANTED

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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Lady avail. for care of elderly or children. Irene, 539-9949

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Maria's Italian Cleaning Team. 4 mature English & Italian-speaking cleaning people, free estimates, please call 416-446-0059 and leave message.

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P/T cleaner avail. live out. exp., ref., avail, 630-2249.

Young woman avail to care for elderly or day's work. 265-7737

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

HCA avail. to work in private home/institution. 416-754-8545.

Mum's Caregiving Services
RNA's, HCA's, to care for elderly, handicapped, people with dementia. In home services, escorts for appts. 665-7969.

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Be assured of complete confidentiality.
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330 OBITUARIES

Bronsteter, Michael on April 1, 1996, late of 152 Shaftsbury St.
Trakhtenberg, Yuriy on April 2, 1996, late of 1 Clark Ave. #1505
Rozas, Helena on April 2, 1996, late of 20 Greenwin Village Rd.
Airst, Solly on April 3, 1996
Fulop, Ilona on April 3, 1996, late of 120 Shelborne Ave. #1402
Soren, Eva on April 5, 1996
Dombrowski, Adam on April 7, 1996, late of 850 Steeles Ave. W. #607
Saviov, Louis on April 6, 1996, late of 131 Searle Ave,

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument in the memory of **Edith Alpert** will take place on Sunday, April 21, at 1 p.m. at Pardes Shalom Cemetery. All are welcome to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SHIRLEY VEFFER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, April 21st, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
HEATHER CLOTH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, April 21st, 12:00 noon
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Temple Sinai Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

330 OBITUARIES

Frank Maitman on March 28, 1996, late of 37 Blue Forest Dr.
Howard Phillips on March 29, 1996, late of 2010 Islington Ave. #2403
Anatol Wertheim on March 29, 1996, late of 4000 Yonge St. #733
Louis Roy on March 30, 1996, late of 46 Prue Ave.
Caroline Charney on March 29, 1996, late of 356 Beverley Glen Blvd.
Lawrence Besser on March 30, 1996, late of 30 Gailcrest Circle
Jack Goodman on March 30, 1996, late of 601 Clark Ave. W. #708
Harry Slavner on March 31, 1996, late of 57 Covewood St.
Sam Goldman on April 1, 1996, late of 4383 Bathurst St. #401
Elias Glicenstein on March 31, 1996, late of 1195 Queen Street East

330 OBITUARIES

Sidney Borins on March 31, 1996, late of 132 Ava Rd.
Leah Adler on April 1, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Pearl Rodney on April 1, 1996, late of 18 Cedarcroft Blvd. #109
Lillian Breslin on March 31, 1996, late of 1925 Steeles Avenue East
Rose Burke on April 1, 1996, late of 199 Queen Mary Dr. #103
Lottie Petlock on April 2, 1996, late of 1925 Steeles Avenue East
Joseph Rosenfeld on April 2, 1996, late of 112 Douglas Drive

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Leadership slates viewed as extremist

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Israel's two major political parties, Labor and Likud, have emerged from pre-election primaries with their leadership slates markedly more extreme than the images they were each seeking to project in the election campaign.

Analysis

At the recent Labor party primary, a longtime and outspoken dove, Minister of Tourism Uzi Baram, topped the field.

Baram, 59, emerged as the second most popular figure in Israel's ruling Labor party, defeating two self-proclaimed future prime ministerial hopefuls, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak and Interior Minister Haim Ramon.

Baram will be listed behind Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who was already chosen as the party's candidate for prime minister and was therefore assured the top slot.

The Likud primaries catapulted former IDF general and political neophyte Yitzhak Mordechai to an equally unexpected victory.

The results of the primaries could complicate the two parties' respective efforts to appeal in the weeks ahead to Israel's swing voters, whose preferences will decide the May 29 general election. This sector of the electorate is traditionally identified as centrist.

To attract their support, Labor has been stressing security concerns in its election campaign, while Likud has stressed its support of the peace process.

The main Labor party slogan is "A Strong Israel with Peres," while Likud's slogan is "Peace with Security."

These platforms hardly fit the trends reflected in the primary results, but the reason for this disparity is clear: The primaries are not "open;" they are limited to registered and paid-up party members.

Characteristically, such people are more "ideological" than people who are politically less active and less identified with a specific party.

The primary results reflected this ideological slant of party members, who favored the more radical candidates on each side of the political spectrum.

As a result of the Likud primary, Mordechai will actually appear fourth on the list because of Likud's recent merger with two smaller opposition parties, Gesher, led by David Levy, and Tsomet, led by Rafael Eitan.

Topping the combined list will be Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu, followed by Levy and Eitan, then Mordechai.

Following Mordechai on the list as a result of the primary will be arch-hardliner Ariel Sharon, the former defence minister and current Knesset member who successfully brokered the merger with Gesher and Tsomet.

The next two places on the Likud list went to Moshe Katsav and Ze'ev "Benny" Begin, neither of whom is considered a moderate.

Only then do the first two Likud moderates appear: Dan Meridor, a former justice minister, and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

For their part, Labor officials on the whole were pleased with the party list that emerged from Monday's primary.

Rounding out the top five Labor slots after Peres and Baram were Barak, Housing Minister Benjamin Ben-Eliezer and Ramon.

Finishing in sixth place in the Labor primary was Finance Minister Avraham Shochat, followed by Nissim Zvilli in the spot protected for the party's secretary general, and Health Minister Ephraim Sneh.

Ninth place, a spot promised to the woman who finished first in the primary, was taken by Dalia Itzik.

Deputy Defence Minister Ori Orr came in next, followed by Yossi Beilin, Peres' closest adviser on foreign policy matters.

Baram made it clear that he no longer necessarily accepted the conventional wisdom that Barak, the former IDF chief of staff, and Ramon, the former Histadrut chair, would battle between themselves for the succession to the prime ministership when Peres, if re-elected, steps down in 1999.

Baram's dyed-in-the-wool dovishness attracted public attention in the late 1980s, when he refused to join a Likud-Labor government of national unity on the grounds that the Likud's opposition to peace moves would paralyze the government.

A one-time secretary general of the party, he was among the first of Labor's Knesset members to call openly for mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

For Labor, that magic number is between 44 and 46, according to recent opinion polls.

The combined Likud-Gesher-Tsomet list has about 42 safe seats, according to polls. Fourteen of those seats have been allocated to the two smaller parties, leaving only 28 for loyal Likud supporters.

Labor voters also dealt a blow to Minister of Religious Affairs Shimon Shetreet, who has embarrassed the prime minister by some high-profile moves against the Orthodox establishment.

Voters in the primary "punished" some lackluster cabinet figures, including Trade Minister Michael Harish, who was squeezed out of the list of so-called "safe seats," positions that are expected to win seats in the next Knesset.

The Labor primary produced 14 "new faces" among the first 44 names on the list, and the party's campaign is now expected to accentuate the new blood injected into the party's veins.

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RATATOUILLE TARTS

12 large tart shells, baked	1 red pepper, chopped
1/2 cup olive oil	6 ripe tomatoes, chopped
4 cloves garlic, crushed	1/4 cup tomato paste
1 large onion, chopped	2 tblsp chopped fresh *or* 2 tsp. dried basil
2 leeks, sliced (white part only)	salt
1 medium eggplant, diced small	freshly ground pepper to taste
2 small zucchini, diced small	1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Heat oil and sauté garlic, onion and leeks until transparent. Add eggplant, zucchini, tomatoes and red pepper. Add tomato paste, basil, salt and pepper and simmer uncovered 1 hr. until mixture is thick. Fill baked shells and sprinkle tarts with cheese. Bake 350°F 10 mins. until tarts are just warm and cheese is melted. *A great hors d'oeuvre!*

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

Bon Voyage! Our last article dealt with preparing day campers for their first camp outing. In today's installment we will discuss the first overnight experience. Our next installment will focus on the teenager who suddenly refuses to go to camp.

It is at age eight or nine that most children will begin to consider sleepover camp. At this age, children are going through a mastery stage, in which they are learning to persevere and see a task through to its conclusion. Sleepover camp is one of the many new challenges that children of this age are confronting, and you must help them determine whether they are ready to master this particular challenge.

There are a number of steps you can take to help assess your child's readiness. One indicator will be who first broached the subject of camp. It is ideal if the child has approached the parent, since this gives the child more control over the process.

If your child does broach the topic, set aside some uninterrupted time to discuss the issue. You should address the type of camp your child envisions attending (i.e. — is it a sports camp, an arts camp, a horseback riding camp or a general all purpose one?) You can involve your child in the research process by having brochures sent to your home. Some camps will send videos or hold promotional meetings that you can attend. Your child can review all the available information and list the pros and cons of each camp. At this age peers are becoming increasingly important, so consider talking to other families whose children have attended camps you are considering. Your child can speak to the attender and you can speak to the parent.

The initial narrowing down of the choice must be made with a number of factors in mind. Some decisions will be based purely on your child's needs and desires, but others will be based on more practical considerations, such as your family budget. As parents, you must be sure to take into account the needs of every family member , as well the entire family. Cost out these family expenses before committing to a plan you cannot afford.

Next determine the length of time the child will be away. The options can conceivably range from days to months, so be sure to pick a time frame consistent with your child's needs and capabilities. In making the decision, be sure to take into account your child's input – at this point, s/he is probably in a good position to indicate to you what s/he is ready for.

In preparing for the experience, there are a number of specific issues you should be sure to address. For example, since peers are a going concern at this point, wardrobe is a big item. Camps usually have a specific list which can help curtail overspending on wardrobe.

Psychological preparation will involve discussing camp and feelings about leaving home. Have your child imagine what leaving will be like. Give he or she permission to discuss any hesitation or negative feelings.

To ease the transition into the camp experience, you can arrange some sleepover experiences prior to the beginning of camp. When your child does leave, have him/her take a favourite keepsake or two to camp as reminders of home. Assist your child with letter writing by preparing self-addressed envelopes. You may want to send letters in advance so that your child feels an immediate connection to home.

Remember – the most important part of the preparation is ensuring that your child wants to go to camp because she or he is ready, and not because he wants to be accepted by peers or please his parents.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 17 years.

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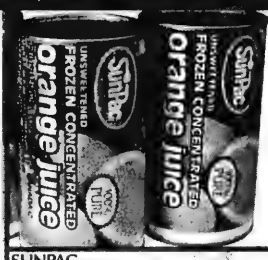

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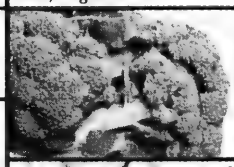

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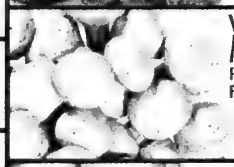

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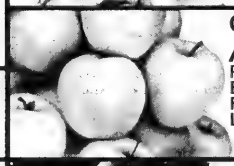

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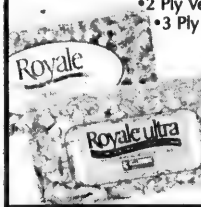

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Greater Toronto Area

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Israelis support Lebanon action

By LEORA FRUCHT
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — Israeli reaction to the IDF shelling that killed over 100 Lebanese refugees seems to prove one thing: it takes a left-wing government to garner public support for war.

The tragedy that sparked an international uproar did not prompt much of an outcry in Israel. Most members of the government, as well as of the opposition, backed Prime Minister Shimon Peres' defiant stance. An angry Peres blamed Hezbollah for the refugees' deaths and reiterated the IDF's right to shoot back when fired upon.

Among Israelis, the most typical response to the incident was regret – not so much for the Lebanese victims, as for the un-realized goals of the Israeli military operation.

"If Israel caves in to international pressure and stops the operation now, we will have achieved nothing" said one Tel Avivian.

That reaction is a far cry from the one that followed Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon – a war that culminated in a massive protest and commission of inquiry into Israel's role in the massacre at the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps (where Lebanese Christian forces murdered hundreds of Palestinian civilians in an area under IDF control).

Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan, who was chief of staff during the 1982 Lebanon War, was quick to note the silence of the left today. "Where are all those who clamored so vociferously for the Sabra and Shatilla inquiry?" asked Eitan. "If the left was in the opposition today, they would have seen to it that all hell broke loose," he charged.

'If Israel caves in, we will have achieved nothing'

"Eitan could be right," admitted Labor MK Yael Dayan, a strident critic of the Lebanon War. "If Likud was in power, this tragic incident might have led to nationwide protests."

Eitan calls this hypocrisy. Peres supporters call it trust.

"Peres has a vision of peace. If he embarks on such an action, it's because he has no other choice," maintains Jonathan Margalit, a Metulla resident who voted for the left-wing Meretz party in the last election. "I feel very badly about the killing of innocent people. It was a mistake. But I don't think Israel can back down one iota from this military campaign. What would the United States do if Mexicans were launching rockets at border settlements in southern states?"

Margalit adds that "if Bibi [Netanyahu] were prime minister, I'd still support this action, but I'd be very uneasy about it."

Leah Livni, another staunch Peres supporter, puts it more bluntly: "If Bibi had been prime minister when this happened I'd be foaming at the mouth – especially if 'warmongers' like Eitan and [Ariel] Sharon were in the cabinet. But Peres is a world-class diplomat – I have faith in him."

Livni says she was deeply disturbed by the killing of the refugees and admits she had doubts about the military operation right from the start. But she hopes the goal will justify the means.

"Peres is striving for an agreement that will enable the IDF to withdraw from Lebanon while ensuring quiet in northern Israel. I don't think Bibi has any interest in

Continued on page 43

Residents of Kiryat Shmonah leave their city to take shelter in Eilat from the ongoing Katyusha assault launched by Hezbollah now in its second full week. *[RNS photo]*

MARCH OF THE LIVING 1996

More than 5,000 people from over 30 countries, among whom were nearly 300 Canadians, passed through the main gate of the former Nazi death camp at Auschwitz last week to start their March of the Living in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. *[RNS photo]*

Next Week

Read the interview by *CJN* staff reporter Frances Kraft wi Yitzhak Rabin's granddaughter, Noa Ben Artzi-Pelossof.

tay to have
our door

Change in PNC charter not assured — please see page 43

The News In Brief

International

CANADA

Women of Distinction

TORONTO – Rabbi Elyse Goldstein has been named one of eight winners of the YMCA of Metropolitan Toronto Women of Distinction Awards.

Rabbi Goldstein was chosen in the field of education. The awards will be presented May 15.

ISRAEL

Air Force In Turkey

JERUSALEM – Israeli jets have arrived in Turkey to begin training flights there under the terms of a military exchange accord signed in February by the two countries.

The sources said eight Israeli F-16 training jets and their crews arrived last week in Turkey, adding that the planes were unarmed and lacked any surveillance equipment.

Israel wanted its pilots to be able to train in Turkey, whose air space is less limited than the Jewish state's, according to the sources.

Dinitz Convicted

JERUSALEM – Former Jewish Agency chair Simcha Dinitz was found guilty last week of fraud and abuse of public trust for purchasing personal items at the agency's expense. Sentencing was set for next month by Jerusalem District Court.

Dinitz was cleared of charges of misusing his agency-issued American Express card. The court accepted his defence that, while he bought personal items with the credit card, it was the job of Agency bookkeepers to deduct the payments from his salary.

Spy's Release Denied

JERUSALEM – The High Court of Justice last week refused to release convicted spy Marcus Klingberg, saying that the ailing Israeli could still endanger national security.

The Polish-born Klingberg, 77, has served 12 years of an 18-year sentence for spying for the former Soviet Union.

WORLD

Hezbollah Threats

BUENOS AIRES – Argentine authorities have declared a countrywide alert against a possible terrorist attack by members of the Islamic fundamentalist Hezbollah movement.

The government here said last Tuesday it was "alarmed" after the Shi'ite movement announced that it would attack Jewish targets worldwide in revenge for Israel's current bombing campaign in Lebanon.

Cantors Assembly

NEW YORK – Hundreds of Conservative cantors will bring the sacred music of the Jewish people to the streets of Israel when the Cantors Assembly, the world's largest body of chazzanim, holds its Jubilee Convention from July 21 to Aug. 4 in Jerusalem.

The assembly is composed of some 450 cantors serving congregations in Canada, Israel, the United States and other countries around the world.

Charges Planned

BUENOS AIRES – Two sergeants in the Argentine army will soon be charged in connection with the July 18, 1994, bombing of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Aid Association, (AMIA) that left 86 dead and 300 wounded.

Sources close to the AMIA investigation confirmed that the official in charge of the probe, Judge Juan Jose Galeano, is ready to press charges against the two.

JA Envoy Atttacked

BUDAPEST – An Afghani refugee who was angered by Israel's bombing campaign in Lebanon repeatedly stabbed an emissary of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Rabbi Yisrael Taub, who was taken to a local hospital with stab wounds to the head, neck and hands, was later described as in serious but stable condition.

Polakoff Dies

WASHINGTON – When Joseph Polakoff died two week's ago at the age of 87, the Jewish community lost a veteran journalist known to many as a strong advocate for Israel and U.S. Jews.

Polakoff, who served as the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Washington bureau chief from 1970 to 1982, never retired from the profession he began to work in seven decades ago.

REACTION TO LEBANON BOMBING

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS

MONTREAL — Goldie Hershon, president of Congress, expressed deep sorrow and pain over the loss of life in Lebanon. "We convey our profound sadness over today's tragedy," she stated. "It is always heart-rending to see civilians caught in the middle of such a conflict."

B'NAI BRITH CANADA

TORONTO – Frank Dimant, executive vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada, released the following statement shortly after the shelling of a United Nations refugee camp: "Today's events in Lebanon are a tragedy, and the Jewish community regrets the loss of innocent life in Lebanon. The event highlights the need for an immediate solution to this protracted conflict which has resulted in dislocation and hardship for both Israeli and Lebanese civilians."

CANADA-ISRAEL COMMITTEE

OTTAWA – Stephen Victor, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee, expressed sincere regret over the deaths and injuries of Lebanese civilians in a UN camp in southern Lebanon. "We are saddened by the loss of innocent lives and emphasize that Israel has been making every effort in its operations against Hezbollah to avoid civilian casualties."

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF PEACE NOW

TORONTO – Canadian Friends of Peace Now profoundly regrets the tragic deaths resulting from an Israeli bombing of a United Nations refugee centre in Lebanon. We remain hopeful that the international community will be able to broker a security arrangement for southern Lebanon or at a minimum, a ceasefire.

CANADIAN ARAB FEDERATION

TORONTO – The Canadian Arab Federation condemns the latest massacre of Lebanese civilians, which has resulted in the loss of 94 innocent lives. We are outraged at the international silence that has greeted this latest Israeli incursion into Lebanon and wonder what it will take for the world to take action and stop the bloodshed.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Reform rules out same sex marriages in Canada

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Same sex marriages between gays and lesbians will not be performed by Reform rabbis in Canada, said Rabbi Daniel Komito-Gottlieb, executive director, Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ).

"There is a great deal of confusion about the resolution passed by the Central Conference of American Rabbis," he said. "The important thing to note is that the conference made no decision about Reform rabbis officiating at such ceremonies. We [the Canadian rabbis attending] would have preferred that the matter of officiation was debated so we could oppose it."

The conference, attended by 1,700 Reform rabbis in Philadelphia at the end of March, did approve civil marriages for gays and lesbians to prevent discrimination against them by jurisdictions in the United States planning laws against such marriages, but took no action on *kiddushin*, religious marriages, Rabbi Komito-Gottlieb said.

"Even on civil marriages the resolution changes nothing here as I am not aware of any Reform rabbis who perform such marriages in Canada," he said.

Rabbi Komito-Gottlieb said the CCRJ did support the principle of spousal benefits for same sex marriages when that was proposed for Ontario. The measure was not approved.

"The resolution was put forward at the last minute, whether wilfully I don't know, but most of the Canadian rabbis, including myself, had left for the airport," said Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, Temple Sinai's founding rabbi. "It was not proper that such an important matter should come forward to the conference out of thin air."

Rabbi Pearlson said marriage relationships must be looked at in a new way because of changes in sexual technology and of society's attitude to relationships, but that the conference resolution did not deal with it.

The resolution approved in Philadelphia does not change his position, or the situation in Canada, said Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple.

"Mixed marriages [people of different religious faiths] are legal in Canada but I don't perform them. Even if same sex marriages becomes legal it does not mean I have to perform such marriages. Because some Reform rabbis in the United States perform them, there is the temptation to come to the conclusion that it takes place in Canada."

The resolution is part of the Reform movement's long standing advocacy of civil rights for everyone, irrespective of sexual orientation, Rabbi Marmur said.

Though he was not present when it was presented, Rabbi Michael Stroh of Temple Har Zion said he would have voted against the resolution approving civil marriages of gays and lesbians.

"I don't want to hurt gays and lesbians but I think the matter requires more time and thought than it was given. A marriage service for two people of the same sex is a radical change. I want to be better informed."

Youth protest 'desecration' at Auschwitz

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — About 90 young people from 20 Jewish youth groups and anti-racist organizations demonstrated at the Polish consulate last week on Yom Hashoah to protest "the continued desecration" at Auschwitz.

Holding posters and candles, the demonstrators gathered to send a message to the Polish government and people that "the sanctity of Auschwitz as the largest Jewish graveyard in the world" must be preserved, said David Sheen, one of the event organizers.

"We're here to protest the continued desecration of Auschwitz by the construction of a shopping mall, the parade of neo-Nazis and [the fact that] a 10-metre high cross hasn't been removed," said Sheen, coordinator of the Zionist Betar-Tagar Movement in Toronto.

Prior to the arrival of the majority of the protesters, Polish Consul-General Wojciech Tycinski circulated among the 25 students present at the time and met with Sheen. There was no animosity or hard feeling as the two chatted briefly about the demonstration.

Yom Hashoah
More coverage pages 14-16, 20

Tycinski told *The CJN* that he hopes to improve relations between young Jews and Poles, perhaps by organizing joint programs.

He pointed out that the work on the mall was stopped by Polish authorities at the end of March and that a special session of the International Council of the State Musuem in Auschwitz will meet at the end of April to discuss recent events.

"The lastest events concerning the museum in Oswiecim (Auschwitz) demonstrate that emotions show quite easily in the Polish-Jewish dialogue," stated a news release distributed by Tycinski. "There is no rational explanation whatsoever as to why each dispute that concerns the question of how to best administer the grounds of the museum should turn into a Polish-Jewish debate on fundamental principles.

"New relations between the Polish and Jewish nations ... have to be based on a system of European values, on mutual respect and understanding and on the search for common cultural experiences," the release concludes.

The latest controversy erupted several months ago with the construction of a shopping mall only 30 metres away from the gates of the notorious Auschwitz death camp where an estimated one million Jews were murdered.

Work on the mall was stopped after a storm of protests erupted worldwide. Then about a week before Yom Hashoah, the annual commemoration of the Holocaust, a group of 100 neo-Nazis was allowed to parade through Auschwitz

[Cont'd. on page 6]

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Greater Toronto Area

Essence of Israel is in its memory

Last week, on the morning after we heard the news of the terrible, mistaken bombing by Israel of the Lebanese civilians in Cana, I stopped by the office of Udi Savion, Israel's aliyah shaliach in Toronto, for coffee and conversation.

Savion has been in Toronto just over two years and he is highly regarded for the quality of his work and for the quality of his character. He is a large man, self-effacing, with a ready, generous smile, who speaks emotionally, though quietly.

I had arranged to see him to talk about Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut, but the bitter news of the day before preoccupied us both.

"One of the most important subjects that we learn and that we teach in the IDF," he said pointedly, "is respect for the human rights and the dignity of others. We always try to find as many ways as possible to minimize civilian casualties. This is not simply a matter of policy or of training or of manuals. It is inherent in our nature."

Savion is certainly qualified to speak on the subject of IDF training and military policy. He has devoted fully 25 of his 45 years to service in the navy, 19 of them as a commander at sea. He is now Commander (Res.), having retired from active service a little more than three years ago.

Twenty-three years ago, as a deputy commander of a missile boat, he fought against the navies of Egypt and Syria. Five years later and then again in 1982, he was assigned to retaliate against Islamic extremists, who were then, as today, trying to rain death down upon the heads of the people of Israel living in the north.

It was very important to Savion that I understood the connection between Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut. For, as he explained and continually emphasized, this painful, hallowed relationship between the two commemorations is the key to understanding the true nature of the State of Israel.

The essence of Israel is in its memory.

From the early years at school, "we grow up with the stories of the army. There is a culture of remembering the fallen and of honoring the casualties. It influences the way of life of our young people when they are growing up. It acts as a motivation to make the extra effort on behalf of their colleagues, their friends, their fellow soldiers."

Not inclined to philosophical musings, Savion offered a final example to make certain I understood the point he was making: "A commander teaches not only the professional aspects of being a soldier to those under his command, but also and equally as important, the moral and spiritual aspects of being a soldier. When you are standing on the bridge of the boat, and you know that a missile is coming towards you and you are scared to death, you must show leadership.

"Yom Hazikaron is vital for passing on the same spirit of sacrifice as the one cherished by the people who came before us. It is the cornerstone of our moral and national education.

"Why do we switch immediately from Yom Hazikaron to Yom Ha'atzmaut, from remembering to celebration? Because of the heritage, the sacrifice and the real lives that were lived, lost and dedicated to building the country."

Israel is only three years older than Savion. For an individual, a span of nearly five decades is close to life's mid-point. But for a country, it is still only a prelude.

Israel is still only in prelude. Its achievements in every sphere and field of human endeavor belie its youth. Like people grown used to seeing the sun rise each day, we no longer marvel at the way it casts aside the dark. So too with Israel. We seldom marvel now at what has been built upon the sand, at what has been made to grow out of the desert, at what has arisen out of the ashes.

Sitting next to him, I became aware, yet again, of the invisible forces, the coincidences, accidents and predeterminations that have directed individual destinies throughout Jewish history.

He and I, both 45 years old, are of the same generation, both born after World War II into a world in which European Jewry had just been destroyed but Jewish national sovereignty had just been restored. Yet, the responsibilities his generation in Israel has had to bear are so vastly different, so vastly more consequential, than that same generation – my generation – in Diaspora has had to carry.

At the age of 21, when my friends and I were thinking of the next set of exams, Savion was commander of a patrol boat. At 28, when my friends and I were thinking of the amount of our mortgage payments, he was commander of a missile boat. At 34, when my friends and I were thinking of starting an RRSP, he was the commander of a missile boat squadron.

Of course, the particular steps along Savion's path are not typical of most of his generation, even in Israel. He is, after all, an exceptional person. But what is typical of the path followed by all of his generation, unlike that in Diaspora, is that it has always been bordered by matters of life and death. Even to this day.

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Greater Toronto Area

Regulatory body urged for teachers

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The establishment of an independent regulatory body for Ontario teachers will help ensure that children are protected from bigoted and anti-Semitic teachers, according to Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region.

Bernie Farber, CJC's director of community relations, last week addressed an Ontario legislative committee hearing public submissions on Bill 31, which would set up the Ontario College of Teachers, an independent body that would regulate the profession and police its practitioners.

The bill recently passed second reading.

Farber pointed out that three high-profile cases of anti-Semitic and far-right activity in recent history involved teachers: Jim Keegstra in Alberta, Malcolm Ross in New Brunswick and Paul Fromm in Ontario.

In each case, Farber said, school boards and unions failed to protect students from the teachers' bigotry. Only courts and other legal bodies finally brought resolutions.

The Supreme Court of Canada recently upheld rulings against both Keegstra and Ross.

Keegstra openly preached anti-Semitism in the classroom, and neither the school board nor his union dealt with the situation, Farber told the MPPs.

As for Ross, who did not bring his views into class, the school board, "while taking some minor disciplinary action, never effectively dealt with the fact that Ross was one of Canada's leading public anti-Semites."

In fact, the board initially retained Ross as a teacher. Only after a parent launched a human rights complaint was Ross ordered removed from the classroom.

Today, Ross works for the board as an administrator.

"Why did a parent have to take such drastic action? Where was the school board?" Farber asked.

Years of complaints about Fromm, who has a long history of far-right activity and associations with neo-Nazi groups, were "ignored."

It was only after CJC and the Native Canadian Centre asked the Ministry of Education to issue guidelines that Fromm was removed from the classroom, Farber pointed out.

Today, Fromm teaches adult education classes.

Teaching is "a special and noble profession" and teachers are supposed to be role models, Farber said.

The Jewish community has "not reached a level of comfort [in believing that] school boards and teachers' unions will effectively deal with the rare case of a public school teacher who is an admitted and public bigot," he said.

An Ontario College of Teachers would act as a public complaints bureau and help protect minority children "from the Keegstras and Rosses of this world."

HOLOCAUST AND RACIAL INTOLERANCE

Micheline Joseph's grade 6 class at Bayview Fairways Public School recently held a special parent night program on the Holocaust and racial intolerance. Through art, literature, drama and song, the children expressed their thought and comments against racism and the atrocities in the world past and present.

Greenberg gets U of T award

TORONTO — Natasha Greenberg, president of the University of Toronto's Jewish Student Union, has been awarded one of U of T's most prestigious awards for graduating students, the John H. Moss Scholarship for outstanding academic and extracurricular leadership.

A fourth-year student in Jewish Studies, Greenberg plans to pursue an MA/PhD program in Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University.

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89¢

Tradition Noodle Soup
Assorted Varieties, 70 g
89¢

Osem Tea Biscuits
150 g
59¢

La Biscotte Rice Cakes
Plain, Sesame or Buckwheat, 125 g
89¢

Strawberries
Product of U.S.A.
No. 1 Grade, Pint
99¢

Cantaloupes
Product of Mexico
No. 1 Grade
89¢

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Fresh
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Chai Kosher Chicken Leg Quarters
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About 90 young people demonstrated last week outside the Polish consulate in Toronto to protest recent develpments in Auschwitz. Seen here are Faye Rodzynek of Anti-Racist Action and Mitch Belfer of Canadian Young Judaea. The sign, in Hebrew, reads, "It is forbidden to forget."

Youth hold protest

[Cont'd. from page 3]

to protest the ban on construction of the mall.

Those events, coupled with the continuing controversy over a large cross at a Carmelite convent near the camp, have led to criticism of the Polish church, of the administrators of Auschwitz and of Polish regional officials for allowing the mall to go ahead.

Last week's Toronto protest was co-sponsored by Betar-Tagar, Bnei Akiva, BBYO, Canadian Young Judaea, Free Torah High School, Habonim Dror, Hebrew Culture Club, Israeli Students Union, Jewish Campus Services, Jewish Student Federation, Jewish Student Union, Jewish Students Network, NCSY, Ryerson Hillel, Seneca Hillel, Tzabar and Yavne Olami. Members of Anti-Racist Action (ARA) participated in the event.

Library board apologizes for meeting on Passover

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — The City of Vaughan's Public Library Board apologized last week for holding a meeting on the first night of Passover.

"To those who were offended, we offer our most sincere and unequivocal expression of regret, and we are sorry," library board chair Eileen Burrell told a packed board meeting last Thursday night.

Burrell explained that the date for the April 3 meeting had been set a week earlier and that Jewish members had been notified. She said no concerns were relayed to the board. As well, the meeting dealt with a single "procedural item" and no public deputations were heard.

The meeting's timing stirred controversy and anger, and Vaughan Ward 5 councillor Bernie Green demanded that the board extend a "formal apology" to the Jewish community.

In an earlier letter to Green, Burrell said the city's calendar "does not indicate any religious observance on April 3, but does on April 4."

Pleas from both Green and Mayor Lorna Jackson to cancel the meeting were "ignored," Green charged, "in total disagreement with council's intent not to hold meetings on important religious and/or cultural days."

The meeting's date prevented the attendance of Jewish residents, who believed the fate of Gallanough library would be discussed, he added.

Green called the board's apology "wishy-washy but acceptable" and said he will not pursue the matter.

Of greater concern, however, to local residents is the scheduled April 27 closing of Gallanough, located in a Jewish section of Thornhill.

Board members voted to ask the city for an extra $200,000 to keep the small library open. Green told *The CJN* the money exists "in the overall budget" and added he's confident the city and the board are "moving toward some solution" on Gallanough.

Greater Toronto Area

Shul exhibit captures life of Ethiopian Jews

By RON CSILLAG
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — While the plight of Ethiopian Jewry is, happily, no longer on the community's must-do list, an exhibit of artifacts and photographs depicting the Jews of Ethiopia, now at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, is a must-see.

Entitled Faith and Survival: Ethiopian Jewish Life, 1983-1992, the exhibit opened last week with a featured talk by Baruch Tegegne, a well-known Ethiopian Jewish activist in Montreal, who chronicled his amazing trek out of Ethiopia, across Africa, and finally, to Canada.

Clustered in showcases in the synagogue's foyer is an impressive array of ceramics, clay figures, musical instruments, textiles, religious tracts, even a genuine horsehair fly whisk — everyday objects of a people who lived simply but tenaciously clung to their faith for centuries, despite hostile forces from within and complete isolation from the Diaspora.

But the real story is in the shul's Brotherhood Hall, where 48 outsized color photos tell the tale of a people who, despite drought, famine, disease and squalid refugee camps, believed they had a destiny — to reach the Promised Land.

The photos, taken between 1983 and 1992, are divided into three sections to correspond to the three distinct environments in which Ethiopian Jews found themselves in that nine-year period: the traditional villages in Gondar province, the over-crowded refugee camps in neighboring Sudan, and finally, the capital, Addis Ababa, just prior to Israel's miraculous airlift, known as Operation Solomon.

The pictures of the centuries-old villages and their revered *kessim* (rabbis) also show some of the projects organized and developed by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. (Some smaller shots taken in Israeli absorption centres show people who had been photographed earlier in their villages).

The photos of the refugee camps are within a small time frame, 1983-84, and show some of the typical diseases and the camps' dreadful conditions.

The third section is devoted to the 1990-91 period in Addis Ababa, where some 22,000 Jews had streamed, awaiting emigration. The death rate at one point was 39 a month, but they never lost faith, and their dream came true in May 1991, when almost all of them were airlifted by Israeli cargo planes in just 20 hours.

One photo from the exhibit shows two kessim (Ethiopian rabbis) from the remote town of Quara who went to Gondar to discuss plans for immigrating to Israel.

These beautiful and dramatic pictures were taken by U.S. photographer Peggy Myers, while the accompanying text was written by her husband, Ted Myers, a doctor who organized medical programs in Addis Ababa in 1990-91. The exhibit is on loan from the renowned Judah L. Magnes Museum in Berkeley, Cal.

Of note will be a lecture on April 30 by Barbara Ribicoff, director of the North American Conference for Ethiopian Jewry, entitled Israel: the New Crisis.

The exhibit continues to June 21.

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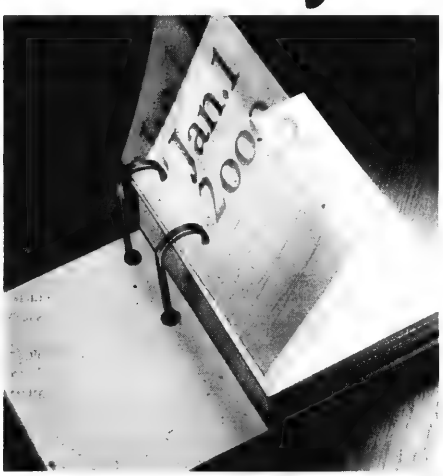

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Yom Hazikaron

On the 4th day of Iyar, Yom Hazikaron, we bring to the surface of our lives the stirrings that we carry deep in our hearts: the precious memories of Israel's fallen soldiers, the men and women – sons and daughters, husbands and wives, comrades and friends – who have died for Israel. In the silence of our minds, we thank them and seek God's eternal blessing upon their souls for the debt we can never repay.

On June 28, 1967, less than three weeks after the end of the Six Day War, in the amphitheatre high atop Mount Scopus in reunited Jerusalem, the Chief of Staff of Israel's Defence Forces, Major-General Yitzhak Rabin, spoke about the unique and special character of the IDF.

"The units which penetrated the enemy lines after hours of battle struggled on, refusing to stop, while their comrades fell to the right and to the left of them. These units were carried forward, not by arms or the techniques of war, but by the power of moral and spiritual values ... Our soldiers prevailed, not by the strength of their weapons, but by their sense of mission, by their consciousness of the justice of their cause, by a deep love of their country and by their understanding of the heavy task laid upon them: to ensure the existence of our people in their homeland, and to affirm, even at the cost of their lives, the right of the Jewish people to live its life in its own state, free, independent and in peace."

Nineteen years earlier, at 4:30 p.m. Sabbath eve, the 5th day of Iyar, 5708, in the Tel Aviv Museum, David Ben-Gurion proclaimed the establishment of the State of Israel to the People's Council sitting before him, to the Jewish people in the Yishuv, to the Jewish people throughout their dispersion and to the peoples of the world.

Even as he read the document, young men and women were falling in battle as war raged in other parts of the country.

Ben-Gurion stood at the dais, flanked by members of his provisional government. Behind him, one on each side, draped across the wall, were the flags of the nascent state. Above him hung the portrait of Theodore Herzl, his coal-black eyes steadfastly looking toward a dreamy Zionist horizon.

Yom Ha'atzmaut

In his left hand Ben-Gurion tightly clutched the paper from which he read, in firm and resolute voice, the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel. The ceremony was over very quickly. In a matter of moments, new thunder clapped across the heavens and the world witnessed the irreversible return of the Jewish people to a self-governing, no-longer-helpless, sovereign history.

Jewish independence was the culmination of the desire of the people to build, to rebuild and "to be built." It thus poignantly contrasted, in every aspect, with the competing nationalities surrounding it 48 years ago and which, in significant degree, exist even to this day among the rejectionist Muslim fanatics – a desire to destroy and a hatred of one people for another.

The bombing of Lebanese civilians last week near Cana was a terrible, horrible mistake, the exception, not the norm. But Israel has the right, nay, the imperative, "to ensure its existence and to live its life in its own state, free, independent and in peace." It cannot surrender its independence or risk its existence to the people intent on its harm.

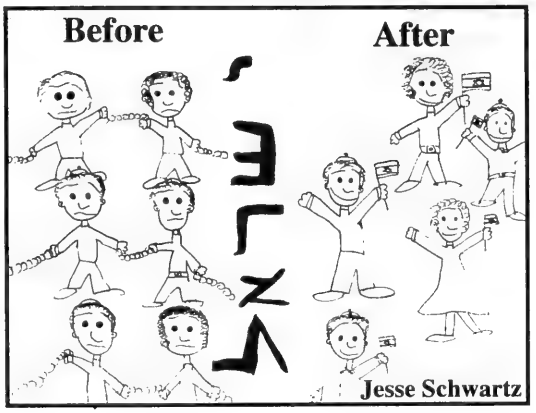
As the years have proven, those who are driven more by hatred of Jews than by love of their own, who are intent on destroying rather than on building, will always fail, even as they have failed thus far.

Only after daylight has departed from the day of remembering, and stars shine in the nighttime sky like signals lighting the way to a new chamber, does the celebration of Israel's Independence Day begin, a kiss of thanks, deeply-sorrowed, bitter-sweet, but ever so precious.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"We, members of the people's council... hereby declare the establishment of a Jewish state in Eretz Israel, to be known as the State of Israel."

A DAY IN THE LIFE...
ISRAEL
5756/1996
Hi, honey it's me.... How are you?... I'm fine.....
...and a GITTEN SHABBOS to you and your FAMILY!
שלום איתא
Daniel Buchman '96



Cartoon Contest Winners

Yom Ha'atzmaut

We are pleased to publish the cartoons of Daniel Buchman of Toronto and Jesse Schwartz of Regina, the winning entries in *The CJN Yom Ha'atzmaut Cartoon Contest.* We thank everyone who submitted cartoons.

Give children the tools

In reference to your March 28 article "Racial, ethnic prejudice thriving: report" by Paul McKeague, I agree that it is important to inform the public of such hatemongering. I think, however, it would be beneficial to report as well on how such racism is being combatted. A study of the Holocaust and racial intolerance fosters understanding and tolerance amongst all children. It can make them more aware of prejudicial and stereotypical comments in their everyday life and give them tools with which to recognize and combat racism.

Our children are our future; we have to give them the tools they need to fight the evil in the world and nurture the good.

Micheline Joseph
Grade 6 teacher
York Region Board of Education
Bayview Fairways Public School

Disraeli is Lord or Earl but not Sir

Rabbi Benamou in "Making Sacrifices" (March 21) called Britain's first and, to date, only Jewish prime minister "Sir Benjamin Disraeli." The rabbi could have called him Disraeli or Dizzy (*Punch*'s favorite) or Lord Beaconsfield or the Earl of Beaconsfield but "Sir Benjamin" is incorrect.

Another point. If Queen Victoria had talked religion with Dizzy "after he was converted to the dominant faith in England," then she would have been addressing a 13-year-old boy, since it was at the age of 13 that young Ben was baptized instead of being confirmed in the faith of his fathers.

G. J. Cooper
Ottawa

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

DECLARATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Eretz-Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave to the world the eternal Book of Books.

After being forcibly exiled from their land, the people kept faith with it throughout their Dispersion and never ceased to pray and hope for their return to it and for the restoration in it of their political freedom.

Impelled by this historic and traditional attachment, Jews strove in every successive generation to re-establish themselves in their ancient homeland. In recent decades they returned in their masses. Pioneers, *ma'pilim* and defenders, they made deserts bloom, revived the Hebrew language, built villages and towns, and created a thriving community, controlling its own economy and culture, loving peace but knowing how to defend itself, bringing the blessings of progress to all the country's inhabitants, and aspiring towards independent nationhood.

In the year 5657 (1897), at the summons of the spiritual father of the Jewish State, Theodor Herzl, the First Zionist Congress convened and proclaimed the right of the Jewish people to national rebirth in its own country.

This right was recognised in the Balfour Declaration of the 2nd November, 1917, and re-affirmed in the Mandate of the League of Nations which, in particular, gave international sanction to the historic connection between the Jewish people and Eretz-Israel and to the right of the Jewish people to rebuild its National Home.

The catastrophe which recently befell the Jewish people-the massacre of millions of Jews in Europe – was another clear demonstration of the urgency of solving the problem of its homelessness by re-establishing in Eretz-Israel the Jewish State, which would open the gates of the homeland wide to every Jew and confer upon the Jewish people the status of a fully-privileged member of the comity of nations.

Survivors of the Nazi holocaust in Europe, as well as Jews from other parts of the world, continued to migrate to Eretz-Israel, undaunted by difficulties, restrictions and dangers, and never ceased to assert their right to a like of dignity, freedom and honest toil in their national homeland.

In the Second World War, the Jewish community of this country contributed its full share to the struggle of the freedom and peaceloving nations against the forces of Nazi wickedness and, by the blood of its soldiers and its war effort, gained the right to be reckoned among the people who founded the United Nations.

On the 29th November, 1947, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a Jewish State in Eretz-Israel; the General Assembly required the inhabitants of Eretz-Israel to take such steps as were necessary on their part of the implementation of that resolution. This recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their State is irrevocable.

This right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own fate, like all other nations, in their own sovereign State.

Accordingly We, Members of the People's Council, representatives of the Jewish Community of Eretz-Israel and of the Zionist Movement, Are Here Assembled on the Day of the Termination of the British Mandate Over Eretz-Israel and, by Virtue of Our Natural and HIstoric Right and on the Strength of the Resolution of the United Nations General Assembly, Hereby Declare the Establishment of a Jewish State in Eretz-Israel, to Be Known as the State of Israel.

David Ben Gurion proclaims to the Jewish people and to the people of the world the creation of the State of Israel. [Frank J. Scherschel photo, LIFE World Library]

We Declare that, with effect from the moment of the termination of the Mandate, being tonight, the eve of Sabbath, the 6th Iyar 5708 (15th May, 1984), until the establishment of the elected, regular authorities of the State in accordance with the Constitution which shall be adopted by the Elected Constituent Assembly not later than the 1st October, 1948, the People's council shall act as a Provisional Council of State, and its executive organ, the People's Administration, shall be the Provisional Government of the Jewish state, to be called "Israel."

The State of Israel will be open for Jewish immigration and for the Ingathering of the Exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace and envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions; and it will be faithful to the principles of the Carter of the United Nations.

The State of Israel is prepared to cooperate with the agencies and representatives of the United Nations in implementing the resolution of the General Assembly of the 29th November, 1947, and will take steps to bring about the economic union of the whole of Eretz-Israel.

We Appeal to the United Nations to assist the Jewish people in the building-up of its State and to receive the State of Israel into the comity of nations.

We Appeal – in the very midst of the onslaught launched against us now for months – to the Arab inhabitants of the State of Israel to preserve peace and participate in the upbuilding of the State on the basis of full and equal citizenship and due representation in all its provisional and permanent institutions.

We Extend our hand to all neighbouring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighbourliness, and appeal to them to establish bonds of cooperation and mutual help with the sovereign Jewish people settled in its own land. The State of Israel is prepared to do its share in common effort for the advancement of the entire Middle East.

We Appeal to the Jewish people throughout the Diaspora to rally round the Jews of Eretz-Israel in the tasks of immigration and upbuilding and to stand by them in the great struggle for the realization of the age-old dream – the redemption of Israel.

Placing Our Trust in the Almighty, We Affix Our Signatures to This Proclamation at This Session of the Provisional Council of State, on the Soil of the Homeland, in the City of Tel-Aviv, on This Sabbath Eve, the 5th Day of Iyar, 5708 (14th May, 1948).

David Ben-Gurion

DANIEL AUSTER
MORDEKHAI BENTOV
YITZCHAK BEN-ZVI
ELIYAHU BERLIGNE
FRITZ BERNSTEIN
RABBI WOLF GOLD
MEIR GRABOVSKY
YITZCHAK GRUENBAUM
DR. ABRAHAM GRANOVSKY
ELIYAHU DOBKIN
MEIR WILNER-KOVNER
MEIR DAVID LOEWENSTEIN
ZVI LURIA
GOLDA MYERSON
NACHUM NIR
ZVI SEGAL
RABBI YEHUDA LEIB HOCOHEN FISHMAN
DAVID ZVI PINKAS
AHARON ZISLING
MOSHE KOLODNY

ELIEZER KAPLAN
ABRAHAM KATZNELSON
ZERACH WAHRAHAFTIG
HERZL VARDI
RACHEL COHEN
RABBI KALMAN KAHANA
SAADIA KOBASHI
RABBI YITZCHAK MEIR LEVIN
FELIX ROSENBLUETH
DAVID REMEZ
BERL REPETUR
MORDEKHAI SHATTNER
BEN-ZION STERNBERG
BEKHOR SHITREET
MOSHE SHAPIRA
MOSHE SHERTOK

Opinions

An unusual election campaign

The Israeli election campaign is heating up as the clock ticks towards May 29. While television advertising is permitted only in the last weeks of the campaign, the war of words is escalating, with distinctive Israeli characteristics such as billboard advertising and a proliferation of creative bumper stickers.

By Shira Herzog

This election campaign is unlike any other — primarily due to the new system of direct elections for the prime minister. The Labor-Likud contest has been personalized to the extreme, and the competition for votes is a contest between the leaders of the two parties — Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu.

The campaign is also unprecedented in its key issues. With a process of negotiations with the Palestinians underway and the beginnings of talks with the Syrians, Israeli voters are being asked to vote between two apparent options — a continuation of the Oslo process by a Labor-led government, and a different, as yet unclear, alternative represented by Likud. But in an effort to attract the undecided voters, the line between the two parties is being blurred by the "spin-doctors" on both sides. And so, the Labor campaign is emphasizing security, while the Likud campaign is emphasizing peace ...

Having observed the election campaign firsthand over the last several weeks, I am struck by three unusual phenomena.

The first is the American-style, virtual presidential campaign run by Netayanhu, whose strength has always been sound-bites and brief, pithy statements that are attractive to the media. In an ideological society whose politicians fight for media attention based on policy proposals, Netanyahu stands out in his efforts not to get trapped in substantive debates, while repeating a few basic points that by now have a familiar ring. When pressed for policy alternatives, Netanyahu prefers to evade the issues, while reiterating his opposition to the incumbent government's policies.

A second unusual phenomenon is the extent to which public opinion polls are driving this campaign and its agenda. The Likud is stressing its commitment to peace, because the polls are saying that the public wants the process to continue. Therefore, while critical of the "Oslo process," the Likud needs to be perceived as prepared to continue negotiations. The Labor government's polls have indicated the public's feeling that the party may be soft on security (ironic, in light of the number of ex-generals in the top 10 slots of the party list). Therefore, the Labor campaign is stressing its commitment to security. The numbers of undecided voters were also a factor in Peres' controversial decision to commit the final agreement with the Palestinian Authority to a referendum. While he was also driven by an intra-party agenda — to avoid the need for an all-out debate on the contours of the final agreement — a central motivation was to appeal to those voters who are supportive of the peace process but hesitant about the terms of the deal.

A third unusual phenomenon is the extent to which external involvement in the campaign has been invoked. After the rash of bombings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv two months ago, Peres accused Hamas of striving to defeat the Labor movement so as to halt the peace process. Last week, at the height of the Katyusha attacks on northern Israel, he claimed that Iran wanted to defeat the party that is committed to peace. In an unprecedented statement, the chief of military intelligence supported this assessment and said that Iran's support for terrorist groups is presently aimed at the May election and at halting the peace process. When U.S. President Bill Clinton came to Israel in a show of solidarity after terrorist bombs had killed 58 Israelis, cynical observers in Likud claimed that this visit was meant to shore up the Labor party's fortunes.

In a close race, the long arm of Hamas and Hezbollah may indeed affect the outcome. Netanyahu knows this, but he cannot be perceived as wishing it. Therefore, he has publicly supported the government in its response to Hamas bombings and Hezbollah attacks. Peres knows this, but he cannot be perceived as being held hostage by terrorist groups. Therefore, he has tried to strike a balance between a continued commitment to the process and a hard line against terrorism.

Over the next few weeks, Labor will continue to emphasize Peres' track record as the most experienced political leader in Israel today. Likud will contine to question the government's policies, but will emphasize its own commitment to peace and security. The long shadow of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination will likely prevent the rhetoric from escalating to its historic, feverish pitch. And on May 29, the die will be cast.

Leah Rabin's visit to Canada

Now that the Israeli elections are only a few weeks away, the political climate there and in the Diaspora has heated up to such a degree that even the use of words is affected. Mention "peace" and you will find proponents on the left and right become highly irritable and claim that you have injected politics into an otherwise neutral topic. That is another way of saying that reasoned debate has become almost impossible — bringing up for me some terrible memories of 40 years ago when, during McCarthy era, every word one spoke in public was scrutinized for sinister and possibly dangerous implications.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut

It is not surprising, therefore, that the forthcoming Canadian visit of Leah Rabin widow of the murdered Israeli prime minister, is seen by some as a political event. It is important to point out that it is nothing of the kind.

She comes to Canada in support of the Rabin Scholarship Fund for the Advancement of Peace — something that has little to do with political objectives, past or current, but with the systematic investigation of what peace is, how parties arrive at it and how they come to confront each other when they fail to reach agreement. It is, in other words, a fund for scholarly investigation and appropriately, it is to be established at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, which has been and will remain a non-political institution.

Yet there are Jews who will have nothing to do with anything that bears the name of Yitzhak Rabin, especially not when his widow (who has always been known to speak her mind) is associated with it. Unfortunately, emotion all too often hampers good judgment. Non-Jews, whose eyes are not clouded by such emotion, have readily supported the objectives of the fund. In fact, they have contributed generously and in quite unprecedented fashion.

The scholarship fund will feature two components. Each year, based on outstanding research and/or involvement in the study of peace throughout the world, a person of international acclaim will be chosen to serve as the Rabin Scholar at the Hebrew University.

The balance of the revenue generated on an annual basis will be awarded in the form of scholarships to graduate students of political science, international relations, economics, law or other areas relating to the study of peace. In special recognition of the Canadian impetus for the creation of this fund, at least one scholarship per year will be made available to a Canadian student committed to graduate studies in one of the requisite disciplines.

Whatever people think or thought of Rabin's policies, he was the prime minister of the Jewish state, and all Jews — of whatever persuasion — fervently wanted then, as they want now, nothing more than peace (though they disagreed then and do now on what this entails). Therefore, a fund devoted to the possibilities of peace is a profoundly Jewish and universal project.

Alcohol use lower among Jews

One of the great stereotypes about Jews is that "they do not drink." Or more precisely, that they drink less than non-Jews. In fact, this stereotype is essentially true.

By Morton Weinfeld

One of the earliest findings of the social scientific study of Jewish life was that the rate of alcoholism among North American Jews was far less than that among non-Jews. Recent studies have confirmed that the gap persists. To be sure, Jews have never been abstainers and the prohibitionist sentiments never caught on among Jews — possibly because the problem of "demon rum" was not seen as grave in Jewish populations. In any case, American Jews have a rate of alcoholism between one-seventh and one-fifth that of the general population.

Some years ago, a UN agency released a study ranking some 30 countries by per capita alcohol consumption. The data included wine, liquor and beer. Israel ranked second to last, many times below the consumption rates of the European countries who ranked at the top. The Israeli Arabs, overwhelmingly Muslim — and thus likely abstainers — comprise one-sixth of the population. They would naturally lower the rate. But their weight in the population alone cannot explain the low national Israeli pattern.

Of course, one does not need scientific studies to establish the fact. Ask professional bartenders — as I have — about the relative amounts to be ordered for a "Jewish" affair compared to a similar non-Jewish party. They know. Comedian Jackie Mason's quips ring true. In his words, after a show, Jews are likely to ask, "Do you want to go out to eat?" and gentiles, "Do you want to go for a drink?"

To be sure, Jews today are drinking more than in the past, socially and at home. There are more Jewish alcoholics. This is largely a result of assimilation. But even if the Jewish-non-Jewish gap is narrowing, it remains impressive. Some studies have documented through careful fieldwork and observation how Jews have developed techniques for moderate social drinking. For example, they would deliberately nurse one drink for a long period of time.

How to account for this pattern of comparatively low consumption of alcohol, and certainly of alcoholism? Since there is no scientific evidence of any biological or genetic basis for the Jewish pattern, we can turn to two other theories to try to explain it.

One is rooted in Jewish religious culture. It suggests that because Jews have linked drinking to specific religious rituals and recognize its place in the celebration of holidays and simchahs, Jews have managed to demystify alcohol but at the same time avoid abuse. Drinking has its valued place, linked with holiness: kiddush on Friday night, a schnapps after davening, a l'chaim at a simchah, excess at Purim, and the four cups of wine drunk at Pesach seders. Like sex, it can be enjoyed in its proper context.

The second explanation traces Jewish sobriety to the dangerous social conditions which have historically faced Jews. A vulnerable minority like the Jews cannot afford to get drunk, lest anti-Semites take advantage. In addition, drunkeness was associated in Jewish folklore with the behavior of gentiles and/or peasants, so sobriety could be seen as an element reinforcing Jewish identity.

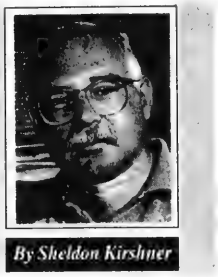
A more refined version suggests that in social encounters with gentiles, Jews still see themselves in what sociologist Marshall Sklare called "an ambassadorial role." Jews, because of their insecurity, might want to make the best impression possible; getting drunk might prove too embarrassing and reflect poorly on all Jews.

None of the theories are satisfactory. Many Christian groups have high levels of drinking, despite the role of wine in Christian religious ritual. And many vulnerable minority groups have high rates of alcoholism, for a variety of reasons. In any case, it is likely that eventually the drinking levels of North American Jews will match those of comparable gentiles. But it will take a long, long time.

The Kirshner File

Israel expands trade with Asian nations

Israel's relationship with Asia is blossoming due to an upsurge in trade with the nations of the Pacific rim.



By Sheldon Kirshner

Israeli exports to that booming region — which have reached the $3.4 billion mark and account for 19 percent of Israel's total exports -- rose by 52 percent in 1992, by 49 percent in 1993, by 25 percent in 1994 and by 19 percent last year.

Israel's chief markets are still in Western Europe and in North America, but Asia is not far behind. Japan, for example, has become Israel's largest export market after the United States, with the annual volume of commerce having reached $2 billion (US).

The easing of the Arab-Israeli dispute is the main reason for this development. The 1991 Madrid peace process prompted China, India, Vietnam and South Korea to establish or to restore full diplomatic — and commercial — relations with Israel.

Israel widened the circle in Asia following its rapprochement with the PLO and its peace treaty with Jordan. The partial lifting of the Arab economic boycott and the liberalization of the Israeli economy were also factors.

For Israel, the peace dividend has been most keenly felt in Japan.

Heavily dependent on Middle Eastern oil, and thus eager to curry favor with the Arab world, Japan had no motivation until recently to upgrade ties with Israel.

But as tensions in the Middle East waned, Japan re-examined its attitude toward Israel. This reassessment induced Japanese manufacturers, investors and bankers to wade into the Israeli market. Politically, the situation also improved, capped by last year's unprecedented visit of Japan's prime minister to Israel.

Israel's relations with China have intensified since October 1993, when Yitzhak Rabin became the first Israeli prime minister to set foot in that country. (Israel's president, Ezer Weizman, preceded Rabin to China by nine months). Since then, Israel has opened a consulate in Shanghai — China's business capital — and signed bilateral agreements in the fields of technology, communications and agriculture.

Last September, on the very day the Oslo 2 accord was signed, the Chinese minister of foreign trade disclosed in Jerusalem that Israeli companies planned to build a hi-tech industrial park near Beijing.

The transfer of advanced military equipment from Israel to China, which began when Menachem Begin was prime minister, still accounts for a considerable turnover in trade. Last year, Chinese American human rights activist Harry Wu criticized Israel for selling weapons to China.

Taiwan's growing importance on the Asian scene has not gone unnoticed in Israel. Israel has no formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan — which is claimed by China — but of late Israeli entrepreneurs have been flocking there in search of new opportunities.

Trade between Israel and India has grown by several hundred percent since 1992. Three years ago, when he was foreign minister, Shimon Peres visited New Delhi and signed six bilateral accords. Last year, Israel and India went one step further by agreeing to grant each other Most Favored Nation status. Earlier this year, there were two additional developments. Israel's finance minister signed three bilateral agreements in India, and India's commerce minister led the first official trade delegation to Israel.

There has been progress on the political front, too. In 1993, the director-general of India's Foreign Ministry visited Israel. In 1994, the speaker of India's lower house of parliament met with Israel's leadership in Jerusalem.

Despite these milestones, the Indian government vetoed a tour of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra to New Delhi and Bombay scheduled to have taken place in 1993.

In the meantime, South Korea has emerged as Israel's fastest growing trading partner in Asia. In recognition of this fact, Israel, which closed its embassy in Seoul in 1977, reopened it two and a half years ago.

Israel has no reason to regret its decision. Recently, the Israeli Manufacturers Association and the Korean Industrial Federation signed a cooperative agreement that is bound to boost trade.

And in the wake of a visit by South Korea's defence minister to Jerusalem last summer, the Israeli media reported that Israel was close to promulgating a deal to supply Seoul with unmanned surveillance planes.

In a major shift, Malaysia has decided to establish formal trade relations with Israel. Malayasia, however, has no immediate plans of forging political ties with Israel.

Indonesia, with the world's largest Muslim population, has quietly traded with Israel for years. But for the moment, there are no signs on the horizon that Indonesia — which Rabin secretly visited in October 1993 — is even remotely interested in establishing diplomatic relations with Israel.

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Informative biographies

A cornucopia of recently-published books...

One of America's pre-eminent Jewish families is the subject of John Davis' gossipy biography, *The Guggenheims* (Shapolsky, $18.99 US). Davis paints a beguiling picture of the family, beginning with its 19th century patriarch, Meyer Guggenheim of Lengau, Switzerland, who stumbled into mining and made a fabulous fortune.

By World War I, the Guggenheims had cornered the world market in silver, copper, lead and nitrate. As he should, Davis concentrates on their acumen as entrepreneurs, but devotes a good part of his book to their involvement in the arts.

The story of the Warburg family, which Ron Chernow deftly documents in *The Warburgs* (Random House, $39), is really the history of German Jewry from the 19th century onward. The Warburgs, one of the oldest continuously active banking clans, financed German industry, influenced its politics and enriched its culture. This hefty book, which is based on Warburg family papers, is the definitive work on the topic.

Louis B. Mayer and Irving Thalberg built Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) into a great movie studio, bathing America in an aura of romance, optimism and well-being. In the course of their 13-year collaboration, which was cut short by Thalberg's untimely death in 1937, MGM made films like *The Good Earth, Mutiny on the Bounty* and *A Night at the Opera.* Samuel Marx, an MGM writer and producer who worked with them, has written a warts-and-all memoir of their fruitful association, *Mayer and Thalberg* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, $16).

Art Buchwald, the descendant of Hungarian and Austrian Jews, describes the first quarter of his life in *Leaving Home* (G.P. Putnam, $29.95 US). The syndicated humor columnist, whose writings appear in more than 500 newspapers, writes of his childhood in foster homes, his summer job at a hotel which barred Jewish guests, his stint in the U.S. Marine Corps (where he endured anti-Semitic taunts and an assignment in a burial detail) and his days with the Paris-based *New York Herald Tribune,* which propelled him into the upper reaches of American journalism.

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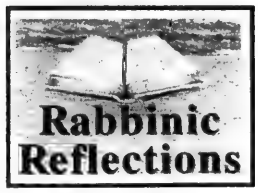


Kehillot kodesh

By RABBI WAYNE ALLEN

Rabbi Joshua Hammerman wrote the following about the difference between religion and spirituality in the aftermath of Disney's hit movie *Pocahontas*. "Pocahontas talking to enchanted trees and living peacefully among the birds and forest animals; that's spirituality. Pocahontas receiving a dues statement from her local synagogue; that's religion."

For many Jews, synagogues seem to be what is wrong with organized religion rather than what is right.

No doubt this is part of the reason that motivated four rabbis, a cantor and a psychiatric social worker in the New York Metropolitan area to organize a company that offers freelance services to Jews in need. Advertising in the *Wall Street Journal*, this new agency offers to provide "a friendly, sensitive rabbi" for weddings, conversions, baby namings, bar or bat mitzvahs [sic], funeral and tombstone unveilings. Fees vary according to how much effort is involved. There is even an 800 number to call. It is sort of a shop-by-phone service where consumers can order the kind of service they want at the time they need the service, without the bother of paying dues.

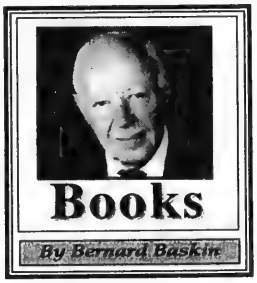
Whether this company will survive as anything more than a curiosity remains to be seen. But my hunch is that this endeavor will fail. It will fail, not because the professionals involved are incompetent or uncaring or because the fees are too steep. It will fail because it lacks the very ingredient that synagogues provide, namely, a sense of community. There is a vast difference between hiring a rabbi to perform a function and having a rabbi who knows you and your family and with whom you have an ongoing relationship. That is the benefit of being part of a community. And that same rabbi or cantor who was present at the birth and the bar mitzvah and the wedding will be present at the funeral. Moreover, when a member is hurting, there is a community that will respond. And when a member celebrates, there is a community that joins in.

The concept of community is far more permanent and important than the need which draws individuals to pay as they go. That is why Rabbi Gerald Zelizer notes that "a religious community is more than a filling station where one stops when the tank is empty but has no connection the rest of the time."

The synagogue as a caring community does more than a fee-for-service company can ever do. Many times, synagogues will provide services at reduced rates or with no fee at all. That is because the synagogue sees its collective responsibility to serve a community, not just itself. The synagogue as a spiritual community provides ongoing educational opportunities that enhance Jewish identity, even when it is not connected with any particular need for service. Its professional staff is not just present to "hatch, match and dispatch," but to teach and inspire and lead and encourage and facilitate.

Synagogues have historically been called *kehillot kodesh*, sacred communities. Jews who gather to support one another, to nurture one another and to challenge one another are involved in a holy task. In religious communities, there is strength and there is inspiration. That is why the future of our people will be assured through our synagogues more than any other institution or corporation.

Rabbi Allen is the outgoing president of the Toronto Board of Rabbis.



Origins of Satan

The Origin of Satan by Elaine Pagels, Random House $30

How did Satan change from his minor role in the Hebrew scriptures to the Prince of Darkness of Christian thinking? How did he become the bitter enemy of God and man?

The author asserts that the idea of the world as a battleground where the forces of good contest the forces of evil is basic to Christian scripture. All four Gospel writers depict the conflicts between Jesus' followers and their Jewish enemies as a cosmic struggle between God's spirit and the power of Satan. In each succeeding Gospel account the Jews are demonized with growing intensity.

Writing during and just after the Jewish war against Rome, the evangelists attempt to exonerate the Romans — in particular Pontius Pilate — from blame for the death of Jesus, in order to incriminate Jews and ingratiate themselves with Roman authority. Unhappily, they left a deadly legacy to subsequent generations of Christians who found validation for their persecution of Jews through the centuries.

Pagels points out that "Many religious people who no longer believe in Satan ... nevertheless are influenced by this cultural legacy whenever they perceive social and political conflict in terms of the forces of good contending against the forces of evil in the world." This demon will not go away.

She indicates, in all fairness, that many Christians — from the first century through Francis of Assisi in the 15th century and Martin Luther King, Jr. in the 20th — believed that they stood on God's side without defaming their opponents. They prayed for the reconciliation — not the damnation — of those who opposed them. "For the most part, however, Christians have fought — and acted upon — the belief that their enemies are evil and beyond redemption."

In Jewish tradition, Satan, is a mythical symbol for evil, often identified with the tempter, the negative impulse that prompts us to comply with the worst side of our nature. But Judaism is so strictly monotheistic that it resists the temptation to enthrone any force or being other than God — even for the realm of evil.

In the Book of Job, Satan does appear as an adversary who brings about Job's misery. But Talmudic sages regard this account as more allegory than fact.

Maimonides, ever the rationalist, equated Satan with a person's evil inclination (the *yetzer harah*). For him, it was the only explanation for the mystical incarnation of evil. In Jewish folklore, however, Satan is depicted as a malign figure who hates Jews and brings their faults before the heavenly throne. It is true to say, however, that Satan occupies almost no place in modern Jewish theology.

The author, a professor of religion at Princeton University, suffered the loss of her husband and young son over a 15-month period. This prompted her to search the scriptures for a clue about how people, throughout history, have dealt with evil. "I began to reflect," she says, "on the ways that various religious traditions give shape to the invisible world and ... on the various ways that people from Greek, Jewish and Christian traditions deal with misfortune and loss."

Although her thesis is hardly original and other recent books have dealt with it more forcefully, Pagels has the rare talent of making difficult subject matter accessible to intelligent readers. This study, concerned with the shaping of early religious ideas, also helps us understand the power of irrational forces that still confront us in contemporary society.

Jewish Life

Survival was a miracle

By NATHAN SHUMSKI
Special to The CJN

Guest Voices

At the time of the Nazi invasion, in November 1939, I fled Poland in the hope of surviving the war in the land of the "proletarian social revolution," the Soviet Union. The fact that I am still alive some 50 years later is testimony to a series of extraordinary and unbelievable events that could only be called miracles or, in Yiddish, *nissim*.

I experienced these "miracles" in a number of Soviet prison camps, as well as after my release from those camps.

In June 1940, I was arrested as a Polish refugee in the city of Pinsk. Germany and Russia had agreed to divide what was then the Republic of Poland and Pinsk had come under Russian control. Perhaps 50 percent of the people who lived there were Jewish. The Russians suspected any Polish subjects as possible spies or saboteurs and consequently imprisoned about 250,000 people.

At first, we were put in jail, where we remained for three months. We were interrogated repeatedly, very often at night. Finally, the Russians sent all the prisoners away to the woods in northern Russia near the Finnish border. It took three months and we travelled by train (in sealed box cars), by truck and by river barge.

I was assigned to a brigade whose task was to cut down the huge trees of those wild forests. Each brigade lived in its own barracks made of rough lumber; inside we slept on three-tiered platforms also made of unfinished boards. There were no mattresses or blankets.

Every morning at 6 a.m., we were ordered to leave the barracks and run to the kitchen where we were given our ration of soup in exchange for coupons we had received the night before. This soup consisted of warm, dirty water with some grass or tiny salted herring. At 7 a.m., every brigade had to be assembled near the camp gate. There we received our work tools — saws and axes — from the tool "magazine," lined up in columns, four across, and prepared to leave the camp. We were under heavy guard, the soldiers equipped with rifles with fixed bayonets.

Just as we were to depart, the head guard would shout, "One step to the right, one step to the left of the column and we will shoot without warning."

We marched for 1½ to 2 hours to cover a distance of from five to eight kilometres to reach the assigned work place. When a person in the brigade grew weak and collapsed, they disappeared, never to

[Cont'd. on page 35]

Hebrew on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Eliezer Ben Yehuda would have been amazed by the Internet. Ben Yehuda is credited with being the inspired and obstinate visionary responsible for the rebirth of the Hebrew language in modern times. A century ago, he took the ancient language and developed the words and terminology that make Hebrew a vibrant language in Israel and now ... on the Internet.

Setting up your computer to surf the Net in Hebrew requires a bit of work. But it is well worth the effort. In this column, I will go over some of the basic principles of loading Hebrew onto your Internet browser and will point you to the sites on the Internet where you will find clear, detailed instructions.

I have successfully installed Hebrew in Netscape for Windows 3.1, Windows 95 and Macintosh. I have also done the same for Internet Explorer for Macintosh. I hope you won't encounter any difficulties.

First a bit of background.

When you type the letter "a" on your computer and send it off on the Internet, every other computer will recognize your "a" because of worldwide standards. Every font has room for upper- and lower-case letters, numbers, punctuation and even some specialized characters like £, ∞ and ∑.

But what happens if you want to read the letter "aleph" on the Internet? Most of us really don't need fonts with characters like £, ∞ and ∑. So new fonts have been created where rarely used characters have been replaced by the letters of the Hebrew alphabet. When a Web page is created using this font, and a similar one is installed on your computer, you will be able to read Hebrew on the Jewish Highway.

And since common English letters like "a," "b" and "c" are untouched, you can use these new fonts to display Hebrew and English simultaneously.

In order to teach your browser Hebrew, you'll need to follow three basic steps:

- Download the new font from the Internet;
- Install it onto your computer;
- Tell your Internet browser to make use of this new font.

For a Windows PC running Netscape, go to **[ftp://ftpwww.huji.ac.il/pub/fonts/pc]** and read Part I of the README file **[ftp://ftpwww.huji.ac.il/pub/fonts/pc/README]** for detailed instructions on how to download and install Hebrew fonts. Download the "NeText" **[ftp://ftpwww.huji.ac.il/pub/fonts/pc/netext.exe]**, "WebHebrew" **[ftp://ftpwww.huji.ac.il/pub/fonts/pc/webfont.exe]** or "ElroNet" **[ftp://ftpwww.huji.ac.il/pub/fonts/pc/elrofont.exe]** fonts. You can download all of them and choose the one that looks best to you. Now follow the rest of the README instructions.

For a Macintosh running Netscape 2.0, go to **[ftp://ftpwww.huji.ac.il/pub/fonts/mac]**-and read the README file **[ftp://ftpwww.huji.ac.il/pub/fonts/mac/README]** for detailed instructions on how to download and install Hebrew fonts. Then download the "NeText" font **[ftp://ftpwww.huji.ac.il/pub/fonts/mac/NeText_for_Mac.sit]**. The "WebHebrew" and "Elron" fonts are available from **[ftp://ftp.ucs.ubc.ca/pub/mac/info-mac/comm/tcp/web/web-hebrew.hqx]**. You can download all of them and choose the one that looks best to you. Now follow the rest of the README instructions.

A Macintosh running Netscape 1.1 or Internet Explorer 2.0 will need to use the MosaicFixed font also available at the above site **[ftp://ftp.ucs.ubc.ca/pub/mac/info-mac/comm/tcp/web/web-hebrew.hqx]**.

As I said, you will still be able to surf the English Web with these new fonts, but the English letters may be a bit difficult to read. If you find them legible, fine. Otherwise, you may want to revert to the original browser fonts when you're not surfing in Hebrew.

So once you've done all the work, where should you browse in Hebrew? In future columns, I will focus on more Hebrew web pages, but a great place to start is the massive Hebrew University site at **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/snunit/]**. You can travel through the history of Jerusalem at **[http://jeru.huji.ac.il/hopen_screen.htm]**.

And as for Eliezer Ben Yehuda, the founder of modern Hebrew, I found a very interesting essay about the rebirth of Hebrew at **[http://www.macom.co.il/hebrew]**.

But don't tell Eliezer the essay's in English.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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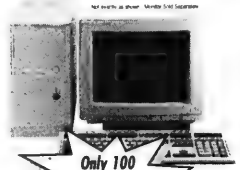

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Jewish victims of Nazism memorialized by community

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO —They cried softly, the politician, the communal leader, the survivor, the teenager. Even the stony-faced security guard hid his face as, to the melancholy strains of *Ani Ma'amin* candles were lit in memory of the six million martyrs to Hitler's tyranny.

Yom Hashoah

Over 1,000 people jammed Pride of Israel to take part in the Yom Hashoah service sponsored by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Elisabeth De Jong Feldman, Sylvia Bornstein and Tamara Stieber lit memorial candles, representing the survivors and the first and second generations; Allen Bielak the partisans; Joyce Miedema the righteous among the nations; Sam Romberg, the war veterans; and former hidden child Leonard Vis for those righteous gentiles who lost their lives for rescuing Jews.

Israel Consul General Yehudi Kinar, participating in his first Yom Hashoah service since assuming his position in Toronto, was himself a hidden child, handed over to Dutch partisans at the age of 16 months, and being lucky enough to be reunited with his parents and sister at the age of five.

"Now I represent a state that according to the Nazis and anti-Semites shouldn't be able to exist. In Bonn, from 1983 to 1988 (as a member of Israel's diplomatic corps), I confronted those in Germany, and convinced them they had failed."

Sandra Brown, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, said that "survivors and their children sitting together to remember the Holocaust is the most profound continuity."

Minister of International Trade Art Eggleton vowed that "never again should countries — like Canada — allow this to happen."

Throughout the program, Eileen Thalenberg, Michael Lebovic, Hassida David and Allen Farkas read from poignant, tragic or dramatic writings in English, Yiddish and Hebrew of the Holocaust: "I remember a cursed night/When there were dolls left in all seven streets/Of the city. And not one child;" "We avenged your bitter and lonely death/With our strong, heavy, burning fist;" "They search, they look/Into each and every face."

In a chilling new tradition, names of Holocaust victims listed in the Hall of Memories of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto were read at the beginning and end of the program, against a backdrop of slides of pre-Hitler Europe.

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich, spiritual leader of Pride of Israel, gave the opening prayer and recited Kaddish. Synagogue cantor Charles Weinberg sang the *K'El Maleh Rachamim*.

The Ne'imot Singers presented musical selections and led the audience in the *Partisans' Song*.

Holocaust survivor Elisabeth De Jong Feldman lights the first memorial candle. **[Deborah Winer photo]**

Survivor's smile hides horrors from the past

TORONTO—She came up to me, I think, because she saw me crying. She said that she thought that I had been in the concentration camps or my parents had been.

"I was," she said, and pulled up her sleeve and showed me the number tattooed on her arm.

Her name is Helen Starkman, and her lovely smile belies the horror of those years in Auschwitz and Terezin. She is a musician, she told me, and plays several instruments, including the violin. Her two sons are also musicians.

She doesn't need memorial services to remember, she said. "Every minute of every day it is in my mind. I wake up at night sometimes and reach for I don't even know what."

The Nazis locked her and her fellow prisoners in a hut in Terezin for nine days, until they could get around to executing them. Then there was a knock on the door, she remembers, and a voice telling them they were free.

"We didn't believe him. He told us to look outside. We looked, and we saw people playing instruments."

They ran outside, six girls holding hands. They were starving, "like wild animals." Czech churches saved their lives, she said, by giving them pieces of bread.

She was waiting in line for her portion of bread, when an unknown woman ran up to her. "Helenka, Helenka, don't you recognize me?" It was her sister, the only member of her family who remained alive.

In an almost surreal moment, Starkman now took out a chain around her neck in the shape of a harmonica, and played *David, Melech Yisroel* on it. Then she began to sing — *Vi ahein zoll ich gayn*, Where shall I go ... when all the doors are shut to me.

"That's what it was like," she said. "No one wanted us. There was no place to go."

She and my daughter hugged, and she shook my hand, thanking me for speaking to her. But I said that we were the ones honored by her having spoken to us.

She said that she doesn't believe in miracles any more. But as we went out of the synagogue into the sunshine, thinking of her words, and the harmonica, and the song, it was hard not to think that that experience itself was a miracle.

—L.S.

Association of Jewish Chaplains of Ontario
Invites you to a Public Lecture at the
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
100 Elder Street
on Sunday, April 28th at 7:30 p.m.
Topic: "Health Care - An Ethical Response to Budgetary Cutbacks - the shrinking dollars"
Guest Lecturer:
Dr. Avraham Steinberg, M.D.
*Dr. Steinberg is head of Department of Medical Ethics, Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, Jerusalem, and has served as a consultant on medical issues to the Chief Rabbinate of the State of Israel.
Co-Sponsored by:
Continuing Education Committee
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue

THE JEWS FOR JUDAISM
COUNTER-MISSIONARY SURVIVAL SEMINAR
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Sin, Salvation and Atonement
Obsession to Convert Jews
Dialogue with a Former Jew for Jesus
Screening of Missionary Videos
Eternal Torah vs. New Testament
The Real Messiah
Isaiah 53
EIGHT-WEEK SEMINAR SERIES:
WHEN: Wednesday evenings at 8 pm for eight consecutive weeks, beginning May 8th, 1996
WHERE: Albert J. Latner, Jewish Public Library 4600 Bathurst Street, Toronto
ALL-DAY SUNDAY SEMINAR:
WHEN: Sunday, June 9th, from 9 am to 5 pm
WHERE: North York Public Library 5120 Yonge St., Room #2, 2nd Floor (includes lunch catered by Milk n' Honey)
COST: $36 for each seminar series
To register, call: (416) 789-2851
Jews for Judaism

Greater Toronto Area

Int'l court needed to preserve camps: Weiss

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An international court is needed to protect Auschwitz "and other places of horror," from projects such as a shopping mall or from desecration by a meeting at the camp of hundreds of neo-Nazis.

That was the declaration of Rabbi Avi Weiss of New York, national president of AMCHA, at a Yom Hashoah community Holocaust Remembrance gathering at Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue April 16.

Yom Hashoah

"We dare not be silent about this violation of the largest cemetery in the world," said Rabbi Weiss, the activist who brought the existence of a convent at Auschwitz to world attention with a personal protest that led to his being beaten at the site.

He unfurled a large banner he said he had picked up recently at the site of the former convent. In Polish it read, "Protect the Carmelite Sisters from attacks by Jews and Freemasons."

If Poland violates international law by allowing commercial development near Auschwitz, then it should be excluded from NATO, Rabbi Weiss said.

He encouraged those present to advocate the passing of a resolution by Canadian politicians similar to one adopted by the U.S. House of Representatives deploring the actions at Auschwitz.

"Israel is in a quasi-war [with Lebanon], but this time we can defend ourselves," he said.

As a Jewish activist, Rabbi Weiss said he was not one of those who wondered why there was no resistance by Jews against the Nazi onslaught. Instead he was surprised to learn how many less well-known forms of resistance there were by Jews.

"It was the silence of the world which broke their spirit. If this is the world you can have it, is what they said."

Minchah and Maariv preceded and followed the commemoration. Six memorial candles, each representing one million Jews killed, were lit by Jack Engel, Ruth Gelber, Magda Hilf, Mr. and Mrs. Jules Samson, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Hecht and Mr. and Mrs. Geza Weinberger.

Also taking part were Rabbi Moshe Stern and Cantor Joseph Lebovic of Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue and Arnold Friedman, president of the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association, which sponsored the gathering.

Jerusalem 3000 Maccabia Games set to begin

By FRANCES KRAFT
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Jerusalem 3000 Maccabia Games will kick off next week under the auspices of The Canadian Zionist Federation, United Jewish Appeal and Youth and Hechalutz.

Softball teams from local Jewish youth organizations will compete during the month of May; finals will be held May 26 behind the Centennial Arena on Finch Avenue West following the Community March for Israel.

Each team will also prepare a dramatic presentation on the theme of Jerusalem's 3,000th anniversary.

The kick-off event, which is open to the public, will include a barbeque and a performance by a group of Russian gymnasts. It will be held at 5 p.m. on May 1 behind the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

For further information call 416-398-6931, extension 4.

Awards will honor students

TORONTO — Jewish Campus Services will be hosting its first annual awards night honoring those students who have been active in building a Jewish community on campus.

It will take place May 9 at Milanos, 325 King St. W., at 8 p.m.

Awards will be presented to outstanding members of the various campus organizations. The evening will recognize student leadership and dedication, but it will also provide the student community an opportunity to celebrate the end of finals. For reservations, call 512-0814 by May 6.

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241 WILMINGTON AVE., DOWNSVIEW (in the Bathurst Manor Plaza) CLOSED SATURDAY
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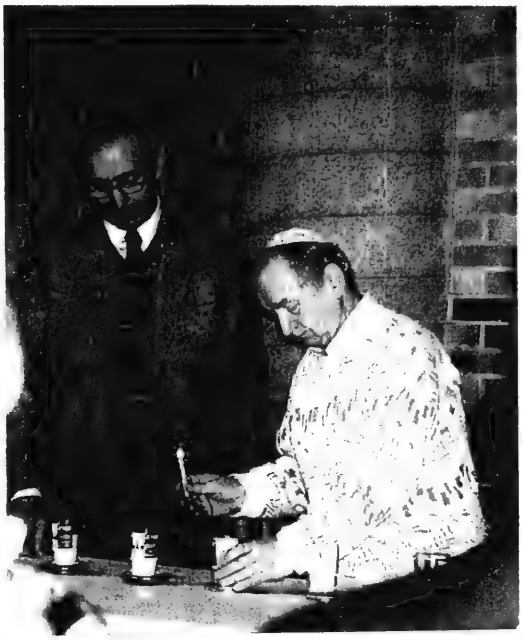
9:15 AM PICK UP AT 235 Antibes Dr. (in front of apartment building)
9:45 AM PICK UP AT 15 & 25 Canyon Ave. (Canyon, near Bathurst Street)
9:50 AM PICK UP AT 4455 Bathurst St. (in front of apartment building)
10 AM ARRIVES AT SUNNYBROOK
11 AM DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK
12:00 PM PICK UP AT CC 4588 Bathurst St. (at main entrance)
12:45 PM PICK UP AT B'nai Brith Building 4266 Bathurst (on Reiner Rd.)
1:00 PM ARRIVES AT SUNNYBROOK
2:00 PM DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK
Bus Shuttle runs Thursdays only and will not run Jewish or Civic Holidays

Greater Toronto Area

Two of the many people who marched in a candle-lit procession from the Holocaust monument in Earl Bales Park to Beth Emeth Synagogue for a Yom Hashoah service presented by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem. [Ron Csillag photo]



Yom Hashoah

UNTO EVERY PERSON...

Howard Chandler (above) lights a memorial candle at a Yom Hashoah service, "Unto Every Person There is a Name," at North York City Hall. Looking on is Arthur Freeman, president of B'nai Brith Canada's Raoul Wallenburg Yorkdale Circle lodge. (Below) Schura Vorona leads fellow B'nai Brith members in a Yom Hashoah commemoration at the cenotaph in downtown Toronto. BB organized the event in 10 Canadian locations as part of an international project spearheaded by a committee in Israel. [Photos: Frances Kraft, above; Ron Csillag, below]

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Na'amat Canada
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Annual
Sharon Cole Memorial Lecture
Monday, April 29 — 8 p.m.
Temple Sinai Congregation, 210 Wilson Avenue
Speaker:
FRIEDA FORMAN
will review the book
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Stories by Yiddish Women Writers
No Charge Light Refreshments Public cordially invited

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Wednesday, May 8
8:00 p.m.
100 Elder Street
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Free Admission Everyone Welcome

Greater Toronto Area

Role of Jews in slave trade called minor

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Nation of Islam representatives who say that Jews were extensively involved in the slave trade are giving out information that is "limited, inaccurate and dangerously anti-Semitic," an expert on the subject said here.

Jews played only a minor part in the slave trade according to Dr. Anthony L. MacFarlane, a black Jew, born in Jamaica, who is vice-president of Anshe Shalom Reform Congregation in Hamilton. His talk attracted an attendance of more than 100 at Beth Tzedec's sisterhood

"In the United States very few Jews were involved. When the Nation of Islam shows a poster of a Jew selling slaves, they are showing an extremely rare occasion."

When a man in the audience asked how Jews could discredit the claims of Louis Farrakhan, a Muslim and Nation of Islam leader, MacFarlane replied, "You are doing it right now. Get involved like the social action group at our own shul."

British merchants

A general practitioner in Hamilton, MacFarlane, who is a certified mohel, came there from Jamaica in the 1950s and at the Beth Tzedec meeting he welcomed Lillian and Manny Zacks who invited him for his first Shabbat dinner. The Zacks now live in Toronto.

The activist physician said he has a warm spot in his heart for Beth Tzedec because as a medical student at the University of Toronto he attended services there in 1962 and was invited to dinner by a congregant who also came out to hear his talk.

In the discussion period, he said slavery still exists in Arab lands and in sweatshops in the Far East where people are sold into slavery. "It is not a fashionable subject but slavery is alive and well in the world."

MacFarlane gave a lengthy and detailed account of the history of the slave trade and outlined why, for geographic and economic reasons, few Jews were involved in it.

A generally accepted figure is that 11.5 million slaves were transported from Africa between 1570 and 1840, he said.

British traders accounted for the largest part of this figure (40 percent) but the Sephardi Jews in England were not involved because in those days they were fearful of their status (they were admitted on sufferance by Oliver Cromwell in the late 17th century)and they did not have the proper connections to take part.

When the Dutch established colonies in the New World and the West India Company became active in the slave trade, about eight to nine percent of investment in the company was by Jews. "But the rate of Jewish investment in other Dutch commercial ventures was 80 percent," he said. "It was not considered desirable to invest in the West India Company."

There was involvement by Jews in the slave trade in the islands of Curacao and Surinam off the north part of South America at the end of the 18th century, he said. "Jews were not allowed to buy and sell slaves but they were involved in the providing of money for the trade. At that time it was considerd proper to own slaves."

In the Caribbean, up to 1750, from 1.5 to three percent of the ships engaged in slaves were owned by Jews, he said, and after that conditions in the trade changed and slaves were allotted to consignees to be sold. Jews made up eight percent of the consignees.

In the United States, where Jews lived mostly in the urban centres not on plantations, they owned from one to 1.5 percent of the number of slaves.

"The record of Jews in the slave trade is not something hidden," MacFarlane said. "Jewish historians have writen about it extensively. It is extremely well documented."

MacFarlane was introduced by Judi Kauffman, vice-president in charge of outreach.

How to give forever.

The way I look at it, giving deserves just as much planning as any other financial activity. Because when I give, I want to know that my money will work as hard as possible and as long as possible to support the community. That's why my wife, Jillian Townsend, and I put a lot of thought into how we wanted to give to Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital.

Our idea was to set up a charitable trust fund.

Working with the people at Mount Sinai, we designed the trust to support medical research. The beauty of a trust is that it keeps on giving: the capital will generate interest

income for the hospital in perpetuity. And you don't need to be a Rockefeller to set one up. Even modest gifts over a period of time can create a fund with real giving power when pooled with the gifts of others — to fund a hospital that does some of the best medical research in the world.

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Mount Sinai Hospital has gift planners who can work with you to customize your gift. Please call (416) 586-8203 or fax (416) 586-8639 for a free copy of *YOUR ESTATE RECORD and PLANNING GUIDE.*

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Thursday, April 25, is deadline for May 9 issue, and Thursday, May 2, is deadline for May 16. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 422-2331, fax 424-1886.

Saturday, April 27

JEWISH ETHICS

Beth Tzedec Congregation Moshe J. Weisfeld Annual Memorial Lectures, Jewish Ethics: A Day for Study and Reflections, with **Rabbi Byron Sherwin**, Spertus College of Judaica. Shabbat morning pulpit lecture, Do You See Jewish Ethics When You Look in the Mirror?; Cholent Kiddush and lecture, 12:30 p.m., In Partnership with God — Health and Healing in Jewish Tradition; Mincha, 7 p.m., Seudah Shlishit meal and lecture, How a Golem Can Address Problems in Business and Medical Ethics.

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

Prof. Aviva Zornberg of Jerusalem speaks at the end of Shaarei Shomayim morning service on Telling the Story: The Matching of Rebecca and Isaac. In the afternoon **Malka Bina**, director, Matan Women's Institute of Torah Studies, speaks on Counting the Omer: The Bridging of Two Beginnings.

CLASSIC & FOLK CONCERT

A classical music and Jewish folk concert, Temple Har Zion, 8 p.m. $18. **Rachel** 905-731-7216 or **Asa Lebel** 665-8556.

Sunday, April 28

HEALTH CARE

Association of Jewish Chaplains of Ontario and Jewish Family and Child Service lecture/discussion with **Dr. Avraham Steinberg** of Jerusalem on Health Care — An Ethical Response to Budgetary Cutbacks-Shrinking Dollars, 7:30 p.m., Beth Emeth-Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

GENOCIDE TODAY

Genocide Today — A Jewish Perspective with **Michael Marrus, Simon Rosenblum** and **Howard Adelman**, Barbara Frum Library, 7:30 p.m. Presented by Tzavta. **Mintzy Clement** 905-764-1186 or **Yehuda Marle** 736-1339.

HOLOCAUST DENIAL

Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto annual Christian service in memory of the Holocaust on the topic, Holocaust Denial: People of the Lie, with **Alan Davies**, professor of religion, University of Toronto, 4 p.m., Church of St. John the Baptist, Norway, 470 Woodbine Ave. 941-9356.

SURVIVAL, RESISTANCE

United Jewish Peoples' Order and Morris Winchevsky Community Shul commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and Jewish resistance during the Holocaust examines resistance, survival and struggle against fascism and hate through poetry, song, theatre, 7:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

SPRING FAIR

Jewish Women International of Toronto Spring Fair and Silent Auction, St. Lawrence Market, 92 Front St. E., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Door prizes, $2,000 cash, HQ VCR, Sony Discman.

CHILDREN OF NOAH

J. David Davis, a leader of Noahide movement, lectures on The Seven Laws of the Children of Israel, The Torah's Special Legacy to the Gentile, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Sponsored by Nishma, Jews for Judaism and Shaarei Shomayim. 630-0588.

JERUSALEM 3000

First Narayever Jerusalem 3000 series continues with political analyst **Janice Steen**, 10 a.m., 187 Brunswick Ave.

PNAI MEETING

PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) focuses on The Israeli Elections, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Charles King** 783-7872.

Monday, April 29

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate branch, Royal

[Cont'd. on page 19]

food city Brings The Cost Of Keeping Kosher Down

Sun. 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M., MON. - WED. 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., THURS. 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., FRI. 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., SAT., 8:00 A.M. - 10 P.M. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Advertised prices do not include G.S.T.

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Kosher Fresh Chickens
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4.39 kg
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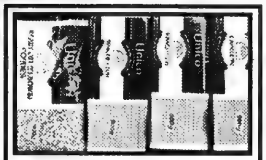

Unico Pasta
Assorted Varieties
900 g pkg.
.88

Kellogg's Corn Flakes
675 g box
1.99

Tropicana Citrus Juices
100% Pure Florida Squeezed, Assorted Varieties, 1.89 L ctn.
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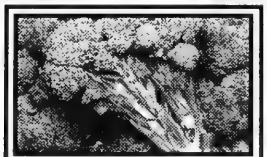

Fresh Broccoli
Product of U.S.A.
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Ground Beef
Glatt Kosher, Medium
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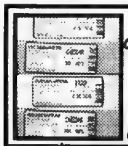
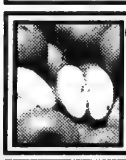


Cheese Sticks
Cheeselovers, Assorted Varieties, 227 g pkg.
2.49

Zoglos Nuggets
Frozen, Assorted Varieties, 800 g pkg.
9.99

Taste Delight Brownies
284 g box
.99



Granny Smith Apples
Product of Chile, Extra Fancy Grade, 2.18 kg
.99 lb.

Kosher DELI

Beef Salami
Perl's Kosher
750 g pkg.
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Turkey Roll
Levitt's, Smoked
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13.99 lb.

Kedem Sweet Gefilte Fish
8 Pieces
27 oz. tin
3.89

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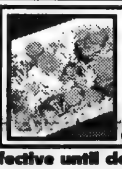
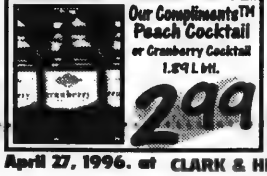
Double Rye Bread
Freshly Baked, 900 g
1.99

Sweet Corn
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade
5/2.49

Atlantic Salmon
Fresh Whole
11.00 kg
4.99 lb.



Pasta Salad
Rachel's
.55/100 g
2.49 lb.



Our Compliments™ Peach Cocktail
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450 g loaf
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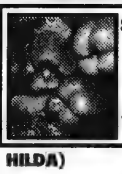

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Prices effective until closing Saturday, April 27, 1996. at CLARK & HILDA FOOD CITY, 441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

Canadian Legion 256, general members meeting 10:30 a.m.

FOUND TREASURES
Club Dayan, Na'amat Toronto, annual Sharon Cole Memorial Lecture features a review of the book *Found Treasures* with **Frieda Forman**, 8 p.m., Temple Sinai.

Tuesday, April 30

Rabbi Lau

CHIEF RABBI
Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel, **Rabbi Israel Meir Lau** addresses the community on Jerusalem: Israel's Eternal Capital, 8 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Sponsored by Mizrachi Organization of Canada and Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region. Mizrachi 789-7576 or Congress 635-2883, ext. 147.

WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT
Toronto ORT and State of Israel Bonds, Women's Division, Women of Achievement lectures continue with economist **Sherry Cooper** 7:30 p.m., at the home of **Jill Kaplun**, York Mills/Yonge. 787-0297.

WELLNESS SEMINAR
Na'amat Toronto Wellness Seminar series features The Food and Fitness Connection with **Marsha Rosen**, 7:45 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. $10. Reserve. 636-5425.

ETHIOPIAN JEWRY
Barbara Ribicoff, director of National Conference for Ethiopian Jewry, speaks on Israel, The New Crisis, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Wednesday, May 1

KOFFLER GALLERY
Return to Our Roots — Kurelek, Klezmer, Kblintzes and Kudos, patron opening reception for 17 by Kurelek and Lisa Neighour: Loot plus kudos to Toronto art personality **Av Isaacs**. 8 p.m., Koffler Gallery. **Rayelle Crocker** 636-1800, ext. 270.

INVESTMENTS
A series on the Mutual Fund market begins with investment professionals **Marie Demers, Serge Pepin** and **Michael Earle**, session arranger, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth-Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

THE RIGHT OF RETURN
Howard Adelman, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University, discusses The Right of Return — Ideology and Limits, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. 226-0111.

Thursday, May 2

SPRING SALE
Don't miss Baycrest's Spring Sale when Baycrest Hospital's main floor is transformed into a gigantic market, fashion centre, food court, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

HOW TO TALK TO KIDS
Author **Elaine Mazlish** presents How To Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk, 8 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation, 613 Clark Ave. W. $15 in advance, $20 at door. 905-764-1818, ext. 9218.

And What Else Is New...

OUR JEWISH ROOTS
Our Jewish Roots art exhibit, mounted by Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS), displays works by Toronto professional artists who were born in other countries. Show runs May 26-June 7, Leah Posluns Theatre.

MUSICA BETH TIKVAH
Musica Beth Tikvah and the Israeli Consulate, Jerusalem 3000 Committee, Joe Chetner Memorial Fund and Canadian Friends of Ben Gurion University present a Lag b'Omer concert celebrating Jerusalem 3000 with Israeli National Kibbutz Choir conducted by **Yuval Ben Ozer**, Tuesday, May 7, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue. 510-1777.

SJA EVENTS
Secular Jewish Association:
Intertalk Shabbat dinner for support group for intercultural couples, facilitated by **Eva Goldfinger**, 82 Willowbrook Rd., Thornhill, Friday, April 26, 7-10 p.m. Non-members $8. 905-889-7450.
Open House, Children's School registration for 1996-97, 131 Fenn Ave., Sunday, April 28, 10 a.m.

AISH HATORAH
Three Mitzvot and What They Mean: Kosher, Kippah, Keeping Sabbath, Monday, April 29, 7:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W. Thornhill. 905-764-1818.
Success Now seminar, Tuesday, April 30, Village Shul, 884 Eglinton Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

SHABBATON
Uptown Shul (a division of Shaarei Tefillah Congregation in partnership with Aish HaTorah), Breslov Research Institute and Anshe Minsk Congregation host **Rav Avraham Greenbaum**, director of Breslov Research Institute in Jerusalem, April 26-28.
Shabbaton, Friday night and Saturday, Anshe Minsk Shul, 10-12 St. Andrews St. $50 includes Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and third meal. Reserve 595-5723.
Melava Malka, Saturday, 10 p.m. to midnight, Uptown Shul, 3600 Bathurst St. $7.
Healing seminars, Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to noon and/or 1:30-4 p.m., Uptown Shul. Either seminar $20. lunch $10. 789-3498.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Women's Institute of Torah Study classes at Barbara Frum Library: Tuesday, April 30, 8-9 p.m., Miriam's Voice, **Chaya Perman**; Wednesday, May 1, 10-11 a.m., Rambam — False Messianism in Jewish History, **Rabbi Avraham Plotkin**. 905-881-2012.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Associated Hebrew School Parents' Association presents *Fiddler on the Roof* with **Theodore Bikel**, Sunday, June 23. **Anne Malc** 494-7666, ext. 332 (Danilak), 2-4 p.m.

AT TEMPLE SINAI
Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, executive director, Arza, speaks Saturday, April 27, after services at 10 a.m. on For the Sake of Peace, Should the Reform Movement Cease Its Proactive Initiatives?
Sunday, April 28, Rabbi Hirsch gives An Insider's Report About Diaspora Concerns and Recent Trends Affecting Operation Equality. Services 9:30 a.m., breakfast, program at 10 a.m., $3.

STORE VOLUNTEERS
Jewish Family & Child Service needs assistance at its secondhand store, the Just a Second Shop, 3418 Bathurst St., three hours a week, to sort and merchandise donations. **Joan Stevens** 638-7800, ext. 266.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Looking Ahead (separated/divorced) begins May 7; Parenting Teens, May 2; Parenting the Young Child, May 7. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Janet Arnowitz

WOMENS LEAGUE
Canadian Seaway branch, Womens League for Conservative Judaism Spring Conference on B'Khol L'Vavcha — With All Your Heart, May 5 and 6, Adath Sholom Synagogue. National consultant speaker is **Janet Arnowitz**.

JEWISH PATHWAYS
Jewish Pathways in Spirituality is the Shabbaton theme at Anshe Minsk Synagogue April 25 and 26. Shabbat guest is **Avraham Greenbaum**, author on Jewish mysticism and Chassidut based on the writings of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov. $50 incluing meals. 595-5723.

at the JCC/BJC

Bloor JCC and Theatre Cognito public reading of *The Bridge of Sighs*, part of the new play *A View From the Roof* by **Dave Carley**, based on stories of Toronto's **Helen Weinzweig**, Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m., Bloor JCC. Reading stars **Alex Poch-Goldin** and **Esther Arbeid**.
Youth volleyball for ages 8-14 starts April 28, 1-4 p.m. at BJC. **Grant** 636-1880, ext. 374.

For Seniors

LZA Seniors Club registration for Catskills Raleigh Hotel. **Libby** 782-2059. Upcoming trips: Stage West, 30,000 Islands. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m., Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Catskills Homowack Hotel Aug. 4-11; ArtPark *Chorus Line* Aug. 1; Stratford *The Music Man* Sept. 24; cruises June 27 and July 15. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

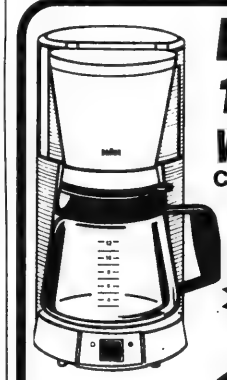
Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Saturday dance April 27; Sunday dance with live band April 28; *Beauty and the Beast* May 16; Ottawa and Gatineau Hills June 18-20; Catskills Raleigh Hotel July 22-28; day trips — Markville Mall, Kitchener, Cullen Gardens, Niagara Falls. 395-7881.

Lifestyle Retirement Communities Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., current events lecture by **Doug Haddow**, Tuesday, April 30, 2 p.m. Reserve. **Marlene White** 785-1511.

Total Living Seniors Catskill trip to Granit Hotel Aug. 4-12. **Helen Pearson** 633-0397 after 6 p.m. Proceeds to charity.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre is at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.
Computers for Seniors class with **Susan Steckel**, Wednesdays, 12:30-2:30 p.m., starting May 8.
Early Morning Fitness with **Chana Weil**, Wednesdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m., May 1-July 3. $10 members, $30 non-members.
Etrog, an Israeli cultural club, meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. **Anna**.



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From coast to coast

Celebrate Jewish life for children's sake: rabbi

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — Jewish children should listen attentively to survivors of the Holocaust, but they must also be taught that living a full Jewish life does not mean hearing only about hatred and suffering, said Rabbi Victor Reinstein

Yom Hashoah

Speaking at Victoria's annual Holocaust Remembrance Day at the Holocaust memorial in the Jewish Cemetery, Rabbi Reinstein of Congregation Emanu-El said the Torah states that pain and suffering are not the only doctrines of Jewish life.

"We must celebrate Jewish life, so that our children don't turn away from Judaism as a religion based on others' hate and anti-Semitism," he said.

Children must learn that the Holocaust was an example of what vicious hatred can lead to, and "We must remove hatred from their hearts."

The rabbi said that even in the hell of the Nazi death camps, there were acts of kindness. He read from a paper prepared by Rysia Kraskin, a local survivor who told of the care and help she received from a Jewish woman named Helen, in the five camps she was in. Helen eventually became the wife of survivor Willie Jacobs and the couple lived in Victoria for many years. Both died within weeks of each other last year.

Kraskin was in such notorious camps as Skarzysko, Czestochowa and Ravenstok, always walking from camp to camp and once jammed into a train's cattle car for 16 days without food or water.

"People were dying like flies because of the hard physical work and no food in the camps," she said.

They were being marched to Dachau when they were liberated by the Americans in April 1945.

She said that "even though we went through hell, we didn't forget we were human beings and how to care for others in need."

Survivors and children of survivors formed a Magen David on the memorial, using fresh flowers from the garden of Goldie Gardner, who had died the night before the memorial day. It had been Gardner's tradition to provide flowers for the annual Holocaust services and her husband Jack insisted on cutting flowers for this year's ceremony shortly after she died.

Vancouver marked Holocaust Remembrance Day with a pictorial collection of the Warsaw Ghetto at the Holocaust Education Centre. An evening of poetry, prewar Yiddish songs and ghetto music, hosted by Lillian Nemetz, a child survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto, preceded the opening of the photo exhibit. Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, former foreign minister of Poland, was a featured speaker. He was honored in 1964 by Yad Vashem for his work with Zegota, a Polish wartime movement he co-founded to help Jews.

The pictorial exhibit continues until June 7.

Interfaith program in Windsor

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Corespondent

WINDSOR — For the fourth year in a row, the Windsor Jewish community observed Yom Hashoah with an interfaith program.

The program, attended by about 400 people of all faiths at Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue, had as its theme Keeping the Story Alive — an Intergenerational Dialogue.

Six candles were lit by survivors and their children and grandchildren, with each group presenting a brief vignette of a true Holocaust story.

Also taking part were the Rev. Owen Burey of Sandwich Baptist Church; Rabbi Yosil Rosenzweig of Shaar Hashomayim and Rabbi Jeffrey Ableser of Congregation Beth El; cantors Sidney Resnick and David Neumark; Alan Berger of the Windsor Jewish Federation; members of the Royal Canadian Legion Balfour Branch 362, who were presented with a Holocaust memorial plaque; the Windsor Community Choir; Peter Weibe, cello of the Windsor Symphony Orchestra; and Carmen Cavallaro, accompanist of the Windsor Community Choir.

The Yom Hashoah planing committee includes representatives from the federation, the Roman Catholic Separate school board and the public school boards; clergy, including the rabbis of the three Windsor congregations; and representatives of the City of Windsor race and ethno-cultural relations committee, the Human Rights Committee, the Windsor District Labor Council and the Hebrew Collegiate Institute.

Biblical mythology focus of art show

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

GRAND FORKS, B.C. — Vancouver artist Lillian Broca, who specializes in paintings based on Jewish biblical mythology, continues her work with a show, Celestial Beings, which highlights as her central theme the world's first feminist, Lilith.

The show, which opened at the Grand Forks Art Gallery (in the B.C. interior) in April and runs to June 1, comprises paintings and lithographs. The paintings are done on sparkled paper sanded several times to give it an ancient look. In the works, Broca uses graphics and acrylic and some collage.

Following up last year's show on "good" angels at the Zacks Gallery of the Jewish Community Centre in Vancouver, Broca's new show portrays the legend of Lilith, who, according to some stories, was created by God as Adam's first mate.

The Lilith story is mentioned in the Talmud and in various religious legends. It tells of Lilith's struggle for equality and her subsequent escape from the Garden of Eden because she felt that, having been created at the same time as Adam, she was Adam's equal, and she refused his demand that she be submissive to him.

To maintain her independence and dignity, Lilith chose loneliness over subservience and flew away from Eden, having acquired wings by uttering God's secret name.

Besides the 12 paintings in the Lilith series, the Grand Forks show also includes a new series on brides, as well as some of Broca's other works from her Angel series.

Jerusalem 3000 Celebration Concert
Presents
Israel National Kibbutz Choir

Conductor Yuval Ben-Ozer

"The singing was so heart - rending & emotional something so rare among choirs. It is no wonder that the audience responded with such enthusiasm"
— The Leipzig Volkes Zeitung —

In a program of Jewish and Israeli folk music, sing-a-long and Israeli dancing.

Tuesday, May 7, 1996, 8:00p.m.

Sponsored by Musica Beth Tikvah, Israeli Consulate, Jerusalem 3000 Committee, Joe Chetner Memorial Fund, Canadian Friends of Ben Gurion University.

Performance and Tickets at Beth Tikvah Synagogue
3080 Bayview Ave. – 221-3433
Tickets $18. – Students and Seniors $15. – Children $5.

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Community Matters

Staff entertains children as rocket attack shuts down Canada Centre

By Elana Carr

Workers at Canada Centre in Metulla, on the Lebanese border, have been turning their attention lately to keeping children busy in bomb shelters. Normal activities at the Centre were shut down by the conflict in Lebanon.

Canada Centre, housing a huge recreation complex, including an Olympic-sized skating rink, was funded, in large part, through United Israel Appeal. UIA Canada is responsible for transferring the Israel portion of UJA Federation Campaign contributions.

On Sunday, April 14th, the Centre was struck by a Hizbullah Katyusha rocket, which landed seven metres from the indoor swimming pool, causing over $1 million damage. Nobody was injured, but the Centre, a major tourist attraction, was closed, and the staff have been organizing events for the community's kids.

"We are trying to make life as normal as possible," Metulla Mayor Yossi Goldberg told *Community Matters*. "Through the help of Canada Centre, a variety of special programs was planned. One such program included a community-wide songfest for the children living in the bomb shelters. This particular event was covered by a local Israeli radio show, in hopes of raising the children's spirits."

Despite the tense situation, Goldberg is trying to keep up Metulla's morale. About 80% of the town's residents, he said, remained during the fighting. The rest left temporarily to stay with families living elsewhere in Israel.

Canada Centre not only serves area residents, it provides rest and recreation for Israeli soldiers on the northern border. The Centre is equipped with a multitude of facilities, including indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a full-sized basketball court and the famous skating rink funded by Dorothy and William Drevnig, where Israel's Olympian, Misha Shmerkin trained.

Metulla's Canada Centre suffered serious damage from a Katyusha attack.

March OF THE LIVING attracts Polish audience

Polish onlookers lined the streets to watch 5,000 March of the Living participants during their trek between concentration camp sites, according to Barbara Bank, Toronto Co-chair of the March.

"It was as if many of them felt they had to atone for the sins of past generations," Bank said, during an interview from Cracow, Poland. "In Auschwitz, we marched from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. with the rest of the participants. It was incredible to be here among 5,000 Jewish students holding their heads high and proud, while waving their Israeli flags."

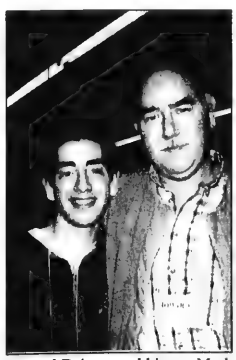
On April 13, over 100 Jewish students from the Greater Toronto Area, accompanied by 21 adults, joined 5,000 counterparts from all over the globe to share in a once-in- a-lifetime experience. On Yom Hashoa, Holocaust Rememberance Day, they marched three kilometres from Auschwitz, the largest concentration camp complex built by the Nazis, to Birkenau.

Among the chaperones were Holocaust survivors like Anita Ekstein, a hidden child during the war, who found the odyssey both difficult and exhilarating. "It was extremely hard," she said, "to be here where my family was murdered, but I am overwhelmed to be able to share this experience with our community's young people. According to the Nazis and Poles, none of us were even supposed to be alive. I am privileged and proud to be among this group."

After experiencing Poland, March participants flew to Israel for Independence Day, Yom Ha'atzmaut.

The March is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and United Israel Appeal of Canada. It was chaired in Toronto by Roz Davidson and Barbara Bank and coordinated by UJA Federation's Karen Worb.

Toronto Rabbi Baruch Frydman Kohl, one of the March chaperones, makes a point to participants.



Howard Driman and his son Mark are both on the March of the Living.

UJA Prime Minister's Mission touring the Jewish frontier

Some of UJA Federation's top leaders are in Israel this week after a fact finding tour to Moscow and St. Petersburg.

"We want the participants to gain a greater appreciation and understanding of the trials and tribulations that the Russian Jewish community faces in their daily lives," explained Mission Chairman, David Goldstein, who is chairing the 1997 UJA Campaign. "Funds are desperately needed for Russia's 700,000 Jews who now live on the modern day Jewish frontiers," added Baruch Gur, the architect of Operation Exodus and a special emissary to UJA Federation.

Moscow and St. Petersburg are home to 40% of Russian Jewry. Mission participants visited local Jewish agencies, schools, synagogues, museums and the Kremlin. They also gained insight into the UJA Federation-supported Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and how it operates.

Baruch Gur

The message that Gur wants to get across to mission participants is "the seriousness" of the situation that is facing the Jewish community in Russia.

"There is a clear struggle," he explained, "between living in the community and building a new one in Israel. The role of the Jewish Agency is to assist in aliyah for those wanting to leave Russia and to make sure that there is a solid Jewish community for those who wish to remain."

Prime Minister's Mission members celebrated Yom Ha'atzmaut in Israel and visited Canada Centre in Metulla, which Gur considered especially important "in order to demonstrate the solidarity of Toronto Jews with Jews in Israel."

Also on the Israel agenda were briefings and a first hand look at projects funded by UJA Federation.

Federation scores a hit with Jewish Toronto

Now that *Jewish Toronto* has made a name for itself on the Worldwide Web (http://www.feduja.org) after its March 5 debut, organizers and volunteers are shifting their cyber sights toward community building.

So far, UJA Federation's *Jewish Toronto* is boasting over 3,000 hits, which means the site has been visited more than 3,000 times. "Community events, and the *Student Lounge* are among the most popular links," says Jay Brodbar, Coordinator of the project.

"We've started, we're visible and our next step is to build a service that will integrate and bind the community," explains Art Benjamin, Chairman of the *Jewish Toronto* steering committee. "Suddenly people are no further away from the community than their computer."

"The key now is raising awareness about *Jewish Toronto* within the community and getting more people to go on line," explains Bob Cherniak, who is responsible for technical services. "The project is an ongoing operation so every day there are new ideas and new players."

In addition to a wealth of information, including a community events calendar, the latest news, community services and a youth page, *Jewish Toronto* is actively seeking new participants interested in appearing on the site.

"Anyone wanting to share their story is invited to contact us," says Rob Brickman, who is active in developing Web site content. "Whether it's through hosting the organization at our site or providing links to their own sites, we can help organizations get on line."

In addition to community seminars designed to introduce *Jewish Toronto* to potential users, a training team is available, upon request, to show individual groups how to set up shop on the net and how to update their information on line.

"We want people to feel like it's their site," explains Jennifer Cohen, one of a team of three working on the seminars.

Plans to make the site more interactive through the creation of chat lines and discussion forums are already underway.

Jewish Toronto is setting up an information booth at the Bloor JCC (Spadina and Bloor) on May 12, for Jerusalem 3000 celebrations.

The Web site was financed with a grant from UJA Federation's Endowment Fund.

Internet brings March to life OF THE LIVING

Thanks to modern technology and imaginative minds, 300 Canadian March of the Living participants will be sharing their experiences with the world.

Through video and communications equipment donated by local businesses, 18 year old Emanuel Bensimon has been transmitting the thoughts and images of March participants on the *Jewish Toronto* Web site. Photographs and words are being sent from Poland and Israel via modem.

Over 100 Toronto March participants are now in Israel with nearly 5,000 counterparts from around the world.

You can read about their emotions and adventures by going to http://www.feduja.org and clicking on to March of the Living.

Internet Diary author Emanuel Bensimon (right) with fellow Marcher Evan Pilz

Internet connects teens

Just as the personal computer revolutionized modern society, *Jewish Toronto*, UJA Federation's Worldwide Web site, has begun to change the way Jewish youth interact with each other.

Teens and young adults who feel more comfortable in front of a keyboard than a punch bowl, are discovering how the Internet can connect them to their peers as well as their community.

"The Internet is a whole techno-culture which affects the way people relate to each other," observes Emanuel Bensimon, Coordinator of *Jewish Toronto*'s youth page. First they meet on line and then hopefully internet pals will meet in real life," Bensimon predicts.

The *Student Lounge*, which features an electronic magazine and a Web page gallery indexing world wide sites, is "the most dynamic area of *Jewish Toronto*," says Bensimon. Future plans for the youth page include on line discussions, chats and forums to make the site more interactive. Student volunteers are also working on creating a mentor system linking university and high school students and youth with seniors. "It's a great way," according to Bensimon, "for members of the community to learn from each other's experiences and help each other."

Jewish Toronto teens are forming cyber-relationships thanks to the UJA Federation Web page.

Federation President Sandra Brown is glad to see how much excitement the site has generated, especially among young people. "They're getting some great exposure to UJA Federation and other community organizations and this is important for the future of the community."

Community Matters

These kids are tops at topsy-turvy

Danny Friedlander

Shayna Rootman

Junior UJA is pleased to announce the first five winners of our *Topsy-Turvy* contest: Ilana Arje, Danny Friedlander, Moishe Romberg, Emily Teichman and Shayna Rootman.

When we asked what was wrong with the Passover picture in the last issue of junior UJA news, we received dozens of responses. We thank everyone for sending us answers and we're publishing the names and photos of the first 10 kids who found at least 10 things wrong.

Here are the correct answers. Of course, we may have missed some mistakes as well. If we did, please let us know by writing to *Topsy Turvy*, 4600 Bathurst St., North York, Ontario, M2R 3V2.

1) The door is off the ground.
2) The welcome mat sign is written backwards.
3) There is a shoe on the leg of the chair.
4) There is a fish outside the window.
5) The numbers on the clock are in the wrong sequence, 4,6,6,8,7.
6) There is a flower upside down in the vase.

Ilana Arje

7) Challah is on the table instead of matzah.
8) Don't drink from this wine bottle. It's upside down.
9) Watch out for those hamantashen on the Seder plate.
10) What's Megilat Esther doing on the table instead of the Hagadah?
11) Aaron is missing one part of his eye glasses.
12) With one pink shoe and one red shoe, Uri is obviously colour blind.
13) Uri is about to drink three glasses of wine instead of four.
14) The clock says 4:00 - it's too early for a Seder!

Emily Teichman

Junior UJA thanks all the participants for entering the contest. The Junior UJA Club is currently planning new events for its 700 members.

Moishe Romberg

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MAY 26, 1996
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Journey to JERUSALEM
FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL THE MARCH HOTLINE
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JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO UJA

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, *is sponsored and produced by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto*

Another Mission 3000 letter

Letters from Mission 3000 participants are still arriving at the UJA Federation office. The following is typical of the sentiments expressed by participants.

Mission multiplies commitment

Imagine entering a world as foreign to you as water is to the desert. Arriving in Israel for the first time with my husband, my closest family and friends, I felt the wonderment of the Land.

This obviously elated immigrant from Tashkent was one of many met by Mission 3000 participants. (Photo: Marc Grenville)

Immediately, we were introduced to the people who would guide us through this Mission. Each bus was assigned "leaders" and UJA staff people who had experienced Israel before. Our bus leaders, Elaine and Alfie Lightstone, were well prepared for the tremendous journey that lay ahead with badges, games and activities. This was the first step in developing the "family" that we would become over the next ten days. Now add to this Rick Levine and Jeff Springer of UJA, with their uncanny knowledge and wit, and of course, our Israeli guide Robert, and the Mission truly began.

The administration and coordination of the accommodations, the service, the luggage transfers, the meals and the arranged functions were overwhelming. We could tell that each action had been carefully planned and even more carefully executed by Hindy Friedman and the staff. The journey and the arrangements were virtually flawless.

I really must urge everyone to experience the reality of Israel first-hand, so that all of us may know what role we can play, both at home and abroad, as fellow supporters of Israel's future.

For us as Canadian Jewish citizens, this was both a Mission and a pilgrimage. I know that I came back a more dedicated person, someone more aware of both the harsh reality and the subtle, ancient beauty of this land. My family, friends and I thank all those whose dedication and professionalism made this Mission one of the most memorable experiences of our lives. Thank you all.

Sincerely,
Judi Switzer, Thornhill

UJA's dialogue with Dylex

Dylex wants to sell its non-wholly owned stores, such as Harry Rosen, Braemar, Nu-Mode and Forsyth, carry more detailed merchandise at Biway and improve customer serv...

Those were some of the corporate insights recently supplied to UJA Federation's Fashion Division by Elliot Wahle, the company's President and C.E.O.

Wahle reported that Fairweather, located in most major shopping centres, has improved its margins with better inventory management. Fairweather and Tip Top Tailors are looking for a new president and image improvement is one of Tip Top's priorities. Wahle spoke about Dylex's major successes, including Thriftys, which is the company's most profitable chain. Its private label is the second most popular brand of jeans in Canada. Another chain which is doing well is Club Monaco, of which Dylex owns 66%. Worldwide store expansion is well underway for the Club Monaco network.

Dylex President Elliot Wahle

The UJA Federation Fashion Division is chaired by Abe Glowinsky and Jerry Werger.

A Tough Subject

Assisted Suicide: Crime or Compassion? It's a difficult issue, which was recently explored at a UJA Federation Young Professionals Network event. Left to right: Howard Rosenberg and Anne Gottlieb, outgoing YLN Co-chairs, moderator Colleen Walsh of Global TV News, Drs. Neal Lazar and Philip Berger.

ANNUAL MEETING

of the

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO

will be held on

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1996
7:30 P.M.

Leah Posluns Theatre
4588 Bathurst Street

Community Matters

My mother Mindel's English

Morrie's mother Mindel.

Recently, Morrie Charendoff, a member of UJA Federation's Golden Givers Program, sent us this touching tribute to his mother and her unusual use of the English language.

Morrie and Evelyn Charendoff

My mother's name was Mindel and she was born in Poland. Despite the fact that she lived in Canada for almost 70 years of her life, she never quite mastered English nor lost her accent. We, in the family, never considered these traits to be drawbacks or detrimental in any way...indeed we thought them to be rather quaint and even endearing. Sometimes, when she was particularly endearing, we would often address her as "Mindele." No matter..her responses were usually spiced with quaint and funny expressions that we inevitably referred to as "Mindelisms." Now you must understand that she wasn't trying to be funny, but she managed to fracture the English language in such a way that it came out funny, and sometimes, even hilarious.

To illustrate what I mean I shall elaborate on a few "Mindelisms" and how they came into being. One day I called her on the phone. "Hi Mom, how are you today?" She replied "how should I be? You never call to find out (which of course was precisely what I was doing)..but if you want to know, I'm **feeling a little under the water**." I'd ask "when did you start to feel that way" (under the water that is)? "I don't know," she replied, "I was OK, **then it hit me from out of the blue sky**."

Mindel didn't believe in rocking the boat. 'Do what others do' was her motto...but she didn't quite say it that way...it came out like..."**when in Rome, dance with the Romanians.**" Now if you had to keep from saying something out of turn, her admonition was to "**bite your teeth.**"

How many 76 year-old grandmothers does anyone know who broke a finger playing basketball? That happens to be a fact. When I asked her if she was very upset when it was broken, she merely shrugged it off saying she was "**cool, calm and selected.**"

The best was during a volleyball game. She sprained her ankle and my son Bob took her to Branson Hospital for X-rays. While waiting for the technician, Bob crossed his legs and accidentally hit her on the foot. "Oh buby, I'm sorry,!" he cried. "I didn't mean to hurt you." "Don't vorry dahlink," she replied. "**I'm not from china.**"

During a conversation I once had with her, I remarked on how nice the weather had been lately. "Of course it is," she replied. "There's a high blood pressure system in the area." She certainly was up to date on science and meteorology. When my granddaughter was born, her mother did not have an easy time in labour, and she ended up having what Mindel referred to as a "**Sicilian Operation.**"

Well, Mindele spent the last few years of her life at the Baycrest Terrace and passed away a few years ago with almost all her grandchildren in attendance around her bedside. She was quite a unique person; much loved and respected by all who had the good fortune to know her. She told us not accept things for what they appear to be, but to dig deeper because..as she would say.."**beauty is only a skin disease.**"

United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.
and the
Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto

will pay tribute to the late

Phil Granovsky ז"ל

at a Memorial Service
to be held on

Sunday, May 5, 1996
3:00 p.m.

Adath Israel Synagogue
(Main Sanctuary)
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Next Seminar date:
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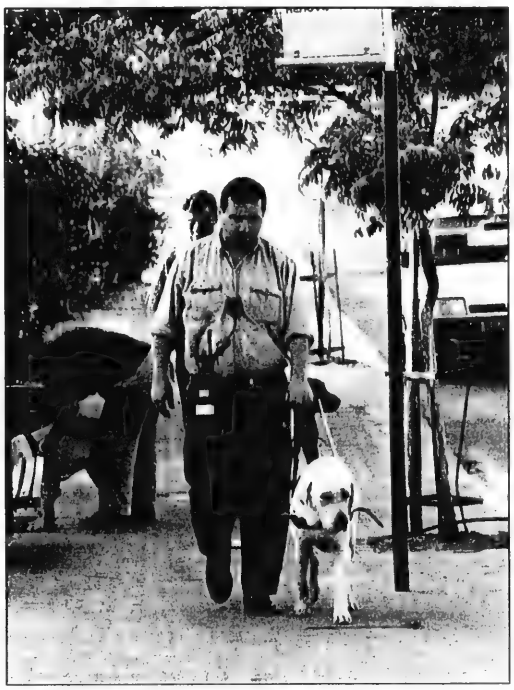
The Lipa Green Building 4th Floor Conference Centre, 4600 Bathurst Street
For future seminar dates and to reserve your spot now call Marc Bookbinder at (416) 631-5703

UJA Federation dollars assist the blind

A decade ago, when Michael Knafo needed a seeing-eye guide dog to help him navigate the busy streets of Tel Aviv, he was forced to go to the United States because there were no guide dog training schools in Israel. This has changed since the UJA Federation-funded Jewish Agency, through its budget for innovative programs, entered the picture.



Michael Knafo and his "seeing eyes" in Rehovot.

This past October, when Knafo, a 38-year-old chess teacher who has been blind for 20 years, needed a new guide dog, he boarded a bus to Beit Oved, a 20-minute ride from Tel Aviv. There, he became acquainted with Bradley, a golden Labrador Retriever, at the Israel Guide Dog Centre for the Blind.

Established five years ago by Noach Braun, a former kibbutznik with a passion for animals, the centre is one of only two guide dog training institutions in Israel. Funded in part by the Jewish Agency, the centre trains specially selected dogs to "see" for their blind owners.

The need for guide dogs, according to Braun, far outstrips supply. "There are at least 15,000 blind Israelis (some are legally blind and have some sight), but only 150 are assisted by guide dogs," he says.

One reason is cost. In order to provide blind individuals with guide dogs at no charge, the centre must absorb all breeding and training expenses in addition to the cost of a one month on-site course for blind owners and their dogs. The total: $10,000 to $15,000.

Training a guide dog is not only expensive, it's time consuming, Braun notes. The planning begins even before a puppy's birth, since guide dogs - typically Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers and German Shepherds - tend to be bred for this task. Once born, the puppy spends the first year of its life with a foster family. When it reaches its first birthday, the dog is sent to the centre for six months of intensive training. Once the dog has completed the course, its prospective owner comes to the centre for a three-week "getting acquainted" workshop followed by a supervised week back home with the guide dog.

With 20 people on the waiting list at any one time, those who actually receive dogs consider themselves blessed.

"Getting my first dog changed my life completely," says Michael Knafo. "With a cane, I had to work much harder. It's very comforting to have a guide dog, because he is the active partner, enabling me to be more relaxed."

With a dog, Knafo adds, "people stop and inquire and it starts a conversation going. It's a real ice-breaker."

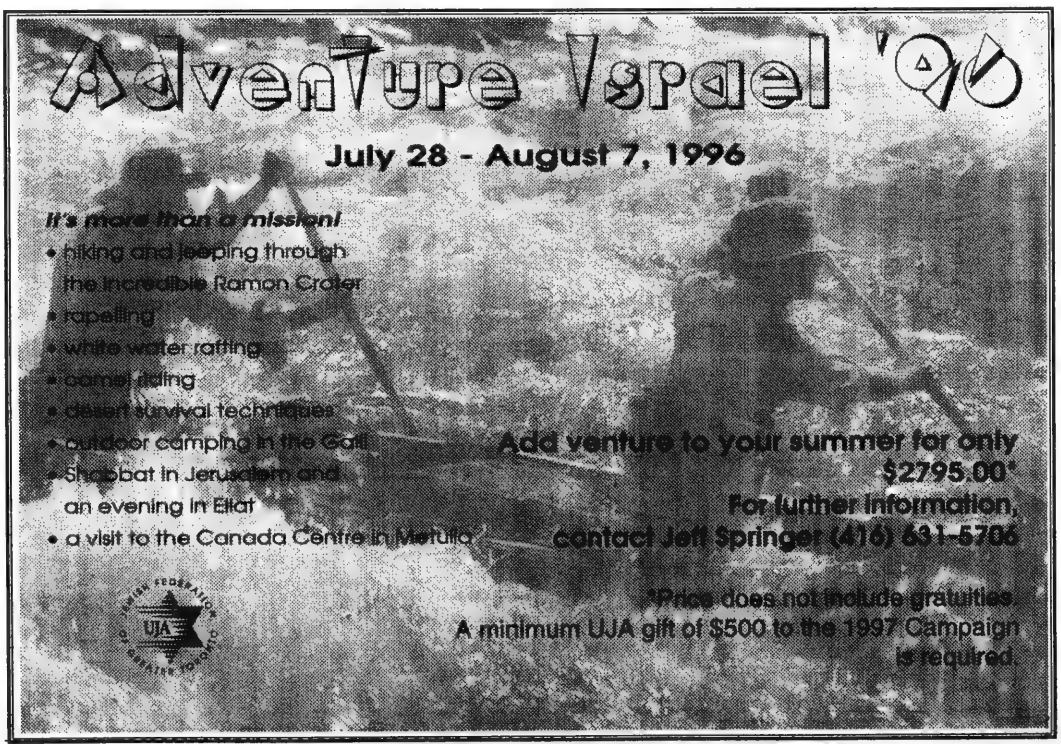
Documentary breaks down Jewish-Francophones barriers

Filmmaker Gary Beitel believes his award winning documentary, *Bonjour! Shalom!* has eased tensions between Hassidim and French Canadians in the the Montreal suburb of Outremont.

The film, recently screened for a UJA Federation Young Adult (YAD) event, focuses on a unique situation in which the fast growing Hassidic community lives among a predominately Francophone population. The rising tensions between the two communities prompted Beitel, who grew up in Outremont, to produce the movie. "When controversy arose over the Hassidic community's decision to build a new synagogue," he said, "I knew that things were getting out of hand. Charges of racism and anti-semitism came into play and this was becoming detrimental to our community."

It became apparent to Beitel that ignorance about each other and misunderstandings were at the root of the problem. "I think the film allowed the French Canadians to gain insight into the Hassidic world," he noted, "and realize that their lack of interaction... was not a result of racist attitudes or a sign of rejection, but a way to maintain and preserve their distinct lifestyle."

After the film was viewed by the French community, Beitel saw substantial improvement in the attitudes of Outremont residents and increased dialogue between the two communities. "To see the communities shed most of their intolerant attitudes towards one another and improve their neighborhood relations has been extremely rewarding for me."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In doubt? Please consult

Ever plan a meeting for 200 with only a dozen showing up? It's a devastating experience, but it can be avoided by using the Community Calendar.

UJA Federation's Community Calendar is designed to prevent event conflicts so that community members can experience the breadth of available activities.

Before planning your next speaker, social evening or fun run, call Jewish Information Service (416) 635-5600 to check and book the date. The Community Calendar, published in the *Canadian Jewish News* and on the UJA Federation Web site (http://www.feduja.org) will then include your function.

When in doubt, please consult.

More home day care coming

Project Sarah, an innovative program for private in-home Jewish day care is close at hand.

Funded by a UJA Federation Jewish continuity grant, *Project Sarah* will train members of the Jewish community to provide quality day care in a Jewish home environment for five or fewer children. "I want parents to feel comfortable about where they're leaving their children," stressed project Coordinator Cheri Szereszewski.

The 78 hour training course, which includes business and child care education and field work at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, runs from June 4 to the end of July.

There's a $100 fee to enter the course and all applicants will be checked for criminal records, at their expense, as required by the Ontario Day Nurseries Act. A current medical and results of a recent tuberculosis test are also essential.

At a recent orientation session, participant Vera Reznik, 55, said she was enthusiastic about getting involved. "I want to learn how to run my own day care business," she explained. In addition to teaching high school physical education in Israel, Reznik has worked in a nursery and as a child care assistant.

Project Sarah is jointly operated by Jewish Family and Child Service, the Bathurst Jewish Centre and Jewish Vocational Services.

For more information, call (416) 636-1880 ext. 282.

A Centre Camp day at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. The BJC is a partner with Jewish Family & Child Service and Jewish Vocational Services in Project Sarah.

Jewish Feeling + Financial Commitment

GOLDEN GIVER

The Golden Givers program honours contributors to UJA for 25 years or more. If you are not already a member of the Golden Givers Program, we want to recognize your continuous commitment to our community, Israel and world Jewry.

Please call Marc Bookbinder at (416) 631-5703.

Community Matters, *a supplement of the* Canadian Jewish News, *is sponsored and produced by UJA / Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. 4600 Bathurst St., North York, Ont. M2R 3V2 (416) 635-2883 http://www.feduja.org*

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UJA Women's Campaign
Jewish Women's Federation
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presents

IN SEARCH OF OUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

What's Changing For Jewish Women?

Keynote speaker:
DR. RELA MINTZ GEFFEN
Professor of Sociology of North American Jewry, Gratz College

Dr. Geffen will explore challenging questions that Jewish women face today pertaining to Jewish law, ritual, worship and the changing role of women.

Special guests include:
Catherine Bianco • Shayna Kravetz • Elaine Todres

Tuesday, April 30, 1996
Lipa Green Building Conference Centre
4600 Bathurst Street
7:30 p.m.

Please register early as seating is limited
For more information or to RSVP, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 135

Cover: $8.00 Students: $5.00

From coast to coast

B.C. revises its Human Rights Act

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VICTORIA — Changes to the British Columbia Human Rights Act, passed April 15 by order-in-council, call for two separate administrative entities to administer the province's human rights legislation: the Human Rights Commission and the Human Rights Tribunal.

The commission will initiate and intervene in complaints "where appropriate," and take measures to address systemic discrimination; it will conduct research in relation to human rights issues and educate and inform the public with respect to its rights.

The tribunal will be an adjudicative body that holds hearings and makes final determinations on complaints. It has the authority to speed up the decisions — a long-standing complaint that the time lapse between making complaints and getting a decision often runs into a couple of years.

In adopting these measures, British Columbia is falling in line with the Canadian Human Rights Act and the legislation of several provinces. But British Columbia is the only jurisdiction in Canada in which the same agency, the B.C. Human Rights Council, both investigate complaints and holds hearings. British Columbia has also been the only province lacking the ability to initiate or intervene in a complaint to represent public interest.

Under the new system, the Human Rights Council becomes the B.C. Human Rights Commission. The name of the Human Rights Act will be changed to the Human Rights Code "to reflect its comprehensive nature."

Legislation covering these changes was passed last July, acting on a report from Prof. Bill Black of the University of British Columbia, who reviewed the entire B.C. human rights system and brought in his report in December 1994. Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region, had considerable input into Black's report.

The positions of chief commissioner of the commission and chair of the tribunal will be filled by nationwide competition, says Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh.

Dr. Michael Elterman, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region, said his organization is pleased that the Human Rights Act changes have been proclaimed into law.

"We applaud the B.C. government for passing this long overdue legislation," he said. "Together with other community organizations, Congress strongly advocated the need to review B.C.'s Human Rights Act by examining content and administration through an open and public process. The region commended the review when it was undertaken by Prof. Bill Black. We believe the government now takes a much needed step to set limits to expedite the processing and hearing of complaints ... The new structure has the potential to enhance efficiency and administrative fairness in the protection and enforcement of human rights in the province."

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Thanks for the memories

SUDBURY, Ont. — A Shabbat weekend visit to Sudbury at the invitation of the city's Shaar Hashamayim Congregation rekindled for Toronto Rabbi Joseph Kelman memories of his first synagogue post in Sherbrooke, Que., 40 years ago.

"I felt a great affinity for the synagogue and the community in Sudbury," said Rabbi Kelman. "I recalled the spirit of Agudath Achim Synagogue and the 100 or so Jewish families living in the Quebec city, and found a similar dedication and vitality in the Sudbury community."

The visit of Rabbi Kelman, currently on a sabbatical from Beth Emeth-Bais Yehuda Synagogue in Toronto, was arranged and organized by Gary Levine, senior educational consultant of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and Judi Cartman, a Congress regional officer and vice-president of the congregation.

There is no rabbi currently serving the 25 families in her community, Cartman said.

In Sudbury, Rabbi Kelman conducted services, discussed the observance of Passover, spoke to the community about its concerns, met with members of the city's Interfaith Council at the University of Sudbury's Theological Centre and was interviewed by the *Sudbury Star* newspaper. It was his first visit to the city.

During conversations with members of the community, he heard their concerns about continuity because of their small numbers, said Rabbi Kelman, who has served for 37 years at Beth Emeth-Bais Yehuda. He expressed admiration "for the perseverance and commitment of the community [in attempting] to retain both its identity and kashruth."

Cartman reported that the congregation had received very positive feedback on the visit of Rabbi Kelman and his wife Ruth. She said Congress has arranged for a Shabbat visit in May by Martin Lockshin, a professor of religion at York University.

Holy Blossom Temple
invites the community to hear

Shira Herzog
Israel in Transition

Thursday, May 2, at 8 p.m.
The External Reality: Changing Relations with Israel's Neighbours

Tuesday, May 14, at 8 p.m.
The Election 1996: The Changing Political Reality

Thursday, May 30, at 8 p.m.
The Internal Reality: A Changing Israeli Society

Shira Herzog is a frequent speaker and writer on Middle East affairs, including Israeli politics and society, Israel-Diaspora relations and the Arab-Israel conflict.

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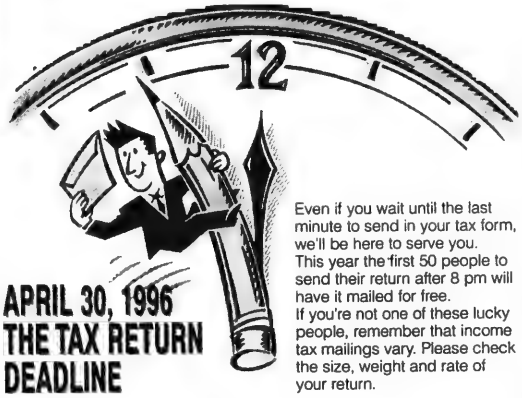

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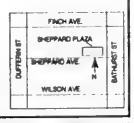

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בס"ד

An Evening With Eitz Chaim

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Rabbi Paysach Krohn

*(author of **The Maggid Speaks** and other works)*

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Chinuch, Children and Communication - A Way to "C" Things

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Rabbi Paysach Krohn

Monday, May 6, 1996
8:00 p.m.

Admission Free
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Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto
613 Clark Avenue West

From coast to coast

MNA seeks apology

By DAVID LAZARUS
CJN Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Premier Lucien Bouchard took a "step in the right direction" when, in commenting last week for the first time on the recent furor over Passover food being pulled from shelves, he called it an "unfortunate incident," D'Arcy McGee MNA Lawrence Bergman said.

However, Bergman continues to believe that since the actions took place just before Passover, the Jewish community was "deliberately targeted" by the Office de la Langue Francaise (OLF).

"What I do want is an apology," Bergman told *The CJN*.

"I'm not critical of the meeting that took place [between the Jewish community and the OLF].

"But I'm also not interested in sitting down with them and working things out, until there's an exemption made for Passover foods. Period.

"It's a question of human rights and dignity. And those are not negotiable," he said.

During question period in the National Assembly last week, Bergman and Liberal MNA Pierre Paradis peppered the government with a series of questions about the OLF's actions, with Bergman underscoring the "considerable distress" they caused to members of the Jewish community.

Bouchard and Louise Beaudoin, the minister responsible for the French Langage Charter, expressed optimism that a solution would be found to exempt the Jewish community in the future.

"It's necessary to consider this in the context of existing law," Bouchard told the Assembly.

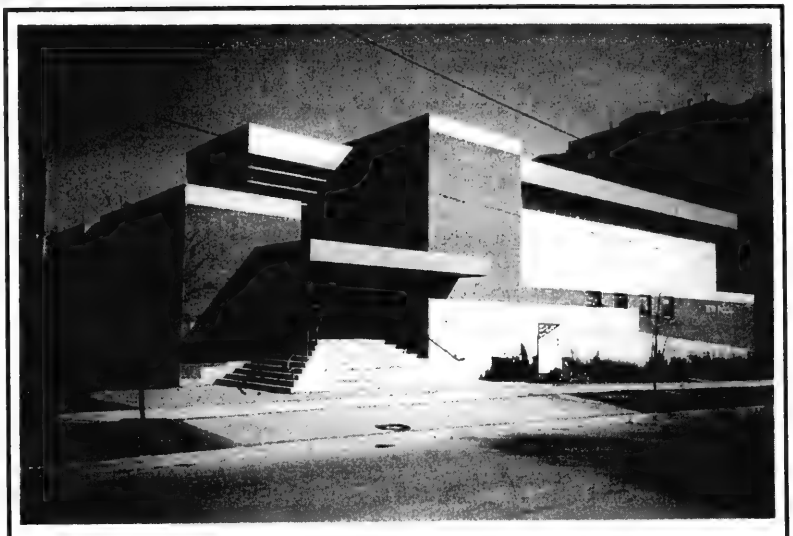
"We think that there is, under present arrangements, the mechanism to bring about the required exemptions.

"There are discussions that are already underway," he said, "and I will see for myself if they are succeeding quickly."

Earlier, Bouchard reacted angrily at a suggestion by Bergman that the OLF's "rigid and preemptory" actions caused Quebec Jews to feel "unwelcome in Quebec society."

Bouchard called such a characterization "completely unacceptable."

However, the premier called the affair, "an unfortunate incident, one which we regret," and attributed it to those "at the bureaucratic level."



DESIGN AWARD

Beth Radom Synagogue in North York recently won a Design Award from the North York planning department. The shul received an honorable mention for its architectural design. Architect was Stone Kohn McQuire Vogt.

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Rabbi Israel Meir Lau

Chief Rabbi of Israel

"Jerusalem: Israel's Eternal Capital"

*Born in Poland, **Rabbi Lau** is a child survivor of the Holocaust. Liberated in 1945, he made his way to Israel where he studied at some of the most prestigious yeshivot, becoming a noted scholar on medical ethics. Rabbi Lau served as Chief Rabbi of Netanya, and later was Chief Rabbi and head of the Religious Court of Tel Aviv-Jaffa. He was elected to his present position as Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi in 1993.*

Tuesday, April 30, 1996
8:00 p.m.

Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation
613 Clark Ave. West, Thornhill

Admission Free

For more information call:
Mizrachi (416) 789-7576
CJC, Ontario Region (416) 635-2883 ext. 147

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן

מולדת הנאמנים:

אני מסיים סידרת הרצאות בבית החולים של לונדון אונטריו. חבר טוב מסיע אותי במכוניתו לשדה התעופה הקטן של העיר האוניברסיטאית. בדרך הוא מראה לי בגאווה מבנה גדול חסר דמיון ואומר לי שֶמֶפה יוצאת תורה לכל אונטריו ולחלקים אחרים של קנדה. מדוע? כי כאן הופכות מליוני תרנגולות כל שנה לצ'יקן נאנטס המפורסמים. אלה הן אותן תתיכות בשר עוף לבן שעטופות בבצק שומני, שבילדותינו קראו להם שניצל -עוף. עכשיו הן אחראיות לגידולם של מליוני ילדים בכל העולם. אם גם הילדים שלכם הם חלק מן הכנופיה הזו, כדאי לכם לזכור שבשר הלבן הזה אין כמעט ברזל. אם הילדים שלכם אוכלים בעיקר ג'אנק (צ'יפסים ודומיהם) ומעט ירקות טריים, סביר להניח שהם יהיו אנמיים ויסבלו מחוסר דם. כדי להיות בצד הבטוח - לא יזיק אם תתנו להם כל יום טבליה אחת של ויטאמינים שמכילה גם ברזל.

מחשבות קשות:

איך מונעים מנער פאלסטיני שטוף מוח מלהתאבד בהתפוצצות, כשהוא לוקח איתו כמה שיותר ישראלים? על פי ראיונות עם נערים שנתפסו טרם התאבדות, מסתבר שהרקע לפעילותם אינו בהכרח דתי-פאנאטי. ההיפך: מבטיחים להם גן עדן מלא נשים יפות, סעודות מזילות ריר ואורגיות, ונותנים בידם 7,000 דולאר שהוא סכום אגדי במושגים שלהם. כלומר: מדובר פה בסחטנות מאוד חומרנית וגופנית! ככל שזה נשמע מנעיל, דווקא התגלית הזו נוטעת בי תקווה: אם הרקע הוא כל כך חומרני, ניתן גם להשתמש בו כדי להתחיל למנוע את המעשים הנוראיים האלה. הינה דוגמאות: אם ידעו מתאבדים פוטנציאלים שבתי הוריהם יפוצצו, ושבעקבות מעשיהם יגורשו משפחותיהם - סביר להניח שהמות החומרני שלהם יעשה חושבים. אם גם זה לא יעזור (אם כי יש לי הרגשה שזה יעזור) צריך לשקול, לדעתי, צעדים יותר קיצוניים שקשה לי אפילו להעלות על הנייר: בכל מדינה ערבית ש"מכבדת את עצמה" כל מעשה התאבדות כזה היה זוכה להימחקות משפחתו של המתנקש מעל פני האדמה. זוהי שיטה ערבית שנשמעת נורא בדמוקרטיה הישראלית, אבל היא עובדת. יש לי הרגשה ששתיים שלוש תגובות כאלה יפסיקו כליל את מעשי ההתאבדות. אם אכן חלק מהרקע של ההתאבדויות הוא חומרני - סימן שיש לערים האלה מה להפסיד. חשוב שהם יראו שָאכן יש להם מה להפסיד. אין מה לעשות, הדמוקרטיה היחידה במזרח התיכון איננה יכולה להיאבק על קיומה נגד המפלצות האלה בדרכים דמוקרטיות.

איתן הבר:

איתן הבר היה יד ימינו של יצחק רבין בשני העשורים האחרונים ושירת כראש לישכתו. הוא עמד למראשותיו של רבין כשנפטר והוציא מכיסו את הפתק עם "שיר לשלום" מגואל בדם. הבר הוא עיתונאי בכיר ב"ידיעות אחרונות" ומחברם של מספר ספרים חשובים על מצבה של ישראל. כל העולם מחכה עכשיו לספר שיכתוב הבר על רבין. איתן הבר יהיה אורח אגודת הידידות של בית"ח "תל-השומר" בטורונטו, לארוחת ערב חגיגית ביום ה' 27 ביוני. זה בעוד חודשיים, אז רישמו ביומן. זו תהיה הזדמנות נדירה לכל הישראלים בטורונטו לשמוע ממקור הכי ראשון מה קרה, ומה יהיה.

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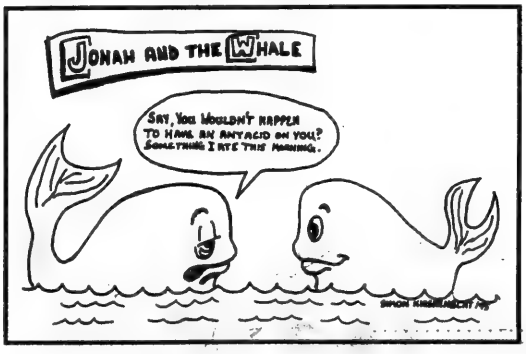

From coast to coast

JNF developing 'Rabin Park' near Jerusalem

By MAURICE LUCOW
CJN Western Correspondent

VANCOUVER — In 1948, during Israel's War of Independence, Israeli troops broke through a powerful Arab defence line to relieve the siege of Jerusalem a few days before Passover; David Ben-Gurion celebrated the first seder there.

More than 100,000 Jews had been trapped in Jerusalem with no food or water, as troops slugged it out along what was known as the "Burma Road," Shaar Hagai, to capture the capital. One of the heroes of the breakthrough was a 26-year-old brigade commander of the Palmach, Yitzhak Rabin.

That victory, said Moshe Rivlin, world chair of the Jewish National Fund (JNF), marked a turning point and is one of the major chapters of Israel's history.

Now the road up to Jerusalem and the area surrounding it are being developed as Rabin Park, a memorial to the slain prime minister.

Rivlin, who was in Vancouver to speak at the JNF Pacific region annual Negev Dinner, said in an interview with *The CJN* and in his speech that trees burned during last July's devastating forest fire are being replanted and new varieties will be introduced. There will also be recreational space and playgrounds, and signs and pictures will tell the story of that phase of Israel's history. The rusty armored tanks which line the road will be retained.

More than 400 attended this year's Negev Dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel, held to promote support of the Keren Kayemeth LeYisrael (KKL) Park, which world Jewry, including Canada, will present to Jerusalem as a gift for Jerusalem 3000.

Rivlin said that although the JNF is mainly associated with planting trees, the organization "has everything to do with land development, not only by preparing the land for farming and housing but providing also the necessary water supply."

A project nearing completion is a series of canals and the Hula dam, near the Syrian border. The dam will catch the water from the canals to create a new lake, not far from Lake Kinneret. The new lake, besides being a source of water for settlers, will be stocked with fish and surrounded by playgrounds. He predicted it will become a great tourist attraction.

In another program started 2½ years ago, the JNF continues to "push back the desert in the Negev" and farms are producing citrus fruits, flowers, vegetables and other such products which they market through their cooperative, Agrexco, to Europe and the United States.

The necessary water supplies are being constructed and soon all sections of the newly-developed Negev will get its proper share of water, Rivlin said.

A seventh generation Israeli, Rivlin expressed pride in the rapid strides the country is making in population growth, agriculture and industry. He marvelled at the fact that the population comprises 82 cultures and backgrounds, including some "who jumped from the fourth century to the 20th century."

This dinner was short on speeches and long on entertainment, provided by Dudu Fisher, who provided a two-hour performance of cantorial, operatic and pop music.

Before dinner, Norman Gold and Gary Averbach, past presidents of the region, were presented with medals by the national JNF president, Sid Halpern of Winnipeg, for their dedication to the organization. Gold was awarded the President's Medal and Averbach received the Bernard M. Bloomfield Medal.

Ruth Freeman, regional chair, expressed pleasure that JNF support continues to be strong. She formally welcomed the new *shaliach*, Brig.-Gen. Yitzchak Fuchs.

Mayor Philip Owen of Vancouver brought greetings from the city, as well as from suburban municipalities whose mayors were in the audience.

Mel Kotler said the Hamotzi; Mel Sprackman was MC for the evening.

Gary Averbach (left) and Norman Gold, past presidents of the JNF Pacific region were presented with medals at the recent Negev Dinner in Vancouver.

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The government is spending $1 million an hour more than it is taking in. No family, business or government can survive spending like that. Spending $70 to administer each payment of $2.75 a day to jurors and sending OPP cars to Thunder Bay for basic repairs are the kinds of inefficiencies we must stop so we can direct your tax dollars into priority areas. And in priority areas such as health care, we're looking for efficiencies as well – taking the financial savings from expensive institutions to reinvest into critical areas such as long-term care community services, kidney dialysis, immunization, and cardiac services.

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Ontario

From coast to coast

Bonds to honor Berkal as part of Jerusalem 3000

By MYRON LOVE
CJN Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — In celebration of Jerusalem's 3,000th anniversary, the State of Israel Bonds is honoring Rabbi Louis Berkal with a gala evening.

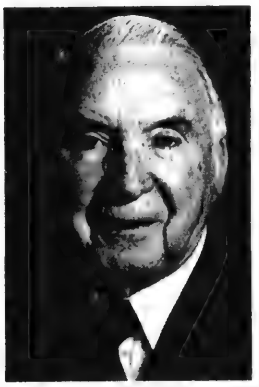
The popular longtime rabbi will be presented with the Fourth Millennium Award, as represented by a sculpture crafted by American artist Melanie Kline, created especially for the Israel Bonds Jerusalem 3000 campaign.

Up to 600 guests are expected to attend the May 2 tribute at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. Rabbi Berkal, 82, has served as assistant rabbi and cantor at the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, Winnipeg's largest congregation, since 1954. He began his rabbinic and cantorial career at the Beth Israel Synagogue in Grand Forks, N.D., in 1939.

Rabbi Berkal began his yeshivah studies in his native Lithuania and came to Winnipeg in 1927 where he continued his studies with Rabbi Israel Kahanovitch, then the chief rabbi of Winnipeg.

Rabbi Berkal was also a tenor soloist in the Talmud Torah choir which was lead by Cantor Benjamin Brownstone.

Noted for his calm and gentle manner, Rabbi Berkal has officiated at hundreds of bar and bat mitzvahs and weddings over the years and has spent a large amount of time visiting the sick.



Rabbi Louis Berkal

The MC for the evening will be native son Allan Blye, who honed his own cantorial skills working with Rabbi Berkal at the Shaarey Zedek in days gone by. Based in Los Angeles, Blye was one of the founders of the Synagogue for the Performing Arts and served as its cantor for 14 years.

The evening's guest speaker will be Maj.-Gen. (Ret.) Nathan Sharony, presently the president and CEO of the State of Israel Bonds organization. Entertainment will be provided by Shalom Sherman, "the Jewish Cowboy of Encino," an Israeli-born singer, accordion player and comic, who sings classic western songs in Yiddish.

Windsor JNF Negev Dinner to honor Frances Parnes

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

WINDSOR — The Windsor Jewish community will pay tribute to former Torontonian Frances Parnes at its annual Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Dinner on June 11, at the Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Ave.

Born in Toronto to Isadore and Gertrude Gerstein, Parnes is a graduate of Harbord Collegiate and the Farband Jewish schools.

She moved to Windsor in 1951, following her marriage to Louis Parnes, and in 1970, she graduated from the Early Childhood Education (ECE) program at St. Clair College.

Parnes began her teaching career at the Louis and Rachel Kaplan Religious Nursery School, where she has introduced some 500 youngsters to formal Jewish education. She is also on staff at St. Clair College as a field supervisor, placing ECE students in nursery schools for their practice teaching. In addition, she received an award of merit from the Jewish Community Council (JCC) for her work as a volunteer instructor of Jewish children at Glenarda School.

Frances Parnes

Other volunteer activities have included work with Russian Jewish immigrants under a JCC outreach program, membership in Pioneer Women and Hadassah-WIZO, membership in Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue where she is a life member of the sisterhood, and work with the Windsor JNF.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the JNF Negev Tribute Dinner in Windsor. The president of the Windsor JNF is Jerry Goldberg.

Keynote speaker will be Edward Greenspan, one of Canada's top criminal lawyers.

Proceeds from the dinner will go to the Gan Yaldei Yisrael, the garden of the children of Israel, in the Jerusalem Peace Forest.

For more information, call 519-969-8733 or Fax 519-250-0357.

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Yom Ha'atzmaut 48

Religious women serve Israel as volunteers

By GAIL LICHTMAN
World Zionist Press Service

They do not wear military uniforms or line up for the morning roll call, but 5,000 young religious women are serving their country through Israel's voluntary Sherut Leumi (National Service) program.

Established in 1972 by a small group of young women and with the blessing of then chief rabbi, the late Rabbi Shlomo Goren, Sherut Leumi enables observant women age 18 to 20 who are exempt from regular military service to contribute to Israeli society while preserving their religious lifestyle.

Mostly graduates of national religious stream schools, they work in institutions for the disabled, hospitals and schools; for the Magen David Adom; and with the elderly, new immigrants and youth.

"They bring tremendous light into the lives of those they help," says Shimon Nechama, director of the Boarding School Education and Special Function Division in the Ministry of Education. "These young women do three or four jobs and work all hours, with smiles on their faces."

They sign on for a period of one or two years with one of eight service organizations, which train and place the Sherut Leumi volunteers and receive a fee, set by an international committee, for each volunteer placed.

Sherut Leumi volunteer Shacharit Or, 19, and 12-year-old J., who suffers from cerebral palsy and is unable to speak, observe a stick insect during an "animal happening" at a special educational facility in Jerusalem. [WZPS photo by Paul Samson]

The volunteers must commit to work at least 40 hours a week for at least one year in the framework of their choosing. Those who do not live at home are provided with living quarters. All receive a modest allowance per month for living expenses and travel, although this is much less than the amount given to female soldiers.

They are not entitled to free bus travel, as are female soldiers, a matter presently before the Knesset for discussion. Since 1994, Sherut Leumi volunteers have been recognized by the Knesset as eligible for benefits such as study and housing grants given to demobilized soldiers.

The majority of Sherut Leumi volunteers serve in the education system. Some 2,400 are employed directly by the Ministry of Education while an additional 500 are employed through the schools themselves or through local municipalities.

"The Ministry of Education, as the largest employer of Sherut Leumi volunteers, is a focal point for service," says Nechama. "We employ volunteers in 1,000 educational facilities, mainly in special education and religious schools, but also in community centres and boarding schools, and in work with new immigrant children. Their contribution to the educational system is immeasurable."

Jerusalem's Amit Lieberman Mishpachton, a boarding school for boys aged 6 to 14 from distressed families, employs Sherut Leumi volunteers in the difficult, emotionally-draining work of living and working with boys with severe behavioral and emotional problems.

"We are not a regular boarding school," says director Beni Fischer. "We are organized along family lines. Ten to 12 boys live with a married couple who serve as their parents. Every family gets two Sherut Leumi volunteers to live with them, one of whom serves as coordinator.

"We see these young women as part of the team," Fischer adds. "They help the families in all matters and their work is as important as that of the parents. It would be very hard to manage without them."

Shacharit Or, 19, from Jerusalem and Galit Cohen, 19, from Beersheva are serving in Jerusalem's Ilanot School, a special educational facility for 50 children aged 6 to 20 with serious neuromuscular disabilities.

"I work in the classroom where I help organize things," says Or. "I also teach math on an individual basis. We have four children in the class, plus the teacher, an aide and me. Each child is a story in his or herself. They need a lot of attention and help."

Or has become very close with 12-year-old J. Confined in a wheelchair and unable to speak, J. has sparkling blue eyes and a mile-wide smile.

"J. is fantastic. He is very intellilgent and communicates using a board with symbols and letters. He always has something to say. I sit next to him during lessons so he can ask questions. But he is also very dependent and I have to feed him and give him to drink."

Cohen, who just started in the classroom, worked previously in Ilanot's afternoon centre with 13 children and teenagers with disabilities, who have been mainstreamed into regular schools.

"These kids come after school for physical therapy, occupational therapy and help with their studies. I formed very close friendship with two girls. Even though I've finished working there, I continue to keep in touch with them."

"Our six Sherut Leumi volunteers assist wherever help is needed," says Ilanot principal Pua Flaks. "Without them, Ilanot would not be able to function as it does. They do holy work."

Nechama is hopeful that in the near future Sherut Leumi volunteers will finally begin to receive the recognition they deserve. At a national conference held recently in Jerusalem honoring more than 2,000 volunteers, Minister of Education Amnon Rubinstein thanked them for their contribution to the educational system while Israel President Ezer Weizman praised them noting, "Sherut Leumi unites the people of Israel."

Conservative Jews in Canada join Jews everywhere in celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's 48th year of statehood celebrated this year on April 24, 1996.

We reaffirm our support of, and confidence in, Israel's efforts for peace.

We also encourage everyone to participate in joyous celebration of the reunification of Jerusalem on Yom Yerushalayim 28 Iyar 5756, May 17, 1996.

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Yom Ha'atzmaut 48

Survivor owes life to miraculous events in Soviet camps

[Cont'd. from page 13]

be heard of again. We never heard of any executions; they simply disappeared. In the barracks, there were often rumors that the person was sent to another camp.

By nature, I was not a strong man. Furthermore, in my trade as a tailor, I had not developed any physical strength. My weight was always in the range of 50 to 55 kilograms and I always had the feeling that I would be next — any day or week, I would become the next candidate to disappear.

Transferred to mass production groups

One day they called us together because our production in the woodcutters' brigade was low. One of the leaders gave a patriotic speech, saying that our country, the Fatherland, needed wood and that we were like saboteurs because our productivity was only 20 or 30 percent of the norm. Suddenly, I pushed myself to the front of the crowd — there were about 300 to 400 people close to the platform — and screamed with all my power, in Russian:

"*Deite nam bruky sheetch, we budiem Stachanutsky*" — "Give us pants to make and we will be 'Stachanowze.' "

He looked at me angrily. Who was this person who did not agree with the leader? Speaking out like this was practically unheard of. I expected that they would ask my name and would "take care of" me, but nothing happened — or so it seemed.

I suspect, however, that the incident was reported to a higher authority who came to a different conclusion. A few days after my desperate outburst, an officer came around looking for tailors and shoemakers. Those who said they were one or the other were registered, but otherwise nothing changed.

One evening, however, some officials came to the barracks with lists of names. Those whose names were read were ordered to get their belongings and be ready to move to a special barracks. Of course, those of us on the list were overjoyed. Finally, we would be leaving the woods to do something we knew how to do ... to work in our trades.

The next day we boarded trucks and were taken from the camp. Where we were going, nobody told us. The trucks stopped near a big lake and loaded us into wooden barges, open boats that were usually used for freight. After crossing the lake, we were again taken on trucks. Finally, we arrived in a city near Finland at a camp set up with barracks for sleeping as well as barracks with sewing machines and tools for shoemakers.

We were all transferred to mass production groups. We made warm "ski jacket"-type coats called *fufikes* in Russian. We also made underwear, pants and other garments. The camp became famous for the quality and quantity of its production and we had huge orders. They told the foremen of a number of the groups that we had standing orders that would last us for years. As a result, we lived under improved conditions.

This situation lasted until the summer of 1941, when Nazi Germany started the war with Russia and advanced deep into the Soviet Union, encircling Leningrad, entering the Balkan countries and nearing Finland.

The Russians started evacuating the camps from that region and again we were loaded onto trucks and barges and placed in sealed cattle cars. Finally, after two months of travel, we arrived in the South Urals, at a place called Solikamsk (literally, "salt community").

When we arrived in September, we were officially informed that Polish citizens would be released from the camp. To my good fortune, I was among the first groups to be released. We received a paper document that said: "By the order of the Central Committee of the Soviet Union, the person ... (name filled in) was recognized as a citizen of the Polish Republic and that he (or she) was released and had the right to reside in the east and southeast of the Soviet Union except for cities in three categories ... (here it listed them).

I believe that because of my "scream of desperation," I may have saved, or at least eased, the lives of 400 to 500 Jews, including my own, who were transferred to the tailor and shoemaker factories from the hard labor camps. My memories give me this small sense of satisfaction.

Nathan Shumski is a survivor who lives in Toronto.

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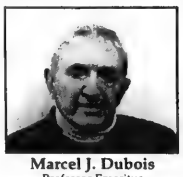
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The Hebrew University family wishes the people of Israel and its many friends around the world a happy Independence Day, and expresses its hope for peace and prosperity in the Land of Israel.

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Yom Ha'atzmaut 48

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Establishment of State of Israel ended helplessness of the Jews

Ezer Weizman

President Ezer Weizman's Independence Day Message to Communities Abroad

On the eve of the Sabbath, the 5th of Iyar, 5708, May 14, 1948, the State of Israel was declared and her Scroll of Independence was signed. In it, among other things, is stated: "The Holocaust which recently devastated the Jewish people and during which millions of Jews in Europe were massacred, once again clearly proved the necessity for independence and a homeland for the Jewish people by the establishment of its own country in Israel whose gates will be open to every Jew."

What followed is known. The idea of "helplessness" was wiped out forever from the thousand years of history of the Jewish people. Never again!

The State of Israel, which is celebrating its 48th anniversary, is a strong country with many wonderful achievements in almost all fields. Few countries in the world have accomplished so much in so short a period. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) are the best in the world. They and our other security agencies give the state its strength, a major factor in convincing the wiser amongst our neighbors to cease their enmity and accept the road to peace.

But the road to true peace with all our enemies is still long and full of dangers. There are still extremist elements, eaten by deep-rooted hatred, who wish to kill Jews only by virtue of their being such. They choose not to remember the heavy price they paid 48 years ago. But it appears that no lesson was learned, perhaps because fanaticism, jealousy and hatred blind the senses.

However, now, during these very days, the murderers and their supporters, are being made aware that there is a limit to patience and that suffering will be their lot too. Those who reject our offer for peace will feel the long arm of IDF. Those who proudly boasted in Beirut and caused the inhabitants of Kiryat Shmona to enter shelters are now themselves seeking shelter. Those who still maintain that Jewish blood can be shed with impunity, forget that what was, will not be again, because the Jewish nation is a free one in its own homeland, a strong nation which defends itself.

And finally, I again turn to you, our brethren, in the Diaspora with a call from a warm and loving heart and from a country whose gates are open to you: "Rise up and come to Israel and the words of the prophet Isaiah will be fulfilled in you: And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

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Yom Ha'atzmaut 48

Author's novels evoke world of the ultra-Orthodox

By SHELLEY KLEIMAN
Special to The CJN

On the face of it there seems little in Naomi Ragen's life to suggest the ultra-Orthodox world she so successfully evokes in her three best-selling novels.

Her large suburban home in Ramot, a mixed religious and secular neighborhood in Jerusalem, seems more than a cultural stone's throw away from Mea Shearim and B'nei Brak where much of her fiction is set. But if it is esoteric to some, this world of matchmaking and wig choosing, of morals patrols and seminary study, is as familiar to Ragen as toast and jam.

Ragen's novels have sold more than half a million copies, and aside from the American and English editions, her first novel, *Jephte's Daughter,* was translated into Finnish; *Sotah,* her second into Norwegian. *Sotah* has just come out in Hebrew, leaving the American-born Ragen a little nervous about the exposure here.

Mother of four and grandmother of a 2-year-old, Ragen, 47, writes from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. "Those hours are sacrosanct," she says, then laughs: "Except when a kid gets sick and you have to run to the doctor."

Ragen is a woman with a mission. Blind conformity, the kind that feeds upon what the neighbors will say, the kind that suppresses individual freedom, is this novelist's muse.

Jephte's Daughter was based on a true story of an ultra-Orthodox woman who leapt to her death with her 3-year-old daughter. Physically and mentally abused by her husband and confined to a world in which "what's nice you don't show" or talk about, she took what she saw as her only way out. Shocked by the story (it turns out they had been neighbors) Ragen gives her fictional character a second chance.

"It would have served no purpose for her to have died in *Jephte's Daughter,* explains Ragen. "I wanted to bring her back to life, to show others like her what should have happened." In her own way, Ragen wants to make the world a better place.

A portrait of oppression and letter-of-the-law rigidity, Ragen's first novel left this devoutly religious writer feeling a bit guilty.

"There are many wonderful aspects of the haredi world — their family values, the way siblings care for each other, the way children respect their elders — that didn't surface in *Jephte's Daughter,*" says Ragen.

She did not want the book to be translated into Hebrew and would not sell the film rights because she didn't want the image of a religious Jew beating his wife flashed on the screen. "I just couldn't do it."

Naomi Ragen

Ragen calls *Sotah* her *tshuvah,* or repentance, for her first novel. It is peopled with warm, supportive and kind people, but Jerusalem's ultra-Orthodox community is still not exactly paradise regained. About an ultra-Orthodox woman wrongly accused of adultery and banished from the community by a religiously ordained purge, *Sotah* is also about acceptance and forgiveness.

Ragen's third novel, *The Sacrifice of Tamar* — the story (also based on fact) of a haredi woman raped by a black man — takes place in a religious enclave in Brooklyn, where Ragen herself spent a year attending a women's teachers seminary.

Ragen likes to talk. Her speech is so fast that listening to her is like riding a New York City subway during rush hour — the words keep tumbling out, each pushing their way to exit first. She talks so intimately about her characters, it is a bit of a disappointment when they don't knock on the door to borrow some sugar or tea.

"They don't always cooperate," she says as if describing some recalcitrant children. "That's why I never know how my books will end until I get there."

Ragen's most deeply felt persona, though, is not a character, but a city, described in such intimate detail it is brought anthropomorphically alive.

"I'm so deeply in love with Jerusalem," says Ragen, echoing the sentiments of many of her characters.

"See the hills from my house?" asks Ragen. "Somewhere out there David fought Goliath. Over to the right is the tomb of Samuel the prophet."

To Ragen, Jerusalem is more than the concrete reality of cars, office buildings and hotels. "There is an otherworldliness here," she says. "What you are looking at is a palpable 2,000-year-old longing."

Born in 1949, Ragen grew up in the Rockaways, N.Y., in a racially-mixed low-income — "deadening to the imagination" — housing project. Her father died when she was five and an unredeemable $5 application fee landed her in a religious girls' school as a scholarship student. Ashamed of her financial status, she was even ashamed she didn't have a father.

"Isn't that strange?" Ragen asks, baffled by her own self-consciousness. It was in school that Ragen began her life-long love affair with Orthodox Judaism. And writing.

In 1971, Ragen and her husband moved to Israel without ever having been there: "We didn't want to be like the biblical spies."

She wrote freelance articles, suppressing, she says, an almost pathological fear of being considered a housewife who writes on the side.

By the time she decided to tackle fiction (she already had a BA and MA in English Literature), she and her husband traded in their brand of ultra-Orthodoxy for something more modern. Straddling two worlds, Ragen is as comfortable discussing D. H. Lawrence as she is explaining Jewish ritual.

Although she has read and admires Amos Oz and David Grossman — she finds the Hebrew a bit tough going despite her 25 years in the country — she admits to living in a sort of literary no-man's land.

"Israelis will never consider me truly their own," says Ragen, who writes in English, primarily for American audiences.

Ragen answers all her fan (and occasionally hate) mail and had not read reviews of her books since a *New York Times* reviewer hailed *Jephte's Daughter* as a new genre of Jewish Gothic. "As if I had made the whole thing up," fumes Ragen.

She is currently at work on her fourth novel. Taking her leave of the ultra-Orthodox world, she is approaching the Sephardi Jewish community with great awe. Three years into research, Ragen says she is only beginning to scratch the surface. Although the novel takes place in New York, Ragen feels confident her characters will end up in Jerusalem.

"It is," she says, "where all roads eventually lead."

The Board and Staff of Aish HaTorah salute Israel and her people on Yom Ha'atzmaut

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Arnold Friedman, President
Sabina Citron, Vice-President

Tourism high despite terrorism

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

JERUSALEM – Despite four terrorist bombs that killed scores of people within 10 days in Israel recently, hotels throughout the country experienced a high rate of occupancy over the Passover holidays, according to representatives of Israel's Tourism Ministry.

Ministry officials acknowledge that there were numerous cancellations after the bombings – exactly how many is not yet clear. But they also assert that since many hotels had been heavily overbooked before the explosions, the actual number of visitors to Israel did not take a serious dip. All that happened, they contend, is that the overbooking situation was wiped out.

"We found that the bombings had a very minor effect on tourism," said Arie Sommer, director of overseas offices and operations for Israel's Tourism Ministry.

In a recent interview, Sommer asserted that would-be travellers are not staying away from Israel in droves, as they did during the intifada of the late 1980s and the Gulf War of 1991. Instead, he said, they continue to set new records. Two days before Passover, Israel's main international airport, Ben-Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv, experienced one of its busiest days ever when 230 flights carrying 40,000 travellers arrived and departed. To expedite the increased passenger volume, a second terminal was opened.

"If you look at London, Paris, Tokyo or Oklahoma – all these places suffered from terrorist attacks in the past year, yet the normal traffic of tourists has not been affected," Sommer said. "Tourists see these as isolated incidents and are not discouraged from travelling. I believe this is what is happening now with Israel. Despite the recent attacks, the image of peace that potential tourists associate with Israel is still much stronger in their minds."

Worth almost $3 billion (US) annually, tourism in Israel ranks, along with the export of diamonds and hi-tech products, as one of the nation's top three industries. And it is growing at a phenomenal pace. While world tourism industry grew an average of four percent in 1995, Israel experienced a 22 percent increase – more than five times the world average – in the same period.

In 1995, Israel received a record 2.5 million tourists, more than any other country in the Middle East. Egypt, which has terrorist problems of its own, drew only 1.5 million visitors last year. Jordan, which signed an accord with Israel in 1994, saw a subsequent dramatic rise in visitors – from about 240,000 in 1994 to 900,000 in 1995.

Sommer credits the peace process for much of Israel's tourism gains. "We're in a much better situation now than we were one year ago or two years ago or five years ago or 10 years ago. Now we can see the light at the end of the tunnel, whereas a few years ago we couldn't even see the tunnel. Yes, there are a few groups that are against the peace process. But these groups are not able to change the course of history."

Once isolated, Israel now enjoys open borders with Egypt and Jordan, as well as diplomatic relations with a growing list of Arab countries, including the Persian Gulf emirates of Oman and Qatar, which Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres visited earlier this month.

"Maybe one day we can become like Europe, where we don't have any borders and people can travel freely from country to country," said Sommer. "It's true, we still have some problems with Syria and other places, but these problems will be solved one day soon."

Sommer is still amazed at the speed with which Israel and Jordan normalized relations. "I was part of the team that negotiated on tourism matters with Jordan. For me, it was like a dream. No one could believe it could happen so soon. I remember patrolling the Jordanian border as a soldier. Suddenly I was crossing to Jordan in an official car and the Jordanian soldiers were saluting us. I'll never forget it."

Like many ministry officials, Sommer asserts that the tourism industry is important not just for the dollars it brings into Israel, but because it brings prosperity to the region, and thus strengthens the peace process. "I think that tourism is really the right vehicle in pro-

[Cont'd. on page 39]

YOM HA'ATZMAUT 1949

Literally hanging over the balconies and sitting on the rooftops, the people of Tel Aviv celebrate the very first Yom Ha'atzmaut. Inset, a stylization of an arrangement of Israeli flags. [WZPS photo]

Neighbors cooperating on 'Red Sea Riviera'

[Cont'd. from page 38]

moting good relations between countries," he said.

Israel, Jordan and Egypt have already begun work on a "Red Sea Riviera" featuring hotels, cafes, various tourist attractions, and a pedestrian promenade and bicycle path running from the Egyptian resort of Taba through Eilat to the Jordanian port city of Aqaba. As well, Israel and Jordan are planning several joint tourism projects.

These include a shared airport for Eilat and Aqaba, a tourism school on the border, a Coral Reef Park for divers in the Gulf of Eilat, a nature reserve around the Dead Sea called the Lowest Point on Earth Park, and a Spice Trail Park in the Negev along the route of ancient Nabatean spice merchants.

According to Sommer, the ministry is keenly interested in promoting the entire region, not just Israel, even though tourists may spend less time in Israel as a result. "We do it intentionally and with open eyes,"he said. "We know that we'll lose some tourist-nights. But we also know that we'll be compensated by a larger number of tourists who will come to the area because of the peace process."

The tourism ministry has been continuously upgrading and improving tourist facilities around the country. It has also been developing recently-uncovered historic sites, such as Beit Shean, an ancient Roman-Byzantine village under excavation and reconstruction south of Lake Kinneret, and Beit Guvrin, an ancient village with thousands of caves about an hour south of Jerusalem. Since 40 percent of all travellers to Israel have been there before, ministry officials are keen to ensure that there is always something new for repeat visitors to see.

In recent years, Israeli tourism officials have been astonished to see growing numbers of visitors from Far Eastern countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Korea and Japan, as well as from republics of the former Soviet Union.

"The traffic from Russia to Israel is unbelievable," said Sommer. "We have 150,000 Russians coming here every year, and we don't invest a penny in marketing. It's an excellent market for us. They have a lot of money. They come, they pay cash, they love the country, and they travel all over from Eilat to the Galilee. For us, it's one of those phenomena that are difficult to explain."

According to Sommer and others in the ministry, the most skittish travellers to Israel – the ones who are first to cancel at the slightest sign of trouble – are the Jews of North America. "The Christians that come to Israel often plan their trips years in advance," he said. "For them, it's a once-in-a-lifetime vacation. They are coming in a group and it's very difficult for them to change their plans if there is instability in the region.

"On the other hand, most of the Canadian and American Jews who come here are familiar with the destination. It's not a once-in-a-lifetime vacation for them, and it isn't a problem if they postpone a visit for a few weeks or months. And since they don't plan years ahead, it's easier for them to postpone."

Roughly one-third of the 52,000 Canadians who visited Israel last year were Jewish, ministry figures show. Yet only about 20 percent of Canada's approximately 350,000 Jews have visited Israel to date. Naturally, Israel's tourism ministry would like to increase this percentage.

"Our problem is not the affiliated Jews who read the paper and go to shul, because we're able to convey our message to them," said Sommer. "The problem is the unaffiliated Jews. What we're planning to do in coming months is to target areas that are known as heavily populated with Jewish people. We'll advertise on local TV stations and in newspapers in these Jewish areas. Otherwise, it's difficult to reach these people."

As of last year, Air Canada began to offer regularly-scheduled direct flights from Canada to Israel to compete with El Al's previous monopoly on direct flights between the two countries. As well, numerous tour operators in Canada, including Sunquest and Regent, have begun to offer a variety of competitive packages to Israel and the region in the last few years. According to statistics kept by the Israel Government Tourist Office in Toronto, nearly 30 percent more Canadians visited Israel in 1995 than in 1994.

"Until a few years ago there was a kind of stagnation in the market in Canada," said Sommer. "Now things have changed. We really believe that Canada has high potential for us. We have high hopes."

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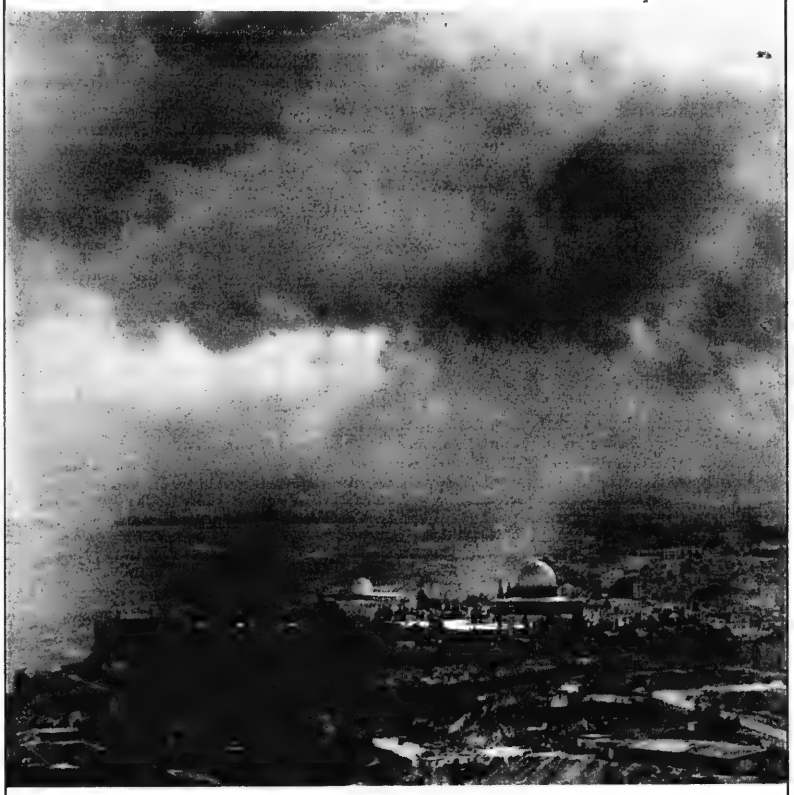
Isaiah, Chapter 2, Verse 3



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Yiddish is more than a language

By CHAYA EREZ
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Now that winter is almost over and thoughts are turning to spring and next year's course selection, please allow the confessions of this Yiddish "activist" to influence your next year's course selection.

My initial venture into Yiddish was to exchange a few words with my parents. (The *nachas* (joy) of older people hearing younger people speak their *mame loshen* (mother tongue) should not be taken lightly!) But the realization that Yiddish is more than merely a language, that it is part of the complex mosaic of Jewish heritage, came to me gradually.

From a purely sociolinguistic perspective, Yiddish is rich because it captures the experiences of a people who incorporated their religion, customs and day-to-day living into their language, often in hostile surroundings. Their language was their means of expressing joy and sorrow.

Studying Jewish history, and particularly Holocaust history, made me realize that the Nazis, in their attempt to annihilate the Jews, had also attempted to snuff out Jewish culture, including this vibrant language of Eastern Europe. The Soviets also did their best to stifle Yiddish.

I therefore feel a personal need to become acquainted with the works of those whose voices were too often silenced. I feel the responsibility to keep the language alive, to ensure the links in the chain of Jewish continuity are not broken. Learning Yiddish today is a political act against the anti-Semitism of the past.

I have added my voice to Jewish continuity by incorporating Yiddish as much as possible into my academic and daily life, by studying those aspects of Jewish history related to Yiddish, by striving to read Yiddish sources in the original, by actively joining in Yiddish speaking activities, by travelling to Israel to study Yiddish at an Israeli university.

But one doesn't need to travel so far, for right here at the University of Toronto there is an excellent Yiddish program. At present, the program consists of three levels of language and literature, as well as a course in Yiddish literature in English translation.

I have taken all four courses and have loved each of them. The teaching staff is wonderful, maintaining high standards of teaching while communicating their love of the language, its literature and its culture. It is very difficult for class members not to be affected by these teachers' enthusiasm for Yiddish and they have been an inspiration to many of their students. The classes are not large, allowing for a great deal of interaction.

You may be saying to yourself: Fine, but where will Yiddish take me academically? My answer is — wherever you want. For example, I would like to do historical research through the local Yiddish newspapers. Yiddish is also one key to serious research into Eastern European Jewish history. Or one might explore the place of Yiddish in modern-day Israel or the struggle between Yiddish and Hebrew as the national language of East European Jews. A comparison of Yiddish and its Sepharadi counterpart, Ladino, might prove interesting — and the list of possibilities goes on and on.

Through my new-found interest in Yiddish, I have met many interesting people from different backgrounds, ranging from a Japanese professor of Yiddish to the descendents of Baron Hirsh's agricultural ventures in South America to Yemenite Yiddish teachers, not to mention a number of inter-generational Torontonians, all with their own unique reasons for studying Yiddish.

I hope my enthusiasm for Yiddish has stimulated your interest and, if I haven't yet convinced you to register, that you will at least think about it.

Chaya Erez is a student at the University of Toronto.

Singles Events

Singles events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Janice at 422-2528.

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Peres, Arafat meet as Lebanon conflict continues

By NAOMI SEGAL and JON IMMANUEL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency and Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat agreed last week to continue the contacts needed to coordinate the Israeli redeployment in Hebron and easing of the closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Their meeting last Thursday at the Erez Crossing on the Gaza-Israeli border was the first since the string of suicide attacks in Israel between Feb. 25 and March 4 that claimed 59 victims.

The two-hour meeting initiated by Peres was especially signficant, because it occurred on one of the bloodiest days of Operation Grapes of Wrath, which Arafat has condemned. He said Israel should return to the 1993 ceasefire. "A month of dialogue is better than an hour of war," he said.

After the suicide bombings by Islamic militants, Israel postponed its planned redeployment from most of Hebron and suspended further implementation of the Interim Agreement with the Palestinians.

Israel demanded that the Palestinian Authority take decisive steps to capture the leaders of the militant Hamas and Islamic Jihad fundamentalist groups.

Shimon Peres

Israeli sources were quoted earlier as saying that Israel had initially set the capture of the head of the Hamas military wing, Mohammad Deif, as a precondition to resuming implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian accords. But that demand was withdrawn in light of what were described as the "serious" efforts by the Palestinian security forces to crack down on militants, the sources said.

Top Palestinian and Israeli security officials took part in the meeting, including Ami Ayalon, the head of the Shin Bet, Israel's domestic security service, and Mohammad Dahlan, his Palestinian counterpart.

They discussed issues such as Hamas, the covenant and Hebron, which must all be resolved before final status talks start. Peres said the Palestinian security officials briefed the Israelis on their crackdown on Hamas, which has included arrests of some 900 suspected activists since the bombings. According to local reports, some of the detainees have already been released.

Arafat charged that Iran is trying to unite Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the Lebanon-based Islamic militant movement Hezbollah against the peace process and the Palestinian self-rule government in particular. But he said he would not allow such activities to happen in the autonomous areas.

Arafat also confirmed that the Palestine National Council would convene Monday to discuss a number of issues, including revoking the anti-Israel clauses in its charter.

Asked whether he believed that the clauses would be dropped, Arafat said, "We are committed to what has been agreed upon and what has been signed." But, he added "I cannot guarantee the change in the covenant, and you have to respect our democracy."

Refugee shelling a key turning point

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – More than 12,000 artillery shells were fired with surgical precision into Lebanon in the eight days of Operation Grapes of Wrath. The IDF had boasted of the accuracy of its hits and showed off its sophisticated weaponry, which was supposed to avoid civilian casualties.

Commentary

But it took just five deadly rounds from a 155-mm howitzer to bring the meticulously planned operation crashing down. The shelling of innocent refugees will go down in history as the turning point in Israel's latest foray into Lebanon.

The Israeli government will most likely call off the bombardment before any sort of truce is reached and opt for negotiating a diplomatic arrangement as soon as possible. But the result will be less favorable than one reached before the world witnessed the deaths of possibly 100 civilians.

"It is a public relations disaster and it will be the end of Operation Grapes of Wrath," said Reuven Pedatzur, director of the Galilee Centre for Strategic and National Security. "The option is to stop firing and to start talking. Certainly, any inevitable agreement will be far worse than it would have been."

Prime Minister Shimon Peres is under international pressure to stop the assault against Hezbollah. But with elections less than six weeks away, he faces an equally agitated domestic front which wants Israel to come out of the operation with an agreement better than the unwritten understandings of Operation Accountability in 1993.

"He can't finish the operation without showing an achievement," said Shmuel Sandler, a senior research associate at Bar-Ilan University's BESA Centre for Strategic Studies. He added that the IDF would now be much more careful in its war on Hezbollah.

"This was a domestically oriented operation, and I am sure that what interests Peres now is the election. The longer the army is involved, the greater the chances of more blood being shed. Peres is highly concerned with Israeli casualties, so undoubtedly he will hasten his attempt to finish this war," Sandler said.

Elections notwithstanding, Pedatzur said he believes Peres is hypersensitive to world opinion and likely to grab at any agreement he could arrange.

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JIAS CANADA

NOTICE

RE: 1996 Annual Meeting

The 1996 Annual Meeting of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada will be held in Montreal, Quebec at the Cummings House, 5151 Côte St. Catherine Road, Montreal, Quebec on Sunday, June 9, 1996 at 10:00 a.m.

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Lebanon deal sought

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Lebanon teeters between war and conflict resolution.

There was no end in sight to the fighting there this week, as the United States, France, the European Union and Russia launched separate but overlapping efforts to defuse the cross-border battles pitting Israel against Hezbollah.

Mideast Analysis

Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Hezbollah and Iran were the focus of the diplomacy. The challenge is not only to pacify Lebanon, which is just emerging from a debilitating 15-year civil war, but to set the stage for a lasting accommodation between Israel and Syria over the Golan Heights.

The immediate objective of the United States — the only outside power capable of defusing the crisis — is to stop the violence with a ceasefire so that civilians in the Galilee and in southern Lebanon are no longer at risk. Fifty Israelis have been wounded and about 150 Lebanese have been killed in the crossfire so far. Washington requested an immediate truce when Israel accidentally shelled a United Nations camp near Tyre, killing 75 Lebanese refugees who had taken shelter there.

Over the longer term, the goals of the United States are far more ambitious: to end the fighting once and for all, to disarm Hezbollah and to facilitate an Israeli withdrawal from its self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon. But for the plan to work effectively, it must be acceptable, not only to Lebanon, a helpless bystander, but also to Syria, the chief arbiter in Lebanon, and Iran, Hezbollah's chief backer and a vehement opponent of the Oslo peace process.

Israel, which launched its air, land and naval blitz to silence Hezbollah's rain of Katyushas, is demanding a written rather than an oral agreement to call off its offensive. This would replace an informal understanding arranged by the United States in July 1993, following a one-week Israeli bombardment of southern Lebanon known as Operation Accountability.

This accord collapsed after Hezbollah rocketed Kiryat Shmona and other settlements in northern Israel and killed seven Israeli soldiers serving in the security buffer established by Israel in 1985. The United States now believes that Iran, hoping to ruin the Labor party's chances of winning the May 29 general election in Israel, goaded Hezbollah to violate the 1993 accord. But Syria is also at fault, having used Hezbollah as a surrogate to pressure Israel for better terms on a bilateral peace settlement.

In the meantime, Operation Grapes of Wrath has turned into Israel's longest offensive in Lebanon since 1982. Israel has shelled, bombed and strafed suspected Hezbollah positions, Lebanese power plants and Lebanon's north-south coastal road. Israel also targeted the home of Monir Makdah in Ain el-Hilweh, the largest Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon. Makdah, the leader of the rejectionist Black September organization, broke ranks with PLO chairman Yasser Arafat after his rapprochement with Israel in 1993.

Israel's onslaught has not silenced Hezbollah, which has fired more than 500 Katyusha salvos into the Galilee, calling into question the effectiveness of Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Approximately 1,000 buildings, including an empty kindergarten and a chicken coop filled with thousands of chickens, have been damaged by Hezbollah's rockets, usually fired from civilian areas north of the security zone.

It seems clear that Israel, which has prosecuted the operation without ground troops, cannot root out Hezbollah by military means alone. Israel could escalate the conflict by pushing the security zone northward and thus keeping the Galilee out of Katyusha range. But Prime Minister Shimon Peres is loathe to widen the war, incur casualties and thereby diminish his re-election prospects.

Certainly, Israel's offensive is bound to trigger a sharp response from Hezbollah's Islamic fundamentalist allies. Last week's terrorist attack on a group of Greek tourists in Cairo, perpetrated by the Islamic Group which is fighting to overthrow the secular Egyptian government, was meant for Israeli tourists staying in the same hotel. It may have been a foretaste of things to come.

Israeli soldiers gather for morning prayers at an artillery base along the northern border with Lebanon. [RNS photo]

The Week in Israel

April 15

• *Ha'aretz* reported that the consumer price index rose by one percent in March compared to a rise of .09 percent during both January and February.

• *Ha'aretz* reported that U.S. Gen. Malcolm O'Neill, head of the Pentagon's missile defence department will arrive soon in Israel to finalize details of the agreement with Israel for the joint development of technology against surface-to-surface missiles. The agreement will ensure continued development of Israel's anti-missile defence system based on the Arrow missile.

April 16

• According to a poll released by the Tami Steinmetz Centre for Peace at Tel Aviv University, public confidence in the peace process has returned to the level it enjoyed among the general population before the spate of terror attacks in February and March. The survey was conducted on March 27.

April 17

• The trial of Yigal and Haggai Amir and Dror Adani opened in Tel Aviv District Court before a panel of judges headed by Judge Amnon Strauschnov. The defendants are charged with conspiracy to commit murder, conspiracy to commit criminal acts, and illegal production and possession of weapons. At the outset of the trial, Yigal Amir disclosed that he was on a hunger strike to protest against what he described as terrible conditions at Ohalei Kedar Prison in Beersheba.

April 18

• *Ha'aretz* reported that the Polish government will soon introduce a bill to propose transferring property held by victims of the Holocaust to the Jewish community and to Jewish organizations.

• Hapoel Yerushalayim defeated Maccabi Tel Aviv 67-65 to win the national basketball championship for the first time.

April 19

• *Yediot Aharonot* reported that according to a survey published by the Nazareth-based polling group "Yafah," the Labor party enjoys 42.2 percent support among Arab Israelis. This contrasts with 1.9 percent support for Likud-Tsomet-Gesher.

Israel & the Jewish World

Support still widespread for Lebanon operation

[Cont'd. from page 1]

withdraw from Lebanon while ensuring quiet in northern Israel. I don't think Bibi has any interest in withdrawing from Lebanon or reaching an agreement with Syria," she says.

It is not only the left that has endorsed Peres' stand. Likud leader Netanyahu pledged his support for the military operation and urged the prime minister "not to crack" under international pressure. Nearly 60 percent of Likud voters (and 82 percent of the general public) approve of Peres' handling of the Lebanon crisis, according to a Gallup poll commissioned by the Hebrew daily *Ma'ariv* before the shelling incident in Cana.

But Peres' new tough guy image has not improved his electoral prospects, according to the latest polls. One showed that Peres had dropped a percentage point since the start of the operation. Pollsters attribute this to a loss of support among Israeli Arabs, who are livid about the Lebanon crisis and have even boycotted meetings with Peres to show their disapproval.

Among Israeli Jews, there are also cracks in support. Meretz MK Dedi Zucker revealed on Sunday that Meretz ministers had opposed the military operation, but were outvoted at a cabinet meeting. Zucker noted that many Meretz voters believe the operation should continue.

"But I think we must look farther than the tip of our noses and admit that our expectations in Lebanon are unrealistic," he said. "The northern settlements are in a much worse situation today than they were before we started this operation."

Gen. (Res.) Amram Mitzneh, former head of Central Command and now mayor of Haifa, called the shelling of Kana "a big mistake" that cannot be dismissed as "one of those things that happen in war. The end doesn't always justify the means," he insisted.

Many analysts fear the international community will now impose a cease fire and pressure Israel into an unfavorable agreement. Some note the fact that after 10 days of pounding southern Lebanon, Israel has still not been able to stop the daily barrage of Katyushas – a fact that can only hurt the IDF's image and deterrent power. Others believe the Israeli initiative has only reinforced Syria's central position in the region.

Most Israelis are withholding final judgment until they see the results of Operation Grapes of Wrath. Will it bring long-sought tranquility to Israel's northern communities? Will Lebanon disarm the Hezbollah? And how long will the parties adhere to any agreement?

If last Thursday's tragic shelling has reminded Israelis of one thing, it is that Lebanon is a land of illusions. It promises easy solutions, but it is fraught with traps that even a left-wing leader and reputed peacemaker like Peres cannot avoid.

The Hezbollah's use of civilians as human shields is one of those traps. Now Israelis are just hoping that the operation that began as Grapes of Wrath doesn't end up as sour grapes.

Terrorists threaten Arad

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Senior Israeli security officials said this week that Iran was responsible for the safety of missing Israeli airman Ron Arad.

The statements came after an Islamic terrorist group threatened to kill Arad if Israel did not stop its bombing campaign in Lebanon.

A telephone caller claimed last Friday that the Organization for the Oppressed of the Earth would kill Arad in 48 hours to avenge the Israeli shelling a day earlier of a UN base in southern Lebanon that resulted in the deaths of at least 75 Lebanese refugees.

The caller also said the group would film and distribute Arad's execution – as it did when it kidnapped and executed U.S. Marine Lt.-Col. William Higgins in 1989, saying that he was spying for Israel.

Arad's fighter plane was shot down over Lebanon in 1986. Israel officials have repeatedly maintained that Iran is holding him.

In response to the report, Israeli Deputy Defence Minister Ori Orr called the Oppressed of the Earth "a cover for Hezbollah."

He also said, "This could be psychological warfare."

Orr added that "this is the first announcement in a long time" that any group admitted to holding Arad.

Western intelligence officials have reportedly linked the Organization for the Oppressed of the Earth to Hezbollah, saying that it is one of several militant groups that follow Hezbollah's orders.

Israeli security sources said they were investigating the caller's claim.

American officials said Saturday that the call was a hoax. But the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv issued an advisory to American citizens traveling in Israel to exercise caution.

The advisory did not suggest that Americans should cancel their visits to Israel.

Changing its Charter not Palestine Council priority

BY NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – The Palestine National Council (PNC) was scheduled to convene in Gaza this week, but changing its charter did not appear to be among its priorities.

"In the council's meeting, which won't last less than five days, the annulment or change of the covenant will not be discussed," Salim Zanoun, acting PNC chair, was quoted in the *Al Quds* newspaper.

Under the Israel-Palestinian accords, the PNC must revoke the anti-Israel clauses in its charter. It is not clear whether this would be accomplished by amending the existing charter or drawing up a new one.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has assured Israel that the PNC would fulfil the commitment to change the charter and that such action would be taken when the Palestinian parliament in exile meets this week for the first time in the self-rule areas.

The recent events in Lebanon, particularly Israel's shelling last week of a UN post, have made the atmosphere for changing the covenant combative.

Opponents of changing the covenant said, "The slaughter in Lebanon obliges those who accepted Arafat's position on change to backtrack."

Among the PNC members are representatives of Palestinian organizations that are opposed to the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

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- Israeli teenager after listening to a newscast.

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Anti-Semitism a key component of Freemen leader's beliefs

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON – Shortly before their standoff with federal authorities began, Leroy Schweitzer gave his fellow Freemen a pep talk.

"It's a race war," Schweitzer, a Freemen leader, said of the anti-government group's struggle against society. "It's a spiritual war between Satan's seed, Satan's children, the Jews and God's children.

"God tells his people to kill many, many times in Scripture. He doesn't allow murder, but he allows killing. Jews brought the blacks into this country to destroy us and they knew that it would eventually, and it has to this point almost destroyed us."

Morris Dees, a civil rights attorney and founder of the Southern Poverty Law Centre, quoted from Schweitzer's invective at a National Press Club briefing this week. He said the centre obtained a recording of conversations among the Freemen.

The group, which is holed up on a farm in Jordan, Mont., and which is under FBI surveillance, rejects the authority of the federal and state governments. Several members of the group have been charged with defrauding banks, businesses and public agencies of $1.8 million, threatening a federal judge and stealing television equipment.

They do not, however, view themselves as criminals, but as agents of God engaged in battle against a satanic government, according to experts.

The delusional ideas of the Freemen and similar extremist groups are not new, experts say; many are rooted in white supremacist doctrines such as those of the Christian Identity movement, which subscribes to racism, anti-Semitism and male supremacy.

"These people believe that Aryans are the true children of God, the true Israelites," Dees said. "They believe that Jews are the children literally of the devil, and that blacks are beasts of the fields."

Brian Schnitzer, president of the Montana Association of Jewish Communities, said that even though he believes that the Freemen and other Christian Identity groups would "annihilate all Jews and people of color if they had their way," they have never specifically threatened or targeted Jews in the area.

Before the standoff began, Schnitzer said, there had even been a "certain amount of sympathy" for groups such as the Freemen from others who despise taxes and fear government intrusiveness.

"But their support seems to kind of drift away when their bizarre philosophies become known," said Schnitzer, who lives in Billings.

Given their fierce hatred of government and a theology that foretells a final battle between forces of light and darkness, some experts see little promise for a peaceful resolution to the standoff.

The Freemen and other such groups will not talk to the FBI, Dees said, "because they see the FBI as agents of ZOG – the Zionist Occupied Government. And they believe that this national worldwide and Jewish conspiracy is out to destroy Aryan people."

For the Freemen, said Dees, it is a "holy war."

Slain tourists mistaken for Israelis

BY NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – An Israeli group was the intended target of a terrorist attack that left 18 Greek tourists dead in Cairo last week.

In a statement sent to a news agency, Egypt's largest Islamic militant group claimed responsibility for the deadly April 18 shooting attack outside Cairo's Europa Hotel.

The statement said the Islamic group had received information that Israeli tourists staying in the hotel were about to board a bus and "was surprised when, after the act was carried out, it was discovered that the Israeli group had been switched with another one."

The organization called it "another step taken by the Egyptian security forces to protect Israelis."

Egyptian police have arrested a number of suspects in connection with the attack.

Meanwhile, another Islamic militant group, the Vanguards of Conquest, urged Muslims around the world to target American and Israeli interests to avenge Israel's ongoing campaign against Hezbollah targets in Lebanon.

It blamed the Israeli campaign on an anti-terror summit held last month in Egypt and on the peace deals that Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians have signed with Israel.

Police increase security as Netanyahu gets death threats

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu has received dozens of death threats in recent weeks, leading the General Security Service (GSS) and police to increase their protection of him.

During the recent Mimouna celebrations, GSS agents had to convince Netanyahu to wear a bulletproof vest.

The threats first came in on the Telemesser call-in phone numbers the Likud had made public. Among the messages recorded were a number which said "Bibi, we will kill you," and "Bibi, you will never live to become prime minister," and "Netanyahu will die."

What made the GSS even more concerned, however, was that the phoned-in threats were later backed up with similar written threats.

Netanyahu told Likud activists last Thursday "not to yield to provocation and not to allow yourselves to be goaded into any conflict or any violence. All Likud activists must behave only according to the campaign team's instructions and must take no initiatives."

He was speaking at a meeting of the Likud campaign steering committee.

Sonar photos fail to find lost sub

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM – Sonar photographs believed to be that of a long-missing submarine are nothing more than shadows of large rocks, Israel's navy commander said this week.

Last week, the navy carried out searches off the coast of the Sinai Peninsula, the area where the photos were taken, after relatives of the submarine's crew asked the navy to verify a claim made by a private company that it had found the sub.

The Dakar submarine disappeared 18 years ago with 69 crew members on board as it was travelling from Great Britain to Israel.

The navy has since carried out periodic, but fruitless, searches for the Dakar.

Earlier this month, a private company, Oceania, disclosed sonar photos of what it claimed was the sub.

The company, as well as the Israeli navy, were first pointed to a site off the coast of the Egyptian city of Port Said by a Haifa fisherman, who said that his net got caught on a metal object while fishing in the area eight years ago.

Officials at Oceania would neither confirm nor reject the navy's conclusions about the photographs.

Israel & the Jewish World

Israel PM's job 'a staggering burden': Kollek

By TEDDY KOLLEK and AMOS KOLLEK
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM – Political life in Israel is not easy. Many people have commented on the bitter manner in which some of Israel's top leaders – David Ben-Gurion, Menachem Begin, Golda Meir and Moshe Dayan, to name a few – have ended their careers and their lives. The demands placed on our leaders are tremendous, but the appreciation and respect they receive is often quite limited.

Opinion

One sometimes wonders where they find the fortitude and the will to continue, and how much better off we would all be, if support from the media and the public for the government they have elected was more forthcoming.

We are particularly reminded of this issue these days when we watch Prime Minister Shimon Peres going about his work.

Peres has had a long and illustrious career. He has served in public life longer than any other Israeli leader living today, has held almost every important position imaginable, maybe most notably being involved for decades in the building of Israel's defence industry, and has been at the centre of Israeli political decision making from the very start.

It has been a bittersweet career. The most rewarding part of it seemed to have come in 1992 and 1993 when, together with Yitzhak Rabin, Peres led groundbreaking moves toward a comprehensive peace and seemed to have gained not only the Nobel Prize, but for the first time, the nearly unanimous approval and respect of his own people.

When Rabin was assassinated, Peres found himself in an almost impossible position. The staggering burden formerly shared by two tremendously capable leaders was now to be borne by Peres alone.

These days, the work and the pressures brought to bear on him are literally never-ending. And there is the added factor of physical danger.

Until Rabin's assassination, the job of prime minister had not seriously been considered as possibly life-threatening.

Now it is, very much so. Peres must deal, on a daily basis, not only with a huge mountain of work, much of which involves some very tough decisions, but also with the threat of constant danger to his life.

Under these circumstances he has been functioning amazingly well, displaying courage, determination and calm that deserves the highest respect. And praise. Praise that should be not only felt but acknowledged and voiced, even by those who do not agree with everything he stands for.

Peres continues to be willing to go anywhere and meet anyone, despite heavy restrictions imposed on him by the security services. Since assuming the premiership, he has accomplished great things.

We don't know of any other prime minister in Israel's history who could have put together, on such short notice, such an impressive list of world leaders as the one that convened to fight terrorism and show solidarity with Israel.

The conference was an amazing accomplishment, one that undoubtedly will have long-range results that will benefit us greatly. Those who say that the convention was just a lot of empty talk only show their own lack of foresight.

Gaining international understanding and support for Israel's position and activities against terrorism, some of which we are witnessing these days in Lebanon, is by itself of tremendous significance.

It enables us to act firmly, efficiently and on a great scale, with the backing of the international community. And this is only one of many results yet to come.

Peres has also managed, in a very short time, to gather round him an excellent team, headed by Ehud Barak and Haim Ramon, relatively young men, full of energy and promise, who have already proven themselves in public life and enjoy well-deserved respect from the general public.

If we compare them to the Likud's top team, we find Benjamin Netanyahu surrounded by Ariel Sharon, David Levy and Rafael Eitan – older, much more controversial and much less confidence-inspiring, to put it mildly.

Explosion rips Russian JCC

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW – An explosion ripped through a Jewish community centre in the Russian city of Yaroslavl, causing no injuries but seriously damaging the two-storey building housing the centre in the city's historic quarter.

The bomb used in last Friday's attack contained a charge equivalent to more than two pounds of TNT, a spokesperson for regional police said.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

Some in the Jewish community believe that the perpetrators will never be apprehended.

"I think no one will be arrested and punished," said Inna Davidova, director of the Hesed Charitable Society and member of the community's executive board.

She said she saw no reason for anyone to attack the community, adding, "We have always had a good relationship with the authorities and with the general community"

The community centre is located in a synagogue that was erected in 1916. In 1934, the building was confiscated by local Communist authorities. The Jewish community recovered the property in 1994.

Along with a synagogue, the centre houses local organizations that serve the needs of the 2,500-member Jewish community in Yaroslavl, about 130 miles northeast of Moscow.

The explosion, caused by a bomb planted outside the centre, shattered all the windows in the building and in some neighboring houses.

An office of the Hesed society and a room that served as the community library suffered the worst damage.

The attack came a day after the Israeli army shelled a UN base in southern Lebanon, killing refugees who had taken shelter there.

Some Russian media reports suggested another connection,noting a possible link between the bombing of the centre and the birthday of Adolf Hitler, which falls on April 20 and which is sometimes marked by Russian neo-Nazis with acts of violence.

Citing another possible connection, the Russian daily *Moskovsky Komsomolets* noted that several members of a neo-Nazi group known as the Werewolf Legion were recently sentenced to jail terms by a regional court in Yaroslavl.

The paper suggested the explosion may have been carried out by supporters of the jailed neo-Nazis.

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Scud attacks form backdrop to two Israeli films

In this, the first of two successive articles, Sheldon Kirshner previews some of the movies to be shown at the fourth annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival between May 2 to 9.

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
CJN Staff Reporter

You'd expect a measure of tension in an Israeli film about the 1991 Gulf War. Yet in David Ofek's 18-minute quasi-documentary, *Home* (May 2), the war is almost an afterthought.

Home revolves around an Iraqi Jewish family in Ramat Gan waiting for Scud missiles to fall on their neighborhood. Baghdad already has been bombed, and Israelis are expecting Iraq to make good on its promise to bombard Israel with Scuds.

As they watch CNN's wall-to-wall coverage of the war, wearing their obligatory gas masks, two members of the family born in Baghdad wax nostalgic about their birthplace.

Home — a cameo of the 1991 conflict — takes a quirky turn when grandma grumbles about her grandson's girlfriend, prompting him to stiffen his resolve about their mutual future.

Song of the Siren (May 2) also unfolds against the backdrop of the Gulf War, and like *Home*, glides blithely over it.

Talila Katz is a rising star at a Tel Aviv advertising agency, but her personal life is in a shambles. Ofer, her co-worker and fiance, abruptly leaves her for another woman, and she is devastated. Talila bounces back and entices Noah, a down-to-earth engineer, into her clutches.

As the romance blooms, people in Tel Aviv talk about and prepare for war. At the ad agency, employees nonchalantly debate whether a Scud will hit Tel Aviv today. In a reprise of an actual phenomenon, some Tel Avivians hit the road for Jerusalem, which remains untouched by the Iraqi missile barrage.

Talila seems oblivious to it all. She is fixated with Noah and with her sister-in-law's crumbling marriage. The plot thickens as Noah's former flame returns from Boston and as Ofer has second thoughts about Talila.

Song of the Siren, directed by Eytan Fox, has the feel and the look of a mid-1990s daytime soap opera. The characters are hip and hedonistic and the sets and wardrobe are cool and fashionable. Dalit Kahan, in the role of Talila, puts on a convincing performance.

Delicately drawn canvas

Round Eyes in the Middle Kingdom (May 6) is a documentary which relates the story of a Polish Jew, Israel Epstein, who made his home in China. The film is by Ronald Levaco, who was born in Tianjin in 1940 and whose father, a business representative from Poland, befriended Epstein.

Like nearly all foreigners, the Levacos left China in 1949 when the Communists took over. Epstein and a coterie of Westerners remained behind, adopting Chinese citizenship, marrying local women, joining the Communist party and suffering through political upheavals such as the Cultural Revolution.

A film of limpid beauty, *Round Eyes in the Middle Kingdom* is more than just a portrait of Epstein and his fellow expatriate, the American Sidney Rittenberg. Much like an ethereal Chinese print, it is a delicately drawn canvas of a tumultuous period in a country's history and of the conflicting values held by Westeners who lived there.

Jessica Shamash's *My Auntie Told Me* (May 6), a 14-minute short, is a rumination of India's Bene Israel community. Rather than being the last word on the subject, it's a light overview.

The camera pans on synagogue exteriors and interiors, cemeteries and gauzy landscapes. In a stream-of-conscience style, the narrator describes the ways in which the Bene Israel have absorbed Hindu sartorial, culinary and religious customs. The focus of the film, Shamash's aunt, leaves us with the claim that the Bene Israel have never experienced anti-Semitism in India.

Unpromised Land (May 7), a revisionist documentary from Israel, is the sad tale of a colony of Yemenite Jews whose dream was rudely shattered.

In 1912, Rabbi David Ben-Israel Tze'iri led his flock to the shores of the Sea of Galilee. There, in an inhospitable place, they drained swamps, cleared rocks, tilled the soil and built shelters.

Within two years of their arrival, they were displaced by East European Jewish settlers who founded Kibbutz Kinneret. By way of compensation, the Yemenites were allotted land in Rehovot. They adapted to their new surroundings, internalizing their shared pain. But they never really forgot the injustice inflicted upon them.

In Ayelet Heller's affecting movie, their descendants express bewilderment and anguish as they visit an old Yemenite cemetery near Kibbutz Kinneret where their ancestors are buried.

In the interests of balance, she lets the descendants of the kibbutz settlers voice their views. Some dismiss the Yemenites' grief as exaggerated, while others sympathize. The value of *Unpromised Land* is that it uncovers a long-suppressed episode of Israel's early modern history.

Rhodes Forever (May 7) glances backward at an island once inhabited by a vibrant Jewish community. Diane Perelsztejn's lovingly-assembled film, consisting of archival footage and talking heads, traces the community's development and demise.

Rhodes, settled by Sephardi Jews fleeing the Spanish Inquisition, was wrested from the Ottoman Empire by Italy in 1912. Five thousand Jews lived on Rhodes during that period. Worsening economic conditions forced many Jews to emigrate. Invariably, their destination was the Belgian Congo (Zaire).

From 1936 onward, anti-Semitic racial laws further reduced the size of the community. When the German army occupied Rhodes in 1944, only 1,700 Jews remained. They were deported to Auschwitz. Few survived.

Rhodes Forever, however, is not only a litany of woe. The social customs, culinary traditions and Ladino musical legacy of the island's Jews are explored at length. This documentary is bathed in a nostalgic aura.

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TAB news

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

The Jewish Frankenstein: Born of superstition and Kabbalah, the fabled golem has been stalking the Jewish imagination for millenia, not mere centuries. The earliest literary references to this Jewish monster occur in the Bible (Psalms 139:16), Talmud and Sefer Yezirah or Book of Creation.

In recent times, we associate the legend of the golem with an actual historical figure, Judah Loew of Prague, who supposedly fashioned the golem from clay and gave it life through a mystical incantation. Although the famous rabbi of the Altneuschul synagogue lived in medieval times, the legend was pinned onto his gabardine cloak only in the last century, having been previously connected to Rabbi Elijah of Chelm.

The 1915 novel *The Golem* by Bavarian writer Gustave Meyrink presents "haunting shadowy suggestions of marvels and horrors just beyond reach ... and describes with singular mastery [Prague's] ancient ghetto with its spectral, peaked gables," wrote H.P. Lovecraft in his study *Supernatural Horror in Literature.*

The Golem

It was Meyrink who provided the basis for the weird, expressionistic imagery of Paul Wegener's and Carl Boese's 1920 silent film classic *The Golem* (Germany, 90 minutes), which is being screened with original live musical accompaniment as part of the upcoming Toronto Jewish Film Festival (May 2 to May 9).

The film, with its frenzied crowd scenes, supernatural elements and skewed architectural backdrops, fits in neatly with the traditions of German cinematic expressionism. Yet it also carries a subliminal message relating specifically to eastern European Jewish culture.

The film relates the tale of the learned Rabbi Loew – magician, astrologer and kabbalist who foresees that the Jews will need protection from evil forces and so creates a giant clay model of a man as protector. However, the golem soon runs amok, sets fire to the Jewish ghetto, knocks down a locked door and leaves the Jewish enclave.

The moment of highest tension comes when the golem sees some children playing and picks up a young girl. What will the monster do to her? The fate of the entire population of the ghetto is in his hands. Until the child is rescued, we experience a horrendous vertigo that also, subliminally, has to do with the end of Jewish segregation in Christian society and the approach of modernity.

This is the oldest film being shown at this year's festival. To accompany it, avant-garde guitarist Gary Lucas plays an original contemporary score on electric steel-string guitar. He has played the composition for numerous screenings throughout Europe.

The Golem is paced for the silent era; what breathes life into it is the powerful imagery. At the Bloor Cinema, May 5, 8.15 p.m. For tickets or a festival pass, phone 416-324-8600; fax 416-324-8668; or e-mail tjff@interlog.com.

***

In Brief: The opening reception for the exhibition Beta Israel: The Jews of Ethiopia is April 29, 7:30 to 9 p.m., at the Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum, 1700 Bathurst St., Toronto. Until June 28. 416-635-2883, ext. 154.

Too Jewish?, Avi Hoffman's smash musical hit from New York, comes to the Leah Posluns Theatre for four performances only, May 26 to 29. This is the premier theatrical venture for Olive Eye Productions, whose co-founders, Helen Zukerman and Eda Zimler, are "committed to showcasing the best of Yiddish and Jewish content theatre." 416-872-1111 or 416-324-9413.

An exhibit of rare books on Jerusalem opened this month at the National Library of Canada. Jerusalem: Historic, Sacred, Celestial features more than 30 books from the Jacob M. Lowy Collection. Until May 31. 613-995-7960.

Humorist Fran Lebowitz, author of *Metropolitan Life*, appears at Toronto's Bathurst Street Theatre on April 29 at 8 p.m., as part of the Under the Mushroom festival. Tickets $25.95. 416-364-6958.

Not only did clothier Harry Rosen outfit three actors in the TV show *Traders*, airing at 10 p.m. on April 25 on Global TV, he also makes a cameo appearance.

Toronto's Young People's Theatre presents two performances of *Naomi's Road*, a play about the journey of a Japanese-Canadian family in 1941 as seen from the eyes of a child. May 5 at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Pay What You Can. 416-862-2222.

A scene from Paul Wegener and Carl Boese's 1920 silent film classic *The Golem* playing as part of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival at the Bloor Cinema, May 5 at 8:15 p.m.

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TAB news

Audience mesmerized by Anne Frank story

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Not a sound, only the odd nervous cough was heard as hundreds of young children, and some adults, were mesmerized at the first performance of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, celebrating the 30th anniversay season at Young Peoples Theatre (YPT). It runs until May 18.

This was an obvious tribute to the story of the 13-year-old Jewish girl who frolicked on stage, kicked up her heels and shouted "I want to have fun."

It was easy to identify with a curious, mischievous teenager cooped up in a secret hiding place for two years who yearned for the outside world. "Whenever I want to talk to my mother about life she asks if I'm constipated," said a frustrated Anne.

Not that Leah Cherniak's direction of a fine professional cast of 10 overlooked the underlying tragedy which Anne symbolized. The three-tier set was further extended by the use of black-and-white slides of Holocaust scenes, commenting silently on the events.

The Diary of Anne Frank by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett is a powerful drama and its value as a teaching tool is underlined by the excellent study guide for teachers prepared by the YPT. It is comprehensive with a detailed chronology.

The play's program notes are intriguing on this point too. "Imagine if you could post a letter to the secret annex in Amsterdam where Anne Frank is writing her famous diary. What would you say to her?" the notes ask. "In the play Anne tells us how much she missed riding her bicycle, listening to the radio and playing with her friends. What would you miss most if you had to hide away with your family for two years?"

The play runs until May 18 with performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday and at 2 p.m. on the weekends. All seats are $20. 416-862-2222.

Marjorie Campbell as Margot (left) and Waneta Storms as Anne in *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

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Business Briefs

Knesset Approves Pay Equity

JERUSALEM – As a result of legislation just passed by the Knesset, many Israeli women will receive the same salaries and benefits as men.

The Equal Pay For Equal Work law mandates that men and women who work for the same employer at the same place of work are entitled to equal salaries for similar or equivalent work.

According to recent surveys, the salary differential between men and women in Israel is rising steadily.

Bank Hapoalim Profits Rise

TEL AVIV – Bank Hapoalim has reported a continued increase in profitability showing the highest net profit ever reported by a company in Israel.

According to Rafi Ben-Ami, chief representative for the bank in Canada, net profits in 1995 reached $214.4 million (US), an increase of 17.1 percent over 1994. Additional profits of $12.4 million resulting from surplus investments of the bank were not included due to government decision and changes in legislation.

Net return on equity grew to 10.9 percent, up from 10.1 percent in 1994.

El Al Must Lower Prices

JERUSALEM – El Al will be forced to lower its prices to the Far East if it wants to compete with Royal Jordanian, tourism industry sources said recently.

Following Royal Jordanian's announcement that it would undercut El Al's prices to the Far East by about $300 (US), El Al replied that it would not lower its prices.

If it were to take any tactical steps at all, El Al would only lower prices for Christian pilgrim groups travelling to the United States.

"Let's face it, our fares to New York are already pretty cheap, and Royal Jordanian can't match our capacity and frequency," said El Al spokesperson Nachman Klieman.

But tourism industry sources said they believe Royal Jordanian's prices will eventually force El Al into a long overdue price war.

"Tickets from Amsterdam to the Far East cost $450, while tickets from Tel Aviv cost $1,250," said a spokesperson from Geographical Tours, which organizes trips abroad for Israelis. "The price war is good; the competition will allow more people to travel abroad."

Royal Jordanian's lowest fare to Bangkok is $650 and the round trip fare from Ben-Gurion Airport to Amman is $120. To encourage Israelis to visit Jordan and use the country's services, Jordan recently decided to lower the price of visas for Israelis from NIS 160 to NIS 70, the Transportation Ministry announced.

Klieman said the cheaper flights might attract Israeli backpackers, but a special deal El Al offers them – a year-long ticket on which they can fly to one Far Eastern destination and return from another – would help deter Israeli defection to the Jordanian carrier.

FTA Signed With Czech Republic And Slovakia

JERUSALEM – Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish will sign free trade agreements with the Czech Republic and Slovakia in May, the ministry said last week.

The two agreements, which will go into effect Jan. 1, 1997, represent Israel's first free trade agreement with any central European country.

According to the agreement, there will be an immediate exemption of certain taxes on some of the goods Israel imports from the two countries.

Two-way trade between Israel and the Czech Republic and Slovakia totals $100 million (US), but officials say potential for trade to develop exists.

Last year, Israel's exports there increased 25 percent to $40 million.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

A Bird In The Hand: In Eilat, Israel, by the side of a road, two sparrows are flitting in a mesh cage, fitted externally with loops of wire. The contraption is a trap that has already caught the attention of its intended victim, a steppe buzzard in a nearby tree. In a parked jeep about 100 yards away, Dr. Reuven Yosef and I are waiting for the buzzard to swoop.

For a few long minutes, the nervous sparrows are the only things that move.

"How is it the buzzard can see the sparrows but not the wire cage?" I ask.

"That's just how their brain works," says the acclaimed ornithologist. "By the same token, you can look through this dusty windshield, yet you don't see the glass."

He backs up the jeep in case we are spooking the bird. A minute later it dives and its talons are caught. Yosef guns forward to the trap and jumps out. In an instant he carefully untangles and takes hold of the buzzard's sharp talons. Then, raptor in hand, he hops back into the vehicle.

He is holding a magnificent, tawny, golden-eyed buzzard about a foot in height. Like the multitudes of winged creatures that travel along this migratory route between Africa and Europe in the spring and fall, this bird has likely flown 3,000 kilometres in the last three or four days. It has likely crossed the Sahara desert from central Africa, then descended upon the first bit of green it saw here in Eilat, only to get caught in Yosef's clever trap.

In a thatch banding hut surrounded by a handful of curious onlookers, Yosef – director of the International Ornithological Centre in Eilat – takes samples of the buzzard's blood, puts a band around one of its legs, then sets it free. Similar treatment awaits many smaller birds caught daily in superfine, almost invisible nets spread across the trees. Microscopic blood parasites, each particular to a given region of Africa, tell avian specialists exactly where the bird has been during the winter.

Besides being a prime sun and sand destination, the Red Sea port of Eilat is acknowledged as one of the world's foremost spots for birdwatching. The birds come in March and April and again in September and October; so do the birdwatchers, some 20,000 from all over the world. With their cameras and tripods, they may be seen in town, by the beach, along the three manmade lagoons and in a nature preserve and kibbutz within walking and biking distance of Eilat's famous hotels.

Early morning is the best time to visit the banding hut, which is near the Jordanian border. Many visitors rent bicycles from their hotels (often quite cheaply) and come to watch the World Wildlife Fund-sponsored ornithological team study and release the birds.

Dr. Reuven Yosef poses with a buzzard. [Bill Gladstone photo]

Nature lovers can easily spend a week or more here, observing the birds, the marine wildlife in the Red Sea's famous coral reefs and the desert fauna and flora of the Negev. Local guides sometimes take nature groups to small hidden springs where desert animals from goats to gazelles come to drink before dawn.

Some guides lead excursions into the Negev lasting two or three days or more. Noteworthy sites in the region include Timna Park, where the ancient Egyptians mined copper, and Solomon's Pillars, a spectacular natural rock formation with the ruins of an ancient Egyptian temple nearby.

For information on Eilat, contact the Israel Government Tourist Office in Toronto. 416- 964-3784 or 800-669-2369.

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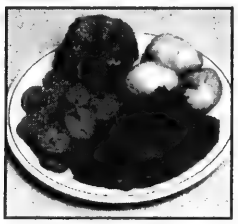
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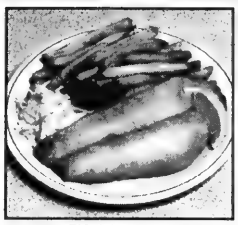
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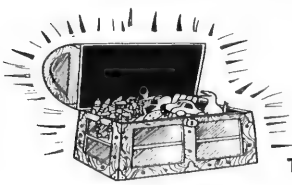
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What does the mezuzah contain? It includes two biblical passages in which mention is made of this Divine commandment: *Shema* and *Vehaya* (Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21).

Shema declares the unity of the one G-d and our sacred, eternal duty to serve Him and only Him, and never to forsake our faithfulness to Him. *Vehaya* expresses G-d's assurance to us of the compensation that will follow our observance of the Torah's precepts.

Both passages contain the Commandment (mitzvah): "And thou shalt write them upon the doorposts of thy house and upon thy gates."

Thus, it is already "the doorpost" of the Jewish house that testifies to the effect that this is an entrance to a place where the unity of G-d is being proclaimed by every phase of daily life taking place within its walls.

The mezuzah is not affixed only on doors of private houses; it has to be affixed also "upon thy gates." The affixing of the mezuzah on gates leading to communal places, even on gates of cities, symbolizes the sovereignty of the Divine commandments — as outlined in *Shema* — over all aspects of Jewish, social and communal life.

Laws concerning the mezuzah

On the other hand, a mezuzah placed at the entrance gate of a town would not exempt individuals from affixing mezuzahs on their doors of their homes. The Jewish community is healthy and wholesome only if composed of wholesome individuals and families.

A few of the laws concerning the mezuzah:

No additions should be made to the text of the mezuzah.

Every place set aside for human activity of any kind, (with certain exceptions) requires a mezuzah at its entrance. However, to be considered as such, the place has to be surrounded by four walls, covered at least at the first four square cubits near the entrance. The doorposts have to be at least 10 spans high and there has to be a lintel between them.

Not just on the front door

A mezuzah must be affixed not only at the front door, but also at other doors in the home. A place serving regularly for unclean use (i.e. bathroom) is exempt.

Outside the Holy Land, the duty of affixing a mezuzah in a rented apartment begins on the 30th day after moving into such a place.

The mezuzah is folded so that *Shema* — which is on the right-hand side of the written page — should be on top, with the writing inside, starting from left to right.

Before being placed, the mezuzah is put in a cover made of glass, wood, metal or another material. Paper may be used, but then care should be taken that the paper in which the mezuzah is wrapped should be longer than the mezuzah itself, so that nails cannot pierce the mezuzah scroll when it is affixed to the door.

The mezuzah is placed on the doorpost at the right-hand side as you enter.

The affixing of the mezuzah is the duty of the tenant. However, when moving to another location, mezuzahs should not be taken away, unless the new tenant is a non-Jew.

Particular attention should be paid to buying the mezuzah from a dependable store, in order to be sure that it is handwritten in the proper way by a duly qualified scribe (*sofer*). A benediction said when affixing a *possul* (unfit for use), mezuzah is a *Brocho Levatolo* (a benediction pronounced in vain). It is customary to put the right hand on the mezuzah and kiss it both on entering and on leaving the house.

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Doctor makes case for physician-assisted suicide

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Medical technology and palliative care cannot guarantee terminally ill people pain-free and dignified deaths, a physician specializing in the treatment of AIDS recently told his audience.

Dr. Philip Berger, chief of family medicine at Wellesley hospital, presented a case for the legalization of physician-assisted suicice (PAS) in a panel discussion on Assisted Suicide: Crime or Compassion, sponsored by the Young Professional Network of the United Jewish Appeal at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

Toronto Hospital medical intensive care unit co-director Neil Lazar, a strong advocate for upholding the current law, argued that decriminalization could eventually lead to abuse. Global TV medical specialist Coleen Walsh moderated the discussion.

Berger said most people would not exercise the option, but PAS would give dying people security because they're anxious about experiencing uncontrolled pain. Although it's illegal, PAS is going on secretly in many parts of the country, he said.

Intellectually, Berger said he is a strong proponent of PAS, but he himself could not participate in a suicide. "My heart and my mind are not in the same place ... My heart holds respect for life."

To strengthen the case for PAS, he recounted several case histories of AIDS patients who died without dignity and in pain.

One was a woman who, at the end stage of the disease, died in agony because of a technological error. She was receiving continuous injections for pain, through a computerized pocket pump which malfunctioned, giving her only one percent of the prescribed dosage, and "she went screaming to her death with pain," he said.

Many dying people also experience tremendous psychological pain brought on by their encounter with "the existential end of life," Berger said. AIDS patients' bodies become skeletal and deformed by skin tumors, he said.

"Dignity is too loosely applied to people dying of AIDS. Death is a frenzied death ... Medicine can only soften the edges."

Lazar stressed that assisted suicide is a crime, even if it is carried out by a physician as an act of compassion. According to recent surveys conducted by the Canadian Medical Association, requests for PAS are rare occurrences — once every five years — he reported.

Most doctors are reluctant to participate in PAS because ending a patient's life does not fit the traditional patient-physician relationship, he said.

In Holland where PAS is practised, there are strict guidelines. It is not legal, but it is not prosecuted. As a result, some elderly people are afraid to enter into a health care relationship with physicians who engage in PAS, Lazar said.

He said people can exercise control by advance care planning. They can write down what kind of treatment they'd be prepared to accept. He conceded that pain is not always controllable by medication, particularly mental pain, which cannot be measured.

Admistering medication for pain relief can bring on an early death, Lazar noted. "It is reasonable and ethical to provide as much medication as possible to control a patient's pain, but it could hasten the end of their life."

Acknowledging this "inherent contradiction," he admitted that in such a situation the lines between palliative care and PAS are blurred. But he added that the difference is the amount of medication given: gradual increases in medications "relieve suffering," while sudden large increases "are given to end a patient's life," he said.

Lazar predicted that PAS will eventually become legalized. "We're moving toward a change in Canadian law. Public opinion is strongly in favor of PAS being legalized."

Childhood depression a serious illness, says book

By CHRISTINE STUTZ
Baltimore Jewish Times

BALTIMORE – Only 25 years ago, childhood depression was identified as a general psychiatric disorder. Today, it is considered a separate diagnostic category.

It is now estimated that between five and 10 percent of children suffer from some type of depression.

Dr. Leon Cytryn, a Baltimore resident, was one of the first physicians in the United States to recognize and study depression among the very young. In his book *Growing Up Sad*, published recently by W.W. Norton, he explores the causes and treatment of this serious mental illness, which can lead to suicide.

Cytryn, who spent part of his own childhood in Nazi concentration camps, is donating all royalties from the book to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

A modest, gentle man approaching the age of 70, the Polish-born Cytryn downplays the link between his tragic losses in the Holocaust – several hundred relatives were killed, he said, including his mother and sister – and his compassion for the mentally ill.

"I'm more sensitive to people's suffering," said Cytryn, who co-authored *Growing Up Sad* with Dr. Donald McKnew.

In occasional consultation with his wife, psychologist Eileen Cytryn, he still treats children and adults suffering from depression. A clinical professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., he maintains a home in Silver Spring, Md., and an apartment in Baltimore.

In his book, Cytryn wrote that he first noticed childhood depression in the late 1950s among his young surgical patients at Children's Hospital in Washington.

In his later studies of chronically ill children, he found symptoms of anxiety and/or depression in about half of them and began the work of convincing the psychiatric establishment to have childhood depression recognized as a separate category.

One important result of the groundbreaking work of Cytryn and others was that it forced the medical community to consider seriously the mental health of children when making policy.

In a foreword to the book, Dr. Jerry Wiener, chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the George Washington University School of Medicine, noted that as a result of research into childhood depression, many hospitals relaxed their visitation policies for pediatric patients to encourage family togetherness.

Depression in children is usually identified by a combination of symptoms, including feelings of despair, helplessness and hopelessness; disturbances in sleep and/or eating; impairment of performance in school; loss of interest in socializing; weight loss; and loss of energy.

Once dismissed as little more than a passing phase, childhood depression often is triggered by a traumatic event, such as separation from a close relative, and tends to recur periodically. If untreated, Cytryn said, the depression is likely to worsen in adolescence and adulthood. Childhood depression is frequently overlooked because youngsters hide it so well, he said.

A child with a depressed parent has a 25 to 30 percent chance of developing the condition, according to Cytryn. When both parents are depressed, that risk rises to 70 percent.

The good news, though, is that many effective treatments are now available and new scientific breakthroughs are being made all the time.

In helping children grow up secure and emotionally healthy, nothing can replace basic nurturing, said Cytryn.

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Israel finishes 7th in IIHF hockey tournament

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel's national hockey team registered a disappointing seventh place finish in an International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) tournament in Lithuania recently, but still managed to avoid relegation from future Pool D play.

Stymied by short preparation time, inopportune injuries and the team's disqualification from three games for using ineligible players, the Israelis managed only a win and a tie in the six-game tournament. The disqualification in three games (officially recorded as 5-0 losses) cost the Israelis a tie versus Bulgaria. They lost the other two games for which they were disqualified.

Oded Orgil, a Toronto-based defenceman who joined the team, said the Israelis forfeited three games for using players who had not obtained the proper transfer cards required by IIHF rules. One player was originally from Kazakhstan and the other two were from Russia. All had lived in Israel the required three years.

One of them, Oleg Zak, had come to North America last summer to try out with the Detroit Falcons of the Colonial Hockey League and later with a team in the North American Hockey League.

When he didn't catch on he returned to Russia and later joined a Finnish pro team, obtaining a Russian transfer card. Because Israel was not mentioned on his transfer card to Finland, he was declared ineligible.

In addition to forfeiting the IIHF Pool D games, Israel was disqualified from a pre-tournament Olympic-qualifying game, which it had lost 5-3 to Yugoslavia anyway.

Despite the poor showing, Israel originally was not even supposed to participate in the IIHF event at all. It had lost to Greece in a qualifying tournament early in the year in Metulla, but Greece was disqualified for using ineligible players.

As a result Israel got into the IIHF tournament through the backdoor, but was only informed of that turn of events about four weeks before the event.

Eight skaters who play in Canada joined the Israelis for the tournament. In addition to Orgil, Sergie Gudzik, Yevgeni Feldman, Dan Mizrahi, Jonathan Yarkoni, Adam Flikerski, Shawn Frydberg and Mark Joseph laced up their skates for Israel.

The eight ringers arrived in Lithuania only hours before the first game, the Olympic-qualifier against Yugoslavia. They barely had time to check into their hotel and eat a meal before they hit the ice for the warm-up.

Playing jet-lagged and with three Israelis sitting out one-game suspensions for altercations earlier in Metulla (two of them defencemen), Israel squandered a 3-2 second period lead. They gave up the tying goal early in the third and then the fatigue factor set in. Yugoslavia took the lead at about the 10-minute mark and scored a few minutes later to ice it, winning 5-3.

This Canadian connection bolstered Israel's lineup at a recent IIHF tournament in Lithuania. Seen here (from left) are skaters Shawn Frydberg, Jonathan Yarkoni, Oded Orgil, Dan Mizrahi, Mark Joseph and Adam Flikerski.

"We played with four D from the start and we had no legs at the end," Orgil said.

That 5-3 result was later erased and became a 5-0 disqualification score.

In Game 1 of the IIHF Pool D tournament against Bulgaria, Israel took a 3-2 lead but a fluke goal that bounced in past partially screened netminder Yevgeni Gusin tied it 3-3 for the Bulgarians. Gusin was later named the tournament's top goaltender.

Israel lost the tie when they were disqualified later in the tournament and the official result was a 5-0 loss.

In Game 2, Israeli played the host Lithuanians in Elektrenai. Before a crowd of about 4,000 and with the game on TV, Israel held the high-powered Lithuanians to a 0-0 first period score.

But then defencemen Ran Oz and Sasha Stolyar and forward Oleg Agapov were injured and Joseph was ejected for yelling at the referee. Israel fell behind by a 4-1 second period margin and Lithuania poured it on in the third, winning 7-2. That game turned out to be Israel's last disqualification and again is recorded as a 5-0 loss.

By Game 3 versus Belgium, Israel learned of the disqualification and had to sit out the three players. Coupled with Oz's and Agapov's injuries, Israel was outmanned and lost 5-0 on the scoreboard.

In the consolation round, Israel played South Korea in what Orgil called an evenly-matched game. Israel kept up with the quick-skating East Asians and led at one point 3-2. The final was 3-3, despite Israel playing with only 12 skaters (two were benched).

Their last game pitted them against Australia, who had defeated Israel 5-1 last year. This time, Israel turned the tables and hammered them 8-2, a score that was indicative of the play, Orgil said. Gudzik netted two and Mizrahi, a centre who played for Concordia University in his college days, potted three goals. Feldman had one.

The team was coached by Nikolaj Epstein, who resides in Russia. Orgil said it is expected that Sergei Martin, a veteran on the team and an assistant coach, will be named head coach while Lev Genin, the team's third-string goalie, will become general manager.

Next up for the Israelis is a qualification match for next September's European club championships. The Jerusalem Lions, Israel's top club team, will likely play a team from either Greece or Turkey and the winner goes on to the 32-team event. Last year's champion was from Denmark, led by former NHLer Petri Skriko, Orgil said.

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Georgian centre hall, 2 stry, 4 bdrm + Priv 2nd Fl Nanny's Qtrs, Pegged Oak Flrs, C/Air, Exquisite Details, $895K Gloria Skopitz 905-707-8001

New Westminster/Clark
4-Bdrms 2,900 Sqft on 30, 63x131 lot. 4-Bathrooms-Cent. Air, R/I Cent. Vac. Dble Car Garage, All Appl. Incl. $365,000, Very motivated Vendor, Elyette Checroune (905) 707-8001

Bathurst/Glencairn
$788,000 - Custom Built Home Over 4,200 Sq Ft of Luxury! Gourmet Kitchen, Main Floor Den + Fam Rm, 50 x 135' Lot! D. Abraham 485-2299

Hillmount Avenue
$549,000 - 4 Bdrm w/Gourmet Kit, Main Fl Fam Rm + Den! D. Abraham 485-2299

Cedarvale
$339,000 - Prime Location on Dewbourne Ave! 3 Bdrm Det Home + Solarium, Priv Drive, Finished Bsmt! D. Abraham 485-2299

CONDO - CONDO - CONDO

500 Glencairn Avenue
$164,000 - 2 Bdrm + Den, Marble Foyer, Gourmet Kit, Over 1,380 sq ft, Parking, Security! D. Abraham 485-2299

Glencairn W. Subway
From $110,000 - 1-2 Bdrm Corner + 3 pc Ensuite, Pool, Sauna, Parking! D. Abraham 485-2299

Yonge/Steeles
$125,500 - 2 Bdrm, Parking, Locker! D. Abraham 485-2299

Yonge-Richmond Hill
$152,000 - 2 Bdrm + Deck, 24 Security! D. Abraham 485-2299

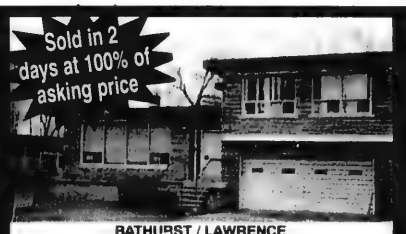
Expect the best.®

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED

787-1712

"We open doors for you"



BATHURST / LAWRENCE
Spacious family s SOLD -split, convenient location, double garage. Won't las.. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — AFFORDABLE LUXURY
Gorgeous new home, custom finishes, maple kitchen, 9 foot ceilings on main floor, approx. 3,400 sq. ft. — A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

YONGE / LAWRENCE — IST AD — POWER OF SALE
Spacious 4 + 2 bdrm. on rare 50' lot, approx. 4,000 sq. ft., family room overlooks garden, lots of country charm, asking $534,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Shows to perfection! Spacious 3 + 1 bdrm. bungalow, renovated & decorated, sep. entr. to apt., asking $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED TO SELL!
Spacious bungalow on 50 ft. lot, sep. ent. to apt., renovated eat-in kitchen, only $199,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

PRUE AVENUE — RENTAL
Spacious family home for rent — 4 bdrms., fam. room, library, $2,800 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

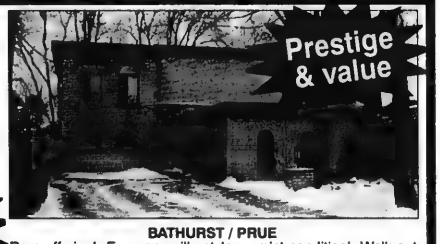
• • •

TIMBERLANE — REDUCED
Spacious side-split on 80' x 200' lot, prestigious location, surrounded by luxurious homes, country-like setting. Only $549,000. Call now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

RIDLEY BOULEVARD / CONDO
2 bdrms., 2 baths, balcony, southern exposure, shows well, asking $198,500. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / SHELBORNE
Move right in! Mint condition, approx. 3,300 sq. ft. + finished basement. All the bells and whistles, thousands of $$$ in upgrades, two staircases, fabulous location. A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.



BATHURST / PRUE
Rare offering! European villa style — mint condition! Walk-out to 3 balconies, family room, library, loaded with extras, prestigious location. A MUST SEE! Only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

DELL PARK
Brand new 3600 sq. ft. luxury home — 5 bdrms., 4 baths, dream kitchen, fabulous location, only $599,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BAYVIEW / FIFESHIRE — ACT NOW!
Spacious bung., custom built, quality construction, approx. 2500 sq. ft. + fin. lower level, 70' frontage, fab. location. Call now! Only $559,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK — 1/2 ACRE LOT 300 FEET DEEP
Sensational building lot, approved for 4,400 sq. ft. (approx.) new home. Asking $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

THE THORNHILL SPECIALIST

ANDREA HALPERN
TOP PRODUCER
Sales Representative

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

- **$163,800 –** 2 bdrm. corner condo "Park Terrace"/loaded.
- **$189,900 –** 3 bdrm. new townhome, u/g pkg., abt. 1400'.
- **$338,800 –** 4 bdrm. reno'd B/split @ Bathurst/Steeles.
- **$339,000 –** Wilshire/ Westmount.4 bdrm. home.
- **$439,000 –** 4 + 1 bdrm. "Spring Farm" home w/pool.
- **$517,900 –** 5 + 1 bdrm. on pie crt. lot @ Bathurst/Clark
- **$579,800 –** 4 bdrm. w/pool "Helena Gardens" Great lot.
- **$888,000 –** 5 + 1 bdrm. contemporary custom home @ Bathurst/Teefy.
- **$1,088,000 –** 5 + 2 bdrm. custom builders home @ Bayview/Steeles.

"MARCH 1996 WAS MARVELLOUS"
13 PROPERTIES SOLD FOR $5.5 MILLION
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR!

Call Andrea

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RE/MAX REALTRON REALTY INC.

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED/BROKER
633-7373

SHEPPARD BATHURST
4 Bdrm, 3 bths, fam. rm., kit w/walk-out, fin. bsmnt, dble gar.

BATHURST WILSON
3 Bdrm, 2 bths, comb. liv & din w/fireplace, 50' x 120' lot, A-1 location.

TRI-PLEX! TRI-PLEX!
2-3 Bdrm + 1-1 bdrm apts, bths ensuite, balcs, ideal to occupy one + income.

SHEPPARD AVE. WEST
High dev. area, ideal for prof. uses, commercial poss., excellent land value, A-1 location.

BATHURST MANOR
3 Bdrm, split lvl, 3 bths, kit. w/walk-out, fam. rm., fin. bsmnt, dble gar., A-1 buy & location.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

BATHURST/CLARK Spring Farm, 3 bdrm., fin. bsmt., extras, nanny's qtrs., $236,900. GABBY GOLDRING

WOODLAND ACRES. Ranch bung., 1.33 acres, great for entertaining! $669,900. LUCY MELAMUD

BATHURST/STEELES. 3+1 bdrm. townhse., immaculate, extras, $189,900. GARRY HAZIN

BATHURST MANOR. 4 bdrm. sidesplit, near shopping, shuls, dble. gar., GABBY GOLDRING

UNGERMAN ASSOCIATES R.E.
(905) 731-7111

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

ON HOVE ST. $159,900. 2 bd. bungalow on 56'x125' corner lot, choice location.

BAYVIEW-16TH. $525,000. Magnificent, 3,950 sq. ft. plus 4 bdrm. + fin. bsmt, 4 bths. 59'x147' lot, upgraded kit. $$ extras.

SEARLE - WILMINGTON
Ranch bungalow, 3 bedroom, family room, plus huge finished basement apartment.

BATHURST - RIDGEGATE
Elegant 3 bedroom, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 2,300 sq. ft. Come & View. 905-884-4425.

BATHURST - STEELES
Super property $239,900.00. Great 3 bedroom + family room. Finished basement, 3 baths, appliances, air. Great location.

SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Lot, 50x120' on 314 Springgate Blvd in Thornhill, Clark/Atkinson, walk to Beth Abraham Joseph synagogue, 905-881-4418

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bathurst/Sheppard, 3 bdrm. 2 bths luxury condo, 3 exp, pool, sauna, appls, sec., shul, TTC, shops, $150,000 948-5555.

---

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Glencairn/Bathurst
$179,000
Exceptional suite. 2 bedrooms + den & 2 baths. Insuite laundry. Central air. 2 parking spaces. Balcony. Walk to Shul, shops, TTC. Leslie Dennis, Sales Rep., 483-4337. **Paul Stavens Real Estate Inc.**
Realtor

---

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Primrose 2 br. Balcony, corner, 5 appl, sun rm. $167,900
- 3 br., 3 Baths, $189,500
- 158 Hillmount Ave. Bung., fin. bsmt. 50 x 137 $299,900
- 53 Dromore Cres. Bathurst/ Finch. 60 x 125 ft. $219,900
- 75 John Street. Building lot 54 x 210 ft. $245,000

MORE CONDOS NEEDED !
GIDEON WAICHENBERG
RE/MAX VENTURE REALTY CORP. 416-520-5700

BATHURST/DREWRY
* Power of Sale P.H. Apt, 2 Bed + den. $165,000 * 3 Bdrms Con. to 2 $154,900. J. Sterling (416) 229-4454 Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.

---

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Hemispheres II
(131 Torresdale)
Luxury Adult Condominium

2 Bdrm, fam. rm, eat-in kit., ensuite ldry, sun rm, 2 full baths, 1,400 + sq. ft. corner unit overlooks park.
Call (905) 731-3080
Non-smokers please.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

BATH.-STEELES. 2 bd., excellent exposure, brdlm., appls. 665-3044.
G. BARON, Rltr.

Bathurst/Clark, lux 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 u/g pkg. Spectacular S view, priced to sell at $161K. Norman Hill Realty Inc. Mohsen Badiyan 416-226-5515.

Primrose, 2 bdrm penthouse, 2 bths, 5 appls, 2 prkg, like new. $167,900. 416-650-7109.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

Bathurst/Neptune, gorgeous, vacant, 3 bdrm, 2 full bths, reno'd, has to be seen. $160,000., $1275/mo. 783-6796

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

ARTICLING STUDENT requires shared accomodation w/prkg, close to downtown, May 15. Karen. 519-372-0371

Room in well-equipped townhouse, parking, TTC, Sheppard/Leslie, 756-9965.

Spacious bdrm in bsmnt apt. sep. ent, $350/mo for fem., age 18-25, non-smoker Bathurst-Steeles, call after 8 pm, 905-707-8515

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

NORTH YORK
125 NEPTUNE DR.
(Bathurst & Wilson)
- 1 & 2 Bdrms.
- Air Conditioning
- Outdoor Pool

(416) 787-7171
W. J. REALTY MANAGEMENT
Call 7 days a week
9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

135 Antibes - 1bdrm/w prkg avail. now, call 905-881-6352.

2 bdrm. apt w/underground prkg, in a mainly senior bldg at Bathurst & Sheppard. 635-5031. Avail. from July 15.

Bath./Wilson, 1 bdrm bsmnt, 4-pc bth, suit 1 fem. or couple, rent neg., furn/unfurn. 782-1815

Bath./Wilson, 2 bdrm, 2 bths, reno'd, Shbs Elev. 664-0702.

Bathurst/Finch, 1 bdrm condo, 15th flr, air cond, 789-4148.

Bathurst/Sheppard 1 bdrm bsmt apt, priv ent, fridge, stove, prkg, adults only, n/smoker, no pets. $500 incl, 633-3749.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart, Lake Simcoe, reno'd 4 bdrm, steps to lake, asking $99,000. 416-633-3151.

LAKE MUSKOKA, Wapaska. Large 3 bedroom cottage, winterized, on 1/2 acre lot, 2 bathrooms, laundry, fireplace, deck, Muskoka room, boat docks, shared sandy beach, tennis court. $119,900. Adjacent building lot, $49,000. (416) 449-0942

Lake Simcoe lux 1 acre, 120' wtrfrmt, 4 BR + prv maid BR, eat-in K, 2 WR, 3 shwrs, sauna, lndry, firpl, BBQ, circ. paved drvwy, fenced, 2 dbl garages, lndscpd, wntrized, 45 min from Tor., tennis, golf, x-c skiing all 5 mins away. $396,900. C.R. 255-1161 or J. 485-3268.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

4 bdrm, waterfront cottage at small Muskoka lake. 221-0253.

Lake Simcoe lakefront estate Beaverton area. Lux 4 bed. Tennis. Pvt sandy beach. Dock. Seas/mo. 226-0009, 749-6600.

Lakefront, spacious 4 bdrm, Hwy 69, Pine Lake, 630-2975.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

LOCATED 45 MIN. FROM TORONTO ON LAKE SIMCOE Prestigious 8-mile pt. location. Beautiful 3 BDRM. cottage, 100 ft. of waterfront, docking facilities for boats. No pets. $4,000/mo. Avail. ONLY May, June and August. If interested call **Sue at (416) 383-1666 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tues-Fri.**

Balfour Beach, Lake Simcoe, 45 min from Tor., full or 1/2 season, 6 lrg bdrms, 7 appls, walk to great day camp. 782-3123

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Resp. young family seeks priv. lakefront cottage nr. Belle Ewart/Barrie area. Must have 3-4 bdrms, lndry, bbq & fireplace, July & Aug., 633-5347.

Updated lakefront cottage wanted, near Tor., 3-4 bdrms, for the season. 445-8999.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Hollybrook Golf & Tennis Club condo, Pembroke Pines, Fla., 2 bdrm. convertible, 1 1/2 bths, o/looks 7th hole. Fully furn, free golf & tennis, $57,900 U.S. 954-346-7811, Robert Swedlow.

LONGBOAT KEY, on the Gulf I SELL the **beach, bay or golf course** condos & homes. Call 1-800-354-8136 ask for **Janis Collier, Palmer Realty**

Miami Beach, 71st St., beautiful, luxury 1 bdr. convert. condo, 2 full bths, kosher kit., asking $100,000. US. 416-638-0878.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson 4 bdrm apt, fully furn., Knesset view. Mthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Jerusalem, luxury 2 bedroom daily serviced penthouse unit in new apt. hotel in heart of city, US$150 per day. Call 61-2-3278493; Fax 61-2-3623320.

200 OFFICE SPACE

Avenue Rd, S of 401, 2nd flr, furn., A/C, 330 s.f. $475/mo gross; 440 s.f. has anteroom $600; Mr. Hoffman, 493-7671.

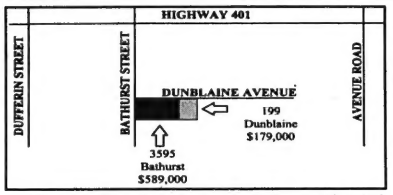
190 VACATION PROPERTIES

GULL LAKE GRAVENHURST
TRILLIUM SHORES
- 242 magnificent treed sites available!
- 3450 feet of lakefront, sand beach, clear water!
- Safe for toddlers!
- Great rainbow trout fishing!
- Create your own community!
- 7 model year round houses to choose from!
- Buy in a group and choose your neighbours!
- Occupancy 1997!
- Full services!

For information please call (905) 764-7841

205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE

DEVELOPMENT SITE FOR SALE



◆ Great corner location ◆ Lot 130'x185'

CB COMMERCIAL
CB COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE GROUP CANADA INC.

For more information call:
Robert Kerzner
Direct: (416) 495-6236

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

COOKING SCHOOL
Opportunity for professional to own natural foods enterprise. Full training for transition. Fixtures included.
Call 416-631-6937, ext. 1.

I Need Your Help - experiencing explosive growth, key leaders needed, very lucrative. For info call 416-812-6789 (24 hrs).

SANDWICH TAKE-OUT & SIT-IN. Exc. location, good turnover. 665-3044.
G. BARON, Rltr.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education is seeking full-time Hebrew/Judaic Teachers in a community day school system K-12 for the 1996/97 School Year. Applicants should be certified and experienced in primary/elementary education or in middle/high school education. Salary range $31,000 to $57,000. Please forward resume with references to: Dr. Arnold Carmel, Director of Education, Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education, 200-370 Hargrave Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 2K1. Telephone: 204-949-1482. Fax: 204-956-0609. Application deadline: Thurs., May 16, 1996.

Youthdale Treatment Centres Longterm Residential Program are seeking strong staff to work with teens having a range of emotional and behavioral difficulties. Excellent opportunities for professional development for recent graduates, driver's license a must. Fax resume & diploma of post-secondary education. Entry & senior positions available. Fax to: 416-368-3192 or mail to 227 Victoria St., Toronto, Ontario, M5B 1T8. attn: Dita Talio-McGuinness. Only applicants to be interviewed will be contacted. No phone calls please.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Fundraisers Needed, commission, flexible hours, call Association for Jewish Continuity, 789-4148, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Middle-aged European man, w/car, willing to do any job, honest & reliable. 416-695-3772.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
APPLE DOMESTICS
- No Fee to Employer
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127

Babbysitting in my home, Bathurst & Steeles. 229-4918

Cleaning lady & babysitter, exp., live out. 781-0013.

Cleaning lady avail., Tues. & Fri., honest, reliable. 465-9325.

Cleaning lady, Elizabeth, good refs. 253-4681.

Cleaning lady, exp., Polish speaking, Mississauga area. live out. 905-896-3661.

Cleaning lady, exp., speaks Polish and a little Russian, Bathurst/Finch. 635-0494

Cleaning lady, exp., speaks Polish, little Russian, refs, avail immed. Elizabeth, 431-6444

Cleaning lady, offices, houses, apts, excel. refs. 416-241-5000.

Darek's Service
Housekeeping
Window Cleaning
Landscaping. **691-2308**

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Nanny, live-in or out, full or part-time, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907.

Nanny/housekeeper, 4 1/2 yrs. exp, live out. 665-6329.

Polish cleaning lady, speaks Eng., Polish, German 207-0550

Polish lady is looking for cleaning or other jobs. 249-2471.

Young Polish lady to clean houses, exp., refs. 242-2776.

Lady, HCA, to care for elderly/infirm. Refs. live in/out, avail. immediately. 416-782-6888.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Excellent Placement Agency. Call 222-1879.

European lady, reliable will clean your home, downtown Toronto, refs. Lori 621-7926.

Exp. cleaning lady avail. Mon, Wed.,Thurs., refs. 223-3500.

Exp. Polish cleaning person for houses or apts. 416-699-3265.

Experienced cleaning lady available. 921-1331.

Experienced lady seeks position to care for elderly lady or baby sitting full or part-time. Excellent refs. 256-7087.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Home Cleaning Service
All purpose cleaning for dinner parties, after reno's, waitressing available for private functions. 20% off with this ad. Exp. May 31 Limit one/customer. **Toronto Home Care, 239-8442.**

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Ladies avail. to clean homes, reliable & honest. 285-5926.

258 HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE

HCA avail. to work in private home/institution. 416-754-8545, 416-653-8325.

HCA avail. weekends, exp., refs, live out. 416-785-7887.

Mature lady, HCA, for private home, nursing home or hospital 750-8813, pager. 664-2987.

Mum's Caregiving Services RNA's, HCA's, to care for elderly, handicapped, people with dementia. In home services, escorts for appts. 665-7969.

Polish nurse, 52 yrs. old, over 30 yrs. exp., n/smoker ready to help elderly, very little English pls call eves., 416-638-8313.

259 SENIORS

Exp. fem. w/car will assist elderly, eves. or nights, Mon-Fri. or days, Sat. & Sun. 638-5230

Golden Care. Lady + car avail for errands, live in/out/sleep over, companion/homemaker, home/hospital. Polish, Russian, Yiddish, Eng., Honey 665-8674.

Lady to care for elderly, live in or out. 416-492-0958 after 6.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Sincere? Serious? Single? Since 1966 we have succeeded in bringing together serious minded, sincere, single people of all ages interested in marriage & lasting relationships. Let our 30 years of success help you find that special someone. Please call us at Humanist Institute, 416-226-6288.

Driver & car avail. for seniors, appts. etc. min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable, leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing-People-Together. We care. Ruth 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry. Free membership to 1000th member. Averaging an engagement every 7 1/2 wks. 398-7068.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attractive prof. widow, 56, enjoys music, theatre, would like to meet an active, established gentleman, 55-62, with similar interests. Box 6735 CJN.

Elegant, classy lady, 58 yrs. old, looks 45, has own business, no children, likes quality things in life would like to meet a well-established gentleman, 60-65, who knows how to treat a lady. Box 6734 CJN.

Jewish professional male, 35, tall, attractive, athletic, down-to-earth, non-smoker & active. You are female, 25-35, attractive with similar qualities. Please lv. msg. 416-631-4706.

JF, 50+, fitness prof., attractive, sincere, happy and stable, enjoys arts, music, movies, family, friends and community. Seeking B or P male who is kind, caring, honest & cultured, comfortable with a wholesome relationship, non-smoker. Box 6716 CJN.

Moroccan SJM seeks Moroccan lady 30-35, for companionship & possible relationship. Box 6733 CJN.

Nice, young man, 53, requires nice young woman. Interests: music, dance, theatre & enjoyment of life. Box 6736 CJN.

Replying to a companion ad with a CJN box number?
For these ads simply address your mail to:
Box #
The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd. Ste. 420 Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

Young man, 45, returning to Toronto from his business in small town, a real mensch, compatible, caring, loyal & honest wishes to meet woman with similar characteristics. Please enclose all particulars & photo. Box 6738 CJN.

330 OBITUARIES

Gordon, Rita on April 12, 1996, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
Silverman, Ted on April 11, 1996
Berman, Sarah on April 13, 1996, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W. #303
Halter, Bernard on April 13, 1996, late of 625 Roselawn Ave. #704
Citner, Frida on April 12, 1996, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
Goloubkova, Dina on April 13, 1996
Rapaport, Sam on April 14, 1996
Resnick, Arthur on April 14, 1996, late of 400 Walmer Rd.

Kavalerchik, Berta (Bella) on April 8, 1996
Weisfeld, Marvin on April 7, 1996
Goldfarb, Ida on April 8, 1996, late of 1 Canyon Ave. #502
Kestenberg, Morris on April 8, 1996, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W. #804
Shlass, Sara on April 8, 1996, late of 605 Finch Ave. W. #1914
Kogan, Anna on April 10, 1996
Goodman, Frank on April 10, 1996, late of 136 Barrie St.
Campol, Louis on April 9, 1996, late of 5 Stacey Cres.
Davis, Roy David on April 10, 1996

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

ALTMAN - April 14, 1996, DR. SIDNEY I. of Elkins Park, PA., formerly of Toronto, Ontario. Husband of Barbara (nee Wolf); father of Terri Ginsburg, Marjie (Pat) Graham, Stanley (Lisa) Altman and Barry Altman; brother of Sandra Sigal; son of Mary Altman; grandfather of Benjamin and Steffanie Altman, Jacob, Noah and Orli Ginsburg. Funeral took place Mon., April 15. Arrangements by JOSEPH LEVINE AND SON, Philadelphia, PA. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Or Hadash Reconstructionist Congregation, 190 Camp Hill Rd., Fort Washington, PA., 19034, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Church Rd. and Greenwood Ave., Wynncote, PA, 19095 or Foxchase Cancer Center, 7701 Burholme Ave., Philadelphia, PA, 19111.

Sandor, Szepes on March 30, 1996, late of 11 Townsgate Dr. #1206
Aaron Goldstein on April 3, 1996, late of 880 Lawrence Avenue East
Rose Ball on April 4, 1996, late of 1639 Bathurst St. #102
Donald Archibald on April 4, 1996, late of 4866 Bathurst St. #1007
Rhona Wexler on April 6, 1996, late of Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Percy Holtzman on April 5, 1996, late of 92 Overbrook Place
Bella Lipsyc on April 6, 1996, late of 134 Combe Ave.
Adelaide Perlmutar on April 3, 1996, late of Castleview-Whychwood
Elizabeth Rostas on April 3, 1996, late of 3050 Dufferin St. #314
Miriam Cramer on April 8, 1996, late of 40 Marblemount Crescent
Ann Diamond on April 8, 1996, late of 355 St. Clair Avenue West #805

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

JOE SACKS ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 5th, 9:45 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Wierzbniker Society Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

DAVID SAMEL ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 28th, 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stashiver Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

WOLF WEINRYB ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 28th, 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Zaglembier Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

Herman & Violet Scheiner ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, April 28th, 1996 at 11:30 a.m.

Lambton Hills Cemetery
Royal York Rd. between Eglinton & Dundas
Lagover Society Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

330 OBITUARIES

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338 SHIVA CATERING

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FINE FOODS
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• SHIVA PLATTERS
• HOT & COLD MENUS
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(Bathurst Manor Plaza)
633-6661

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Malca Gutman** will take place on Sun., Apr. 28 at 1 p.m., Pardes Sholom Cemetery. Friends and relatives are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **John Biezuner** will take place Sun., May 5 at 2:30 p.m., Anshe Sholom Cemetery, Hamilton.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY... **DERBY RICE**

HERB CAPLAN SELLS **KitchenAid** FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

2 tblsp onion, minced	1/2 lb mushrooms
1/2 cup margarine	1/2 cup sliced almonds
2 cups rice	1/4 cup chopped parsley
4 1/2 cups chicken stock	salt, pepper

Sauté minced onion in margarine until it is softened. Add rice and stir until it is well coated with margarine. Add chicken stock and bring to boil. Simmer for 20-25 mins. or till liquid is absorbed. Chop mushrooms finely and sauté in 2 tblsp margarine. Toast almonds. When rice is cooked, toss with mushrooms, almonds and parsley. Season with salt and pepper. Serves 6-8.

Recipe of the week

Please feel free to call The CJN and make requests for a favorite dish - we will try to answer. ENJOY!

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

Call 422-2528
for information on rates

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About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I've heard it's possible to find jobs on the Internet. How does this work?

Dear Reader,

Finding jobs on the Internet takes a bit of time but can result in a position that will fit you to a T. If you've surfed the Net, you know how much information you are able to access with the flick of a wrist. If you've never before been on the Net, try it. Ask a friend to lead you through the steps to get on line or get a book to teach yourself. Many jobs can be found on the Internet and they encompass a wide variety of fields.

The most popular place to find in-depth job descriptions and lots of job postings are Internet job sites. These can be found by using a search engine and typing in key words like "Employment" or "Jobs" or "Career." Try using Yahoo [http://www.yahoo.com] or Open Text [http://www.opentext.com].

Some sites offer job search tips and job opening information. Try Canadian Job Source [http://www.irus.rri.uwo.ca], Net Jobs [http://www.netjobs.com] and Career Magazine Jobline Database [http://www.careermag.com/careermag/news/index.html].

All offer the opportunity to apply for each position by e-mail or uploading a resume directly to the company with the vacancy. A fee may be charged for some services.

Some university career centre's have developed their own web pages with links advertising job vacancies. An example of this is McGill University's Engineering Summer Employment Program [http://www.eus.mcgill.ca/mesep/homepage/html].

Jobs on the Net can also be placed by professional associations. One example is the Canadian Anaesthesia Job Registry [http://asaes.stjosephs.london.on.ca/canjob/html].

Job postings can also be found linked to company web pages or on home pages of recruiting companies.

One more area to search is a newsgroup. In Toronto try tor.jobs, in Ottawa try ott.jobs or if you are looking across Canada try can.jobs. Job newsgroups are most often maintained by employment agencies but corporations sometimes place ads there as well. One caution with newsgroups: Don't post your entire resume because you don't know who will read it. Instead, put only your availability, a contact address and perhaps a line or two about yourself.

Searching for work on the Internet can be rewarding but expect to spend at least two hours searching for useful information.

Nevertheless, since less than 10 per cent of Canadian adults know how to use the Internet, you can significantly cut down on the competition. Best of luck!

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

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ROASTING CHICKENS
Chai Kosher COR 218
Product of Ontario
Canada Grade A
Fresh
1.99 LB
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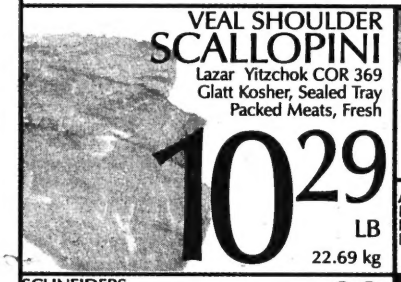
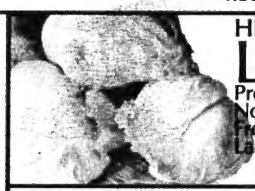


VEAL SHOULDER SCALLOPINI
Lazar Yitzchok COR 369
Glatt Kosher, Sealed Tray
Packed Meats, Fresh
10.29 LB
22.69 kg



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Product of USA, California
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Florida
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YOGOURT
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200 g Jar
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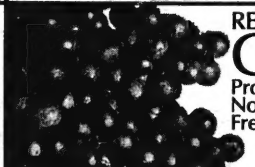

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